

**Principal’s Report - P&C General Meeting**

**3 September 2020 - Zoom Meeting**

|  |
| --- |
| **Student/Staff update:**  Our current enrolment is at 465 students. There has been a significant drop in our student population as we began the year with 489. This is a drop of 24 students which has brought us down to 19 classes.  There are currently 60 students enrolled for Kindergarten 2021 and 52 students leaving in year 6.  We anticipate that we will start the year with 20 classes.  Mrs Johnson will be going on maternity leave in term 4 and Mrs Daling will be returning 3 days/week next term. |
| **Update on Building Works:**  On the 12 August, a meeting was held with representatives from Level 33, Infrastructure NSW, and Craig Smith – Director. This was an opportunity for us all to connect and receive an update on the current building works that are occurring in close proximity to the school. The Level 33 building on Regent St is expected to be complete by the end of the year with people moving in by January next year.  Taking into account the building work that has already started or is scheduled to start in the near future, there will be approximately 500 new units in very close proximity to the school.  I have proposed that Level 33 make a contribution to the school for artificial grass over the area between the top and bottom playground and a shade sail to go over the top. I have also asked them to cover the cost of trimming the trees along the fence line and replacing the fence along the boundary of the school. |
| **Community Building Grant**  Funding from this grant that was achieved by the P&C will be used to update areas of the playground to create more seating and a more functional play space in the section between the top and bottom playground.  A contractor from the Department of Education has been allocated to coordinate this project on behalf of the school.They will be coming in to the school on Friday to scope the work. |
| **Cyber Bullying**  There have been a few incidences where students have been using the internet and social media apps inappropriately. On Friday, the local Police Youth Liaison Officers will conduct a talk about cyber safety to all students in years 3-6 and all classes will be discussing issues in the classroom about how to use the internet safely and protecting your identity.  Backflips Against Bullying has also been booked for their second show performance which is all about Cyber safety for Term 1 2021.  We ask parents to be vigilant when your children are on the internet at home and to contact the school if you notice any behaviours in your child that may indicate that they are experiencing any issues online. |
| **150 Year Celebrations**  The school will celebrate 150 years this year, however, due to COVID, the official celebration has been postponed until early next year.  We have employed Dr Gary Darby (historian) to conduct the research on the school and write a book to be sold to parents for the celebration. The book is in draft form and is currently being edited. It contains a wealth of information about the history of the area and in particular about the school.  The 150th committee of teachers are meeting tomorrow morning to complete the final chapter which will be on 2020. We will be asking parents if they would like to contribute by writing about their memories of the school if they have been here for a long time, their experiences of 2020 or their thoughts about the school. |
| **External Validation**  The school is currently completing all our evidence sets for the External Validation process. This will involve a thorough evaluation of our achievements for the current school plan using evidence of impact for staff, students and the community. The school will submit a portfolio of evidence which goes to a panel of external principals and evaluators, who will meet with our leadership team to discuss the evidence that has been provided and the judgements that we have made on our progress against the School Excellence Framework. |
| **Strategic Improvement Plan**  The leadership team are in the process of using all the evidence collected in the External Validation to write a school situational analysis which will take into account many facets of the school. Ie, enrolment/attendance data/ student performance, wellbeing, human resources, and school finance. Consultation with staff, students and parents is an important part of the process. Tell Them from me Survey is one way that we will be collecting this information. This will then assist in devising our school goals for the next 4 year cycle. |
| **Mrs Nitsa Comninos Principal** |