



ST THOMAS' PRIMARY SCHOOL

P&F Group

P&F General Meeting - Meeting 1 for 2026

Date: Thursday, 5 March 2026
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
▪ Angela Jarrott	▪ Shelley Partridge	▪ Arian Mianigivi

Microsoft Teams - 5		
▪ Heath Nankivell	▪ Ruby Falconer	▪ Irini McGoldrick
▪ Eleni Gogos	▪ Katie Leishman	

Agenda Item 1.

Welcome – Patrycja
Acknowledgement of Country – Angela
Prayer - Shelley

Agenda Item 2.

Apologies:

N/A		
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Approval of minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the P&F meeting of 13 November 2025 were agreed by all to be accurate.
Approved by Angela Jarrott and Sarah van Bockxmeer.

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Agenda Item 3.

Principal Report, Mrs Natalia Thomson

WELCOME TO TERM 1

School Focus for 2026: EXCELLENCE

This year, our whole-school focus is **Excellence**, in learning, behaviour, relationships, and personal growth. This theme was introduced at our Monday morning gathering and continues to be reinforced across classrooms and the playground. We aim to cultivate a culture where every student strives to be the best version of themselves.

Staff Professional Learning Days

To begin the year, staff engaged in targeted professional learning in Literacy, with a particular emphasis on differentiated instruction. This ensures students are supported at their individual point of need and that learning is accessible, challenging, and enriching for every child.

Newsletter

Our school newsletter will continue to be published three times each term, providing updates, celebrations, and key information. Additional reminders and urgent updates will be communicated via email.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Beginning-of-Year School Mass

A beautiful way to commence our school year, gathering as a community to reflect, connect, and set intentions for the year ahead.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

An important opportunity for parents and teachers to establish strong communication, share expectations, and foster the home-school partnership essential for student success.

Year 6 Camp – Ern Halliday

Our Year 6 students attended camp at Ern Halliday Recreational Camp in Hillarys. This experience provided rich opportunities to develop teamwork, leadership, independence, and resilience.

Parent Sundowner

A relaxed and enjoyable evening for parents to socialise and strengthen our community connections. A warm thank you to our dedicated P&F Executive and parent volunteers for coordinating this event.

Year 6 Student Leadership Badge Presentation

A significant milestone for our senior students as they received their leadership badges and commenced their roles as positive role models throughout the school.

Shrove Tuesday

Students enjoyed traditional pancakes and activities in celebration of Shrove Tuesday. Thank you to our P&F Team and parent helpers for making this morning a success.

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Agenda Item 3.

Ash Wednesday Mass

Together we marked the beginning of Lent at our Ash Wednesday Mass, a meaningful time of reflection, prayer, and preparation.

Project Compassion Launch

Led by our Year 6 students, the launch encouraged our school community to show compassion, raise awareness, and support organisations working with vulnerable communities.

STEM Program Launch

Our STEM learning has commenced with a focus on inquiry, innovation, creativity, and problem solving across science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Swimming Trials – Tuesday

Students in Years 3–6 will participate in swimming trials as preparation for the school Swimming Carnival.

Swimming Carnival

A highlight of Term 1! Students will have the opportunity to demonstrate their swimming skills, teamwork, and school spirit.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Scheduled for later in the term, interviews will again be offered both face-to-face and online, ensuring flexibility and accessibility for families.

I look forward to an exciting and fulfilling Term 1.

Natalia Thomson
Principal



Agenda Item 4.

Patrycja Spears

Part A: Introduction to Committee for 2026 | Discussion for New P&F 2027 – Expression of Interest

❖ Introduction to Committee for 2026 (for the final year)

- Patrycja Spears (PK) as Chair (*4th Year in the P&F*)
- Angela Jarrott as Vice Chair (*2nd Year in the P&F*)
- Shelley Partridge as Secretary (*2nd Year in the P&F*)
- Sarah van Bockxmeer as Treasurer (*5th Year in the P&F*)

This is a big year for the P&F as we prepare to transition a whole new team to take over in 2027. As we dive into 2026, we are also planning ahead for next year, and in so doing, we are asking everyone to get involved in P&F activities and to consider a role on the Parents & Friends (P&F) Executive Team for 2027.

Our P&F plays a vital role in supporting our school community — fostering connection between families, organising events, and fundraising for important school initiatives that benefit all students. We are seeking enthusiastic parents and carers who are interested in contributing their time, skills, and ideas in 2027.

Executive roles that need to be filled include: **Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.**

No previous experience is necessary — just a willingness to be involved and work collaboratively as part of a team. Support and handover from current members will be provided as well as procedure manuals for most events.

