

Good evening everyone and welcome

The St Brigid's Board, in conjunction with our school community, had a great year in 2017. We were able to accomplish many of our projects that were prioritised at the beginning of our Year.

In 2016, we finished our school year with the understanding that we had many complicated financial decisions to make, for our School to move forward both financially and educationally.

The Principal along with his administration team, worked tirelessly over our summer break. The school was ready for an injection of enthusiasm and an emphasis was made on strengthening our School vision and position in the Collie community.

The planning by our Leadership team allowed us, as a board to better direct our energies into areas of the school that were priority. Our marketing committee, lead by Taegan Irving along with board and school community members, saw an opportunity to improve our advertising and promotion of our school. Our primary focus as a school board is to ensure financial stability, and many hours were put into readdressing these opportunities. We restructured our school website, upgraded our promotional signage around the school, we participated in school displays at local events and at every opportunity, social media and newspaper articles were used to further show our local community, that we are a great school.

To further boost our energy, we were fortunate to get confirmation in Term 2, regarding the Principals position and Mr Daniel Graves appointment of Principal was extended for another 12 months.

We applied for grants to further assist us with the finances for our nature play area, thank you to those directly involved with securing them. We now have a great junior area for our Kindy and Pre Primary students, hopefully with continued strength in numbers in the lower years we can sustain single stream classes throughout their primary years. We also decided to refrain from charging our Kindy families school fees, excluding amenities, to further attract new families to our school. This is something that we will monitor and hopefully continue.

Our other priority was to make our school more progressive and modernise our upper school and create some enthusiasm. The summer break of 2017/18 allowed a revamp of our top three classrooms. We now have such a great energy in our senior years.

IT is also an area that we believe needed to be addressed. We have a few very capable school community members that have assisted in our IT committee to upgrade our computers/iPads for our students. We have applied for a grant to help assist us with implementing this plan on a large scale. We are still waiting for the outcome to be released.

Our board members all have something great to offer our school and as a collective we worked very hard to make a lot of changes to ensure that we supported our Principal, Leadership team, Administration and Staff. Thank you to the board for the many hours that you all put into making this happen. These hours are all additional to being parents, grandparents, working and non working. You are all very valuable.

We have had three members resign from their board positions, Karri Dalywater, our secretary Leonie Davey and Christina Coman. We thank you for all your hours and hours of work that you have given our Board and School.

We wish to thank Father JB for his time here at St Brigids and welcome Father Nic to our school. We look forward to your support continuing.

Thank you to those that will nominate and renominate tonight. Thank you for your support for our school and wanting to make a positive contribution to St Brigids.

As we look forward to another great year at St Brigids 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 am sure the Chair for 2018 will continue to deliver "The Message from the Board" through our school notices to keep in touch with our community.

On behalf of the School Board, I wish all Admin, Staff and Students of St Brigids a wonderful 2018.

Thank you

Rochelle Piavanini - Chair