



ST THOMAS' PRIMARY SCHOOL

P&F Group

P&F General Meeting - Meeting 1 for 2025

Date: Thursday, 6 March 2025
Location: School Library and via Microsoft Teams

Time: 6.30 pm
Chair: Patrycja (PK) Spears

Attendees: 11

F2F (School Library) - 6		
▪ Natalia Thomson	▪ Patrycja (PK) Spears	▪ Sarah van Bockxmeer
▪ Shelley Partridge	▪ Jade Foley	▪ Uwana Evers

Microsoft Teams - 5		
▪ Heath Nankivell	▪ Angela Jarrott	▪ Ruby Falconer
▪ Eleni Radici	▪ Alejandra Zapata	

Agenda Item 1.

Welcome – Patrycja
Acknowledgement of Country – Angela
Prayer - Shelley

Agenda Item 2.

Apologies:

▪ Jo Glynn	▪ Phil Tucak	▪ Sha Ragnauth
▪ Carin Penberthy	▪ Joep Vaessen	

Approval of minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the P&F meeting of 21 October 2024 were agreed by all to be accurate.
Approved by Patrycja Spears and Sarah van Bockxmeer.

Excellence | Inclusivity | Truth | Compassion | Community



Agenda Item 3.

Principal Report, Mrs Natalia Thomson

WELCOME TO TERM 1

School focus for 2025: COMMUNITY

This theme was highlighted at our Monday morning gathering with students and reiterated in the classroom and playground. We are excited to foster a strong sense of community throughout the school year.

New staff

We are pleased to welcome three new staff members: Mrs. Nadia Bosco, Miss Jasmine Wallace, and Miss Emilee Patterson. Their enthusiasm and expertise are wonderful additions to our team.

Staff Professional Learning Days

Our staff participated in professional learning days focused on Literacy and the Berry St Educational Model, ensuring we continue to provide the best educational experience for our students.

EVENTS | ACTIVITIES

- **Beginning of year school Mass** - A wonderful way to start the year with a sense of togetherness and reflection.
- **Parent/Teacher Meetings** - An opportunity for parents to connect with teachers and discuss classroom routines and expectations.
- **Year 6 Camp** - Students travelled to Ern Halliday Recreational Camp in Hillarys. A memorable experience for our Year 6 students, fostering independence and teamwork.
- **Parent Sundowner** - A relaxed social event for parents to mingle and build relationships within our school community. A special thank you to P & F Executive and parent helpers for this organisation.
- **Swimming Trials**
- **Shrove Tuesday** - Celebrated with traditional pancakes and fun activities. A special thank you to all our parent helpers and to the P & F Team.
- **Ash Wednesday Mass** - A significant observance that marks the beginning of Lent was celebrated.
- **Project Compassion Launch** - Led by our Year 6 students, this initiative encourages empathy and support for those in need.
- **Surfing Club & Co-curricular Clubs** - Engaging programs that provide students with opportunities to explore new interests and develop skills.
- **STEM Program** - A focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to inspire curiosity and innovation.



ST THOMAS'
PRIMARY SCHOOL

P&F Group

DANCE PERFORMANCE Kindy – Year 6 Wed. 2 April

During Term One, children from Kindy to Year 6 have been taking part in the PALS (Partnership Acceptance Learning Sharing) Project. As part of this initiative, they will enhance their listening skills by identifying, mimicking, and improvising with pitch and rhythmic patterns. They'll also get creative with music, using their voices, movements, and instruments to come up with musical ideas that will accompany their theatrical retelling of the Dreaming story *The Coming of the Colours*.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Swimming Carnival** - A highlight of the term, where students can compete and demonstrate their swimming abilities.
- **Parent/Teacher Interviews** - Further opportunities for parents to engage in their child's educational journey.

I look forward to an exciting and fulfilling Term 1 as we continue to build a vibrant and inclusive school community.

Natalia Thomson
Principal

Excellence | Inclusivity | Truth | Compassion | Community

t. (08) 9286 9500 | e. admin@stthomas.wa.edu.au

8 Warden Street, Claremont WA 6010 | www.stthomas.wa.edu.au | ABN 86 980 465 900



ST THOMAS' PRIMARY SCHOOL

P&F Group

Agenda Item 4.

PART A: Men of St Thomas "MOST" – Joep Vaessen

Joep Vaessen was an apology. (Note a summary was provided by Patrycja Spears at the end of the meeting).

PART B Patrycja Spears

❖ New P&F Meeting Day –

Moved from Wednesday night to Thursday night at 6.30pm

New structure: Reducing from two meetings a term to one meeting a term.

❖ Aims of the P&F for 2025

Primarily to support the principal and collaborate to coordinate activities that create opportunities to community, engagement between parents, school, staff, parish and students. The P&F also supports the principal to facilitate fundraising events for the benefit of the students that complement the school budget.

❖ Introduction to Committee for 2025

- Patrycja Spears (PK) as Chair
- Angela Jarrott as Vice Chair
- Shelley Partridge as Secretary
- Sarah van Bockxmeer as Treasurer

Agenda Item 5.

