

Chair of Board AGM Report 2018
February 7th 2019

On behalf of our school, St Brigids, I would like to thank the board of 2018 for their ongoing commitment to our school and for their support of myself in position of chair of the Board. I would also like to thank St Brigid's staff and admin for their assistance in implementing the changes that were needed for the progress of the school. We thank Fr Nick for his positivity and enthusiasm he brought to his Parish. It was great to see him being so involved with our children. We wish him the best for his new appointment in Australind. We welcome our new Parish priest Fr Romano, and look forward to continuing the connection between the Parish and the school.

We especially would like to thank Mrs Mary Pilatti for her 3 years on our school board as the Parish Council Representative, Mary has been the Chair of the Parish Council for the last two years of the 8 that she has spent on the council. 2018 was to be her final year of service to the school board and parish. Having been a student, a teacher, a mother of 4 children who attended our school, where she was a P&F member and served many hours supporting St Brigids, she has been a valued member of our board and parish and we thank her for her experience with in the school environment and her strong faith. She will be very missed but I'm sure she will now relish in being able to spend more time with her family and first grandchild, and continue her love of teaching. It also gives way for others to become more involved with our Parish and have a sitting position on our school board. The AGM for the Parish will be in April and members are being sought for positions.

Thank you to Rebecca Stewart for her time served on the school board. We thank her for her time and involvement in our marketing committee and its success. We wish her well in her career as she takes on a new role at Collie Senior High School.

During 2018 we have again accomplished many projects for our students and staff. Very early in the year the board revised our School budget and the Strategic plan and we were able to redirect our energies given that many of our Strategic Plan Items were completed and/or ongoing. From this meeting we were able to reassess and plan our goals for 2018.

Our goals for the year were increasing parent engagement, upholding our school identity, supporting our school admin and teachers in regards to numeracy and literacy outcomes and providing a safe learning environment. As you know, to ensure we fulfilled our goal for effective financial management systems and school structure we, along with school admin made the decision to implement composite classes for 2018. Our numbers and financial position reflected that this was necessary. With the continued success of our Marketing Committee and general positivity surrounding our school, there has had a growth effect on our school numbers over the year which has enabled the school to return to single stream classes for 2019. We see this as a massive success and thank everyone within our school community for their ongoing support. Due to this success the board had decided to set the school fees for 2019 with no changes. There was an update made to the amenities to allow for IT upgrades throughout our upper, middle and lower grades and we continued with our kindy program of minimal fees in the form of amenities.

Our major project for the year was the upgrading of our IT program and hardware throughout all school year levels. We are proud to have the upgrades in the upper school to now be one-to-one technology for each student. It is great to now have the students using our upgraded facilities and getting the very best out of their learning. This will have a flow on effect to middle and lower school as new hardware is purchased. We thank Mr Shane Kenyon as part of our IT committee and his tireless work at getting it right for our students.

Security of the school was also upgraded with cameras being installed so that all areas could be monitored both during the school day and after hours. Keeping our children safe.

The completion of the nature play area in the junior block was received with much excitement for our Kindy and Pre-primary students.

Planning began for the Senior nature playground and we received donations to go towards its completion. During term 4, stage 1 of the senior playground was finished. Stage 2 was nearly finished except for planting of plants closer to winter this year.

Another project for the year was the painting of the school buildings, inside and out. With the front reception area and offices being completed over the summer holidays. I'm sure you all agree that it was much needed and our schools presentation now reflects the pride that our school community now has for St Brigids.

Over these summer holidays an Upgrade in the kindy room and undercover area was completed. We are delighted to say that our school is now an exciting place for learning in all areas. We are now making use of areas that were once underutilised and the children will see a huge benefit to using these new spaces.

Thank you to our Works committee for your ongoing expertise in all matters of keeping our school grounds safe and inviting.

During term 3 we were pleased to announce that Mr Daniel Graves was appointed as substantive Principal of our school. After a drawn out process over the last couple of years it was great to have the position filled permanently. We were very happy to retain him as our principal and happy that his gorgeous family will continue on as part of our school community.

Once again you can see we have had a fabulously successful School year in 2018. And trust that we will continue to imbed all our plans through hard work throughout 2019.

We welcome all parents to become involved in any way you can with our thriving and positive school. Every little bit of assistance helps. We look forward to seeing your faces through your commitment to your children and our school community, during the year. Thank you.