St Brigid's School Board Report 2016

St Brigid's Board, on behalf of the school community, had a great year in 2016. We were able to accomplish many of our projects that were prioritised at the beginning of our Year.

We finalised the purchase of our school bus and the sale of our old one. We are lucky to have members on our board and in our school community, whom are mechanically qualified to help with this process. Thank you Mr Ray Bertolini, Shane Kenyon and Jarrod Shepherd.

The school also needed to purchase a new school car. We were able to purchase a Toyota Kluger.

To further support our Literacy, we purchased kits to continue to extend our students, and Comprehension resources for our K/P students. These have been very well received. Thank you to Mrs Renae Mumme, Alison Vlasich and Leah Valessi.

It was the first time we offered a 3yo Kindy Program. This was one day a week. We persisted with the class for the entire school year. We received some really positive feedback. However, due to the small numbers this year, we have been unable to run the program.

The ongoing problem of drainage in our play equipment area and other areas has been corrected by the services of Henderson's Plumbing. Thank you to our Works Committee, of Ray Bertolini, Leonie Davey and Shane Kenyon, who arranged this.

We also had a discussion with parents regarding the food choices available in our school canteen. Mrs Kerry Higgins had worked tirelessly to provide some lovely fresh alternatives. It's an evolving menu and we hope that the students continue to support her.

The board, along with the Principal put together a Marketing Committee. This committee, which is made up of parents, board members and Principal, meets regularly to find ways to promote our school and its presentation. The first idea that has been implemented was the naming of the school factions. The staff researched names important to St Brigid's and with the hard work of our uniform shop manager, Mrs Nicole Tate, we have been able to provide the students with new sports shirts. This is still in its initial stages, but I am sure with our first carnival approaching that we hope to see our new factions out in force!

Our main project for the year was the construction of the school fence around our oval. We deliberated at length before going ahead with such an expense to our school. Big thanks to Carina Roney as treasurer, for her guidance through this decision. I'm sure you agree that we now have very safe students and their safety is our upmost priority. Thank you to Dave Obrien, a local contractor who erected the fence. The students can now play safely amongst the trees and can roam far across the oval without worry of people using it as a short cut. Our teachers can utilise the area more efficiently as they can leave equipment set up daily.

Our works committee, worked with local contractor Ryan Booth, to clear some obstacles prior to the fencing commencing, but also clearing the lower area near the junior car park. This is an overflow area that can be used for parking if needed, but all care is to be taken while using the area.

Thank you to Mrs Sarah Woodland for her time she committed to our School Board. Sarah has vacated her position as her children have moved on. We thank her for her insight into many schooling aspects that arose throughout her time on the board. We wish her and her family well for the future.

We would also like to thank Father JB for his continued support for our school. The time he commits to our children is very much appreciated.

After farewelling our long term Principal Mr Paul Cronin, we thanked Mrs Marcia Collins in her position as Acting Principal. Her position was demanding and she worked hard to provide a smooth transition for our incoming Principal.

I would also like to thank all of my board members for this past year. Every single member has valuable input into our board, and is always there for each other, as everyone has different expertise to offer. We are pleased to have such a positive group of board members that genuinely have our school and the community at heart. This is further boosted by the arrival of our new Principal Mr Daniel Graves. Already his positive nature and enthusiasm to get the best form our school community, has been felt across our school. I am sure that this is going to be a great year! We welcome him and his lovely family, and trust that they are settling in very well.

As we look forward to another great year at St Brigid's Primary School. We urge you to make contact with any of our Board Members if you have any queries you would like us to discuss. I will continue to deliver "The Message from the Board" through our school notices to keep in touch with our community.

Rochelle Piavanini

Board Chairperson (St Brigid's School Collie)