P&F FINANCIAL POSITION UPDATE – Sarah Van Bockxmeer

P&F General Account Balance:

- ❖ Final Balance Term 4, 2024 = \$6,482.27
- ❖ Starting Balance 31 January 2025 = \$5,439.09
- ❖ Discrepancy due to incursion held on final day in Term 4 2024, 'Bricks for Kids' which the P&F funded.
- ❖ Estimated current balance as of 6th March 2025 = \$4,400
- ❖ Awaiting final deductions from the morning tea, general P&F expenses, legacy reimbursements for 2024, Mother's Day stall gift purchases and parent sundowner. Deduction estimates \$5,300
- ❖ Awaiting income amount which include second hand uniform shop and ticket sales from the parent sundowner. Income estimates \$4,300
- ❖ P&F expect first levy to be received in term 1 and term 2. Previous years the P&F levies have contributed to \$13,000.



ST THOMAS'
PRIMARY SCHOOL

P&F Group

Agenda Item 5 continued

- ❖ Two main fundraising initiatives in term 2:
 - Mother's Day Stalls
 - Main Fundraiser event in June
 - Other fundraising will include the second-hand uniform shop sales and the supporter caps.
- ❖ Upcoming expense for Term 1 and 2:
 - Shrove Tuesday celebrations,
 - Mother's Day Breakfast
- ❖ Further expenses for the year:
 - Parish Masses
 - Teachers and schools wishlist
 - Year 6 Graduation
 - Whole School Disco
 - Whole School Incursions
 - Year 5 and 6 Drama production
 - Whole School Christmas Concert
- ❖ Year 6 organise the whole school disco and P&F gift an amount. Previous years \$1,500 was gifted. this year the P&F agreed to gift \$1,600 towards entertainment, the DJ, food and drinks.

Agenda Item 6. NEW TO 2025

- ❖ A new **Parent Representative (REP) Coordinator Role** was taken on by Patrycja Spears at the end of 2024. Focus of this role was to work closely with the school and provide more support to new St Thomas families as well as support to all the parent rep year groups.
- ❖ A **"Welcome" document** was developed in conjunction with the updated school website, as a guideline for new families joining St Thomas to make the transition as easy as possible.
- ❖ A **Parent Rep WhatsApp Group** was created. This provides easy lines of communication and support to the parent reps.
 - Feedback is welcome on these new processes.
- ❖ A **Functions & Events Committee** was created for 2025. To date we have 16 volunteers. This idea was based on the art show committee of 2024. It has been set up for volunteers who would like to be involved in any capacity from set up, decorations, serving, pack up as well as any creative art-based ideas across all functions and events that the school may hold.
 - First event was the Sundowner.
 - Next event will be the PALS Project – "The Coming of the Colour" Mrs Wills is organising for week 9 this term in conjunction with Harmony Day.
 - Mother's Day and the main fundraiser will follow on.

Excellence | Inclusivity | Truth | Compassion | Community

t. (08) 9286 9500 | e. admin@stthomas.wa.edu.au

8 Warden Street, Claremont WA 6010 | www.stthomas.wa.edu.au | ABN 86 980 465 900



Agenda Item 6. continued

- Sign-up link for the Functions & Events Committee will be included in the upcoming school newsletter and here: <https://signup.com/go/remwGTM>
- Volunteers to note this is not a commitment, instead it is a pool of people that may be able to assist.
- ❖ **Paying it Forward Tradition:** Year 5 Parents assisting the Year 6 Parents with the Graduation dinner.
 - Year 6 parents have full creative control of the event and Year 5 parents are there to provide support as and when required. This becomes very important enabling parents on the night, to enjoy the event and not have to serve.
- ❖ **Parent and Community Donations:** This will be for collecting items for hampers and items for the Fundraiser event. Also, an opportunity to approach business to acquire some things at a basic cost or discounted price.
- ❖ **Wish List for 2025:** The P&F will be working closely with Natalia in relation to the wish lists for 2025; however, it was agreed upon at the meeting by all present that the main fundraising item for this year will be a new Water Fountain for all the children. It is an Aquafil Hydrobank, triple nozzle wall mounted drinking fountain that includes bottle refill stations for chilled and filtered drinking water.
 - Cost of the fountain is just under \$12,800.00.
- ❖ **St Thomas Supporter Caps:** Used as an effective way to promote school spirit and unity and school community. Note does not replace school hats and primarily for parents as a supporter cap at school sporting events, like the upcoming swimming carnival.
 - Link in every newsletter.
 - Hoping to have some available at the swimming carnival.
- ❖ **School Flowers:** Big events this year will include the Year 4 Holy Communion, the Year 6 Confirmation and the Graduation. There are flowers available for these events. Some belong to the school and some belong to Patrycja Spears. Please feel free to contact Patrycja who can assist with flower arrangements for these events.
 - P&F have a variety of decorations that can be used for other events, plates, glasses: please check in before you purchase or hire anything.