My family and I joined St Thomas' when Isabelle was in year 3 and that very same year, I accepted the position of Secretary on the P&F. I initially had a fear, thinking that I needed time to get to know the school before stepping into such a role, but the truth is, you have an amazing school community and there is always someone to help you.

I will leave manuals, but the truth is they are just a guideline. The new executive team are welcome to make the roles their own, fresh ideas, approaches and sharing of talents through the act of selfless volunteering of their time for the “excellence” of the whole school community.

If you would like more information about any of the roles or would like to express your interest, please contact myself, Angela, Sarah, or Shelley. We encourage all interested parents and carers to consider getting involved — your support makes a real difference to our school community. Thank you for your continued support.

At this point, I would like to introduce and hand over to the M.O.S.T – Men of St Thomas Group team headed up by new appointed Arian Mianigivi and assisted by Alex Deng. We look forward to learning how dads can join the group, how to connect new families to the WhatsApp group, be involved and what events are planned for this year.



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Agenda Item 4.

Arian Mianigivi

Part B: Men of St Thomas "MOST" – Arian Mianigivi assisted by Alex Deng.

Men of St Thomas (MOST) exists to strengthen the St Thomas' community by fostering meaningful father-child connection, building strong male friendships, and modelling positive, responsible leadership

❖ New Logo



WHO ARE WE?

❖ We Are:

- A group of engaged fathers and male carers with children enrolled at St Thomas' Primary
- Independent but aligned with school values
- Focused on connection, culture and community
- Self-funded and break-even in operation
- Committed to safe, responsible and structured events

❖ We Exist To:

- Strengthen father-child connection
- Build positive male role models
- Foster strong friendships among dads
- Contribute positively to the broader St Thomas' community

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Agenda Item 4. cont

Most Event Schedule

❖ Quarterly MOST Catch Up

- 20th March 2026
- Late May 2026
- August 2026
- November 2026

❖ Events:

- MOST and Kids Movie Night (BYO picnic) 27th March 2026
- MOST and KIDS Sporting Match Day (TBC)
- Annual MOST only Major Event (Brewery/Distillery September TBC)
- MOST Campout – 10-11 October

❖ Join Most WhatsApp Group

Agenda Item 5.

P&F FINANCIAL POSITION UPDATE – Sarah Van Bockxmeer

P&F General Account Balance:

- ❖ Final Balance Term 4, 2026 = \$ 6,837.77
- ❖ Current Balance 28 February 2026 = \$8,892.42
- ❖ Estimated Balance as at 4 March 2026 \$6,698.00

We thank all our St Thomas' families, the fabulous teachers and administration staff for a wonderful 2025, filled with amazing events and fundraisers. The entire school community came together and made so many positive and generous contributions to St Thomas', which first and foremost benefit our children and their primary school learning journey.

At the start of Term 1 2026, the P&F account had an opening balance of \$6,837.77, which is slightly above where we hoped to end 2025. It is important to highlight that the carry over funds from last year help to supplement many Term 1 and Term 2 events, as typically official fundraising does not begin until Term 2.

The balance at the end of February minus remaining deductions for the Sundowner, Mother's Day gifts and general P&F expenses, leaves us with an estimated balance of \$6,698.

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Agenda Item 5. cont

Purchases for the remainder of Term 1, will be related to Harmony Day, finalising the Mother's Day Stalls, financial support for the uniform shop, expenses for this year's main fundraiser and aiding the MOST for the initial outlay of the 2026 Dad's Campout to secure the venue.

Potential income to be received for the remainder of Term 1 may include the first levy contribution, as well as income from 2nd hand uniform sales.

An exciting year lies ahead, and we look forward to sharing it with you and your families!

Agenda Item 6.

P&F FINANCIAL POSITION UPDATE – Patrycja Spears

REVIEW OF 2025 | 2026 ROLES CONTINUE:

- ❖ **PARENT REPRESENTATIVE (REP) COORDINATOR ROLE**
- ❖ **PARENT REP WHATSAPP GROUP**

Last year these two roles were set up and in 2026 Natalia and I are very happy to report that these two roles will continue on with a hope that someone in our school community will be willing to come forward and take over after I finish this year to take over the PARENT REPRESENTATIVE COORDINATOR role.

Last year proved to be very successful in utilising the close connection and support formed between all the year groups via a joint "Parent Rep WhatsApp Group".

It presented a fantastic avenue for sharing information, providing support to one another and providing support to all the parents that volunteer their time to be a Parent Rep for their year group.

The Parent Rep Coordinator role works closely with Natalia and the administration team as we welcome in our new families and at the end of each year and the time during the summer break, it plays a vital role in preparing our new families and keeping everyone connected.

