

Hello, and welcome to our 2015 P&C end of year report.

Another busy year for the Newtown North Public School P&C is fast coming to a close.

It has been another successful year in relation to developing our strong sense of community and also, importantly, raising funds for the benefit of the school.

The P&C has worked together with the school in setting spending priorities so as to assist the school to provide an amazing learning experience across all areas of education.

Net Funds raised (\$) 2015 Year: (as at October)	
Welcome Dance	1,744
Art Show	6,355
Comedy Night	8,127
Walk-a-thon	12,161
Grandparents Day/Events	3,253
Family Fun Fest	(to come)
TOTAL	\$31,620

Funding Allocations (\$) 2015 Year	
Mathletics	3,388
Reading Eggs	2,646
Home Readers	3,000
Maths Equipment	3,000
Band Entry Fees	525
Music Equipment	3,000
Art Show Program	7,000
Solar Panel Upgrades	10,000
TOTAL	\$32,559

Note: Funds were also held back in anticipation of major projects expenses.



Fundraising.

Fundraising this year began with the welcome dance. This year, for a change, the evening was a welcome disco which proved to be a great night for children and families alike. A huge thanks goes to Suzanne Luburic for organising the event and making it such a success. It was a fantastic way for new parents to join the community and for them to be welcomed.

Term 1 also saw the annual walk-a-thon. The children had fun walking and running around the oval and, even if some shortcuts were taken, there is no doubt that it was all for a good cause. This year's walk-a-thon was the most successful to date. Thanks to Carolyn MacLulich who coordinated the event, which was enjoyed by children and parents alike.

The traditional Trivia Night was replaced by a Comedy Night this year. There is no doubt that the evening was an absolute hit. Compered by Subby Valentine, the headline act was the highly regarded Tommy Deane. A fantastic night of fun was had by all and thanks must go to Tim Stern and his entire team for creating such an enjoyable night. Before the night was even over, requests were being made for the event to be repeated next year. Those arrangements are currently underway so look out for Comedy Night in 2016.

The annual Art Show was held in Term 3 and showcased an amazing display based upon the theme of light. The Art Show is a wonderful event to demonstrate the talents of the children and the community, with the children's works being prepared during the year under the guidance of the teachers and staff. This year, the event was on a Saturday afternoon/evening and had a warm family atmosphere. Special thanks must go to Grace Burzese, Suzanne Buljan, Lynne Ryan and the entire committee for coordinating the event.

Family Fun Fest is here again! Last year's Family Fun Fest offered great food and loads of fun activities including the Super Soaker, which will be back again this year. There were also performances by school ensembles. Not even the wet

weather deterred families from helping to make the event the most successful Family Fun Fest yet.

The P&C also supported Grand-parents' Day, which enabled all books that had been selected by the school to be purchased for the library.

Overall, fundraising activities throughout 2015 have raised a total of \$31,620 to date. Thank you to all of those parents who have so generously given their time and money.

In keeping with the objectives of the P&C, we have allocated funds raised to support important school activities. The usual allocations to Mathletics, home readers and the art program as well as literacy resources for the English curriculum and other equipment for the school continue.



Language other than English (LOTE)

One project developed throughout this year has been exploring the introduction of a language at the school.

The present committee, chaired by Sally Rosenthal with Geoff Williams and Richard Ford, met several times throughout the year with school representatives to discuss the program, and have arranged for specialists to provide advice and brief the committee on current research and world trends. Information from other primary schools with similar programs is also being reviewed.

The introduction of such a program is not without its challenges, however the school is considering the initial information and engaging with LOTE specialists to talk with staff. The committee and school are investigating models that are used to integrate language teaching into the curriculum, and discussions about this project will continue next year. Thanks must go to the committee for leading what is a very exciting project that the P&C is proud to support.



Life Membership.

This year, the P&C unanimously voted to award Honorary Life Membership to Mr Charles Bailey.

Charles has had a long association with the school and the P&C, notwithstanding the fact that his youngest daughter finished at the school several years ago. Charles continues to support the school and the P&C both with his generous contributions, his enthusiasm and time. The awarding of Life Membership is a small mark of recognition for the regard in which he is held within the school community, and as thanks for his support.

Major Spending Projects.

In addition to the usual curriculum support, the P&C has been investigating two larger projects.

One project explored was the ability to redesign and extend the current basketball court. Over the course of the year, lengthy consultation occurred with contractors and relevant stakeholders. Unfortunately, several complexities have been encountered and at the present time, it would appear as though this project will not come to fruition as initially envisaged. Thanks must go to Ms Cronley for the tireless work and time which has been spent in pursuing the project. Rectification works of the current court, however, are set to proceed. The P&C is considering other ways the area may be improved and brought to the standards of the rest of the playground.

The other longer term project explored this year, has been the ability to install air conditioning into classrooms. This project will take several years, however the necessary work has begun. Because of the importance of environmental aspects, the first step will be the installation of additional solar panelling on the top of the COLA. The initial return from this will be a reduction in power consumption (and therefore bills) for the School. That project is set to get underway early next year and has been funded by the P&C. Thanks must go to Stephen Sainsbury who has been of considerable assistance in the preparation of detailed proposals and reports.

The next stage of the project is the installation of further, stand alone solar panelling which will, in turn, power air conditioning units to be installed over the ensuing years. Challenges face the project given that the school is a heritage listed building and the desire to ensure that the project meets environmental concerns. The project is ongoing and we are very excited that it is now underway.

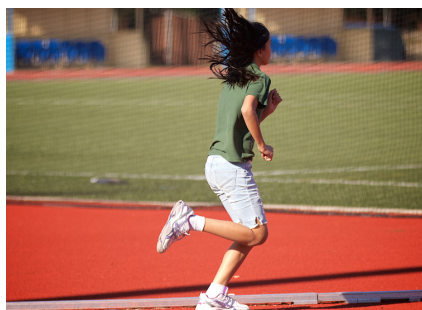


Second hand uniforms.

The second hand uniform shop has operated on an ad hoc basis this year when there is sufficient stock available for sale.

If you have any uniforms in reasonable condition that you no longer need, please bring them into the school office as it helps other parents, raises money for the school, and generally supports recycling.

The second hand uniform store will continue to operate in 2016 and will be advertised from time to time.



Contact us.

The P&C is a great way to be part of the school community and we would love all parents to join in with whatever skills, talents and time you have to offer.

We always welcome feedback and suggestions. The easiest way, is to simply talk to one of the executive in the playground or to come to the meetings. Alternatively, you can send an email to us at NorthNewtownP&C@gmail.com

The current P&C Executive is:
Andrew Davis (President); Sally Rosenthal (Vice President); Tim Stern (Vice President); Michelle Dawson (Treasurer); Carolyn MacLulich (Secretary); Suzanne Luburic; Lynne Ryan; Sue Mercer; Suzanne Buljan; Nemone Goonasekera and Nick Walsh.

Farewells.

It is always with mixed feelings that we say farewell to the Year 6 students and to their families.

We will miss them all, however wish them all the very best as they move forward into high school and other new adventures. We also say a very fond farewell to those families who are leaving us this year and have supported the school and P&C for many years. Every person's contribution, whether large or small, be it financial or in the giving of time, helps to make the school what it is. To everybody who has assisted in any way, we thank you. You will always be welcome at the school. This year, in particular, we say goodbye to Ewa Baranowska who, for many years, was the Treasurer of the P&C and worked tirelessly to maintain the accounts.

Thank you to everybody for sharing these years with us and we wish you all the best in the future.



Looking ahead.

In the new year we are once again hoping to hold major fundraising events each term beginning with the Welcome Dance on Friday, 19 February 2016.

Dates of the school's main events will be in the school calendar and available on the school website and app. Our first P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday, 10 February 2016 and we look forward to welcoming all new Kindy parents and other families to the school. It is only through your support that the activities can continue to be so successful.

In the meantime, we wish Happy Holidays to all. We hope everybody has a safe and refreshing break and we look forward to lots of exciting activities in the year to come.

Thank you.

The end of the year is a fitting time to say thank you to all those who have helped to make 2015 such a great year for our children.

Thanks must go to Tracey Cronley who has been a continual support to the P&C. Ms Cronley has embraced the role as Acting Principal for over 18 months and has continued to guide the school and maintain the high standards that it has achieved. We thank Ms Cronley for her help, guidance and support in her time as Acting Principal to date. We look forward to continuing to work with her.

A very special thank you must also go to the teachers and staff at Newtown North for their continued dedication and efforts in supporting our children. Every staff member gives their time well beyond what we as parents see. The teachers and staff are perhaps the greatest asset of this school. Their tireless dedication is worthy of acknowledgement and we thank them for their efforts throughout the year and in supporting the P&C.

Thanks must also be conveyed to Jan Flanagan and the staff of NNOOSH who have cared for our children before and after school. It is rare for a school to be as lucky as we are to have the amazing NNOOSH that we do.

Finally, but by no means least, we also wish to thank the families who have given so generously of their time and money in supporting the work of the P&C this year and, indeed, over many years.

The school really is the sum of all those who are involved in it. We are fortunate to have an amazing school. One of the great strengths of our school is that it is a small, caring environment. The difficulties of course are that, because it is small, funding is also more difficult. Any little contribution given by parents or friends that can support the school in its endeavours only goes to help our children. For that reason, we really must extend a considerable thanks to all those people who have supported the work of the P&C over the year. Finally, thank you to Vicki Forbes for her assistance in setting out this report, to Rob Bennett for the photography, and to Cath Cummins and Kwik Kopy Alexandria for arranging the printing of it.

The P&C Executive