**ST THOMAS'
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

P&F Group

Agenda Item 6. *continued*

REVIEW OF:

1. Pancake Shrove Tuesday

- ❖ Thank you to all the volunteers that assisted the P&F in making the day so special for the kids.
- ❖ Each child enjoyed at least 2 pancakes and by the smiles we saw, it was received with a lot of gratitude.
- ❖ The children received a very special treat as they enjoyed the ice cream left over from the Sundowner.
- ❖ The Pre-Kindy children did not get to participate, but the P&F make sure our youngest group do not miss out with a special pancake treat for them on Friday.

2. P&F Sundowner

- ❖ On Friday 21st February, the P&F hosted the annual Sundowner.
- ❖ We were presented with challenging weather, but it ended up being another wonderful night as we created an Amalfi Coast Italian vibe with Aperol Spritz cocktails on arrival and wood fired pizza for dinner.
- ❖ The event came together with the help of many volunteers so the P&F truly appreciate your help as we could not have done it alone.
- ❖ A special thank you to John (PK's husband) for assisting her with the whole event including the setup of the lights. A huge thank you as well to the whole P&F team and their partners.
- ❖ Thank you to everyone that came and we hope that you truly enjoyed the evening coming together as a school community.



Excellence | Inclusivity | Truth | Compassion | Community

t. (08) 9286 9500 | e. admin@stthomas.wa.edu.au

8 Warden Street, Claremont WA 6010 | www.stthomas.wa.edu.au | ABN 86 980 465 900



ST THOMAS'
PRIMARY SCHOOL
P&F Group

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 1

HARMONY DAY,
WEDNESDAY 2ND APRIL | School PALS Project Presentation (Mrs Wills)

“The Coming Of The Colours” – A dreaming story of Jindalee

- ❖ Whole school production from Kindy to Year 6.
- ❖ Costume outlines will be communicated to the Parent Reps and distributed to all parents this week.
- ❖ The concert will start at 2.30pm on Wednesday, 2 April.
- ❖ As in the previous years, P&F will purchase icy poles for the children to enjoy at lunch on Harmony Day.

TERM DATES

- ❖ Last day of Term 1, Friday 11th April
- ❖ First day of Term 2, Tuesday 29 April (After Pupil Free Day 28th April)

Agenda Item 7

PLANNED P&F EVENTS 2025

- ❖ **Mother's Day Stalls (2 days before school)**
- ❖ Mother's Day Breakfast & Liturgy (*new breakfast style to accommodate our working mothers)
- ❖ **Main School Fundraiser Evening – Friday 6th June (TBC) – save the date coming soon!**
- ❖ Founder's Day Liturgy & Morning Tea – Wednesday, 25th June
- ❖ **Father's Day Stalls (2 days before school)**
- ❖ Father's Day Breakfast and Liturgy
- ❖ Grandparents Day Liturgy & Morning Tea
- ❖ P&F Assisted – Saturday Class Mass Sausage Sizzle
 - There will not be one in term 1 as Father Richard has just recently returned to the Parish after being unwell, however P&F hope to continue with the school tradition in the coming terms.

Excellence | Inclusivity | Truth | Compassion | Community



ST THOMAS'
PRIMARY SCHOOL
P&F Group

Men of St Thomas – M.O.S.T
(FROM AGENDA 4)

- ❖ Joep was not able to attend the P&F meeting so Patrycja Spears said a few words on his behalf. At the Sundowner, Joep had advised that this will be his final year in the leader role for M.O.S.T and he will be looking to have someone new take over in 2026.
- ❖ All are welcome to join the group but primarily it was created as a support group for all the dads. There are many events planned throughout the year which will be included in the school newsletters as well as communicated via the WhatsApp parent groups.
- ❖ There is a WhatsApp M.O.S.T group and we requested that Joep include a paragraph in the upcoming newsletter to inform how new members can join the existing group.
- ❖ The highlight of every year in the M.O.S.T social calendar is the Dad's Campout. This year it has been scheduled for Term 4, Saturday, 25th October.

The P&F are very grateful the M.O.S.T group and the support that they provide for the events held throughout the year.

Agenda Item 8

QUESTIONS

- ❖ A question was raised in regards to year 3 and 5 conflicting Naplan and swimming carnival.
 - Heath Nankivell had sent out an email on Thursday afternoon outlining the plan.
 - Year 3 and 5 complete Naplan Writing first and then will be bussed to the carnival.
- ❖ A parent opened a discussion around kids not being able to play in the playgrounds in the morning and after school.
 - Injuries were discussed and complaints from other parents.
 - A wavier was discussed – however the school position is to not take on the risk.
- ❖ A parent asked if they would be receiving a rough estimate of timings for the swimming carnival.
 - Parents should receive an estimation of event timings on Monday or Tuesday.

CONCLUSION

- ❖ Keep in touch!
- ❖ P&F email is stthomaspandf6010@gmail.com

Thank you and meeting closed at 7.16pm