If you are interested in this role, please contact me as I would love to give a full hand over and shadowing me for the better part of this year, will make that transition so much easier.

❖ **FUNCTIONS & EVENTS COMMITTEE**

Last year we created a FUNCTIONS & EVENTS COMMITTEE and we will be reaching out again this year to see if any parents would like join for any fundraising events that the P&F will be organising this year as well as the ARTs show scheduled for term 3.

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We will include a SignUp link in the meeting minutes, as well as placing it in the up coming school newsletter. If you are wanting to assist in any way possible then please add your name as we would greatly appreciate the support.

<https://signup.com/go/remwGTM>

❖ “PAYING IT FORWARD”

The tradition continues for another year where the Year 5 Parents assist the Year 6 Parents at Graduation Dinner.

❖ WISH LIST FOR 2026 | MAIN FUNDRAISER ITEM FOR 2026 | ARTS SHOW & FUNDRAISER EVENT

As with every start to the new year, we ask that Natalia work with the teachers in creating a new WISH LIST for this year.

Our main fundraiser will not only be the ARTs Show but also the linked fundraiser evening early in term 4. This year the main fundraising item will be a Mammoth Fan for the undercover area.

Last year the P&F started the process in researching fans for the undercover area and over the summer break John Spears was able to find an Australian based company called Mammoth Fans with a comparison quote that came in at half the price of its American affiliate brand.

John has received a quote for the fan and installation and we are very proud to announce that this is a project that will be installed in the coming months so that the benefit can be enjoyed throughout 2026.

Pro-Electrical will complete the job as soon as the electrical company has been CEWA listed on the system. We will keep the school community updated on this main fundraiser item that we will be raising funds for with the installation costing approx. \$11,500 (\$7,582 for the fan and \$3,840 for installation).

This is something that will make a huge impact on the undercover area that the children use, and once installed we will look at purchasing and securing a safety net to protect the new fan from any balls that may cross its path, accidentally of course.

❖ ARTs Show and Fundraiser Event

With reflection, ARTs Show to be postponed to Term 4 to coincide with Grandparents Day.

How wonderful would it be to have a grandparent's liturgy on the morning of the ARTs Show, then morning tea on the verandah in the early years playground and then follow with students showing their grandparents around the ARTs Show and perhaps suggesting they bid on the class piece in a silent auction.

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The day would look like:

Thursday 22 October

9am	Grandparents Liturgy, followed by morning tea on the verandah.
10-11am	Students show their grandparents around the ART show and their classrooms
1.30pm	Official opening of the ARTs Show
1.30-3.30pm	ARTs Show & Classrooms open for families, visitors & afternoon tea from 2-3pm (or a nominated time) & silent auction.

Friday 23 October

9am	ARTs Show open continued
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- (Undercover area cleared for night event or night event on top oval?)
- Adult only fundraiser - include auction of class pieces (one per class)
- We are working closely with Natalia to select the best date for the evening fundraiser and as soon as this is confirmed, we will send out a SAVE THE DATE.

❖ SCHOOL CAPS

The St Thomas' supporter cap is an effective way to promote school spirit and unity and it was introduced in 2024. It strengthens the partnership between home and school, making you feel part of the 'whole school' community. The supporter cap creates a tradition that promotes school spirit and pride.

The design has 'ST' on the front and then 'St Thomas' at the back. This versatile sleek design with brushed cotton fabric, is perfect for everyday wear and comes in one size only. It features a Velcro strap at the back to adjust to any head size. These caps do not replace the school hats that the children wear. They are primarily for parents as a supporter cap; however, they can be worn by the children at any non-school related event.

Place your orders via TryBooking (\$28) and on a regular basis they will be distributed to your child's classroom via the additional information requested at the time of purchase.

A link can be found in each school newsletter to purchase a cap and with the school swimming carnival coming up, it could be a great opportunity to ensure that you have yours ready for the day.

Thank you, Sarah, for liaising with and chasing Perm-A-Pleat, we are now happy to announce that a new order will be placed to have stock ready for the up-and-coming school sporting events.

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❖ SCHOOL FLOWERS

Year 4 First Holy Communion | Year 6 Confirmation | Graduation

A quick reminder that in 2024 the school did purchase (white) flowers, so as events like First Holy Communion and Confirmation come up, please feel free to contact me and I will be able to assist with flower arrangements for these events.

❖ NEW – ST THOMAS' IS NOW A MEMBER - Catholic Schools Parent Association WA, (CSPWA)

St Thomas' is now a member of the Catholic Schools Parent