

School Board Annual Report 2018

On behalf of the Mary MacKillop Catholic Community Primary School Board, I am very pleased to present this year's School Board Annual Report.

2018 has again proved to be another wonderful year for our students and school in terms of continual improvement and achievements, but also one which has included some changes.

We welcomed Laurie as our new school Principal at the beginning of the year and have been very pleased with how he has integrated into our community right from the get go. Laurie is extremely passionate about his role and in providing the best teaching and learning platforms for our children. In this regard, he wasted no time in sharing some new thinking and initiatives, particularly around cooperative learning, which will undoubtedly benefit our students and the school well into the future. We look forward to supporting and working with Laurie over the coming years and helping him achieve his vision of Mary Mack being the clear 'school of choice' in our area.

The dedication and genuine love and care our teachers have for our children is also something that makes our school special. I often refer to our teachers, quite rightly, as the 'engine room' of our school and wish to commend them on their stellar efforts and all the extra little things they do for our kids to ensure they get the best out of their time here. Thank you also to our Assistant Principals Loretta and Paul for their valued contributions as part of our leadership team and for the support they have provided to Laurie as he settled into our school and community.

Other changes this year have been in respect of upgrades and improvements to our facilities and throughout the school to ensure that our school remains very well resourced and in excellent condition. One of the main focuses of the Board over recent years has been in ensuring that our finances and capital expenditure are managed very carefully as we transition from a 3-stream to a 2-stream school, and so still being able to effect continual improvements for the benefit of our students and staff as we navigate through this period of change is particularly gratifying.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Father John and Father Israel for helping maintain the strong bond that exists between our children and the church, and for the welcome contribution they make to our broader school community. Father John gave us a little scare several months back when he had to deal with some unexpected health issues, and so we are very thankful that he has recovered well and is now back amongst us and guiding us spiritually. Our broader school community has also benefited greatly from our reinvigorated P&F who have done some wonderful things this year with their particular focus on 'fun-raising'. We are very grateful to everyone on our P&F Committee and of course to those wonderful parents and helpers that always donate their time and energy for the benefit of our school.

Most importantly, I'd like to congratulate all of our students for the wonderful year they have had and for everything they have achieved collectively and as individuals. We really do have a special group of kids here at Mary Mack, and it is so rewarding to watch them learn and grow so much over the course of the year, both academically and personally. Our children should be very proud of all their achievements and the significant role they play in making our community something we all want to be a part of.

Finally, on behalf of myself and my dedicated fellow Board members, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our children, parents, teachers and friends a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

Albert Ferraloro
School Board Chairperson

2018 School Board

*Anthony Brown (Vice Chair) - Colin Schotte (Treasurer) - Katie Rankin - Clinton Payne
Kirsty De Longis - Bryce Parry - Deanne Wright (P&F Rep) - Wayne Ehlers (Parish Rep)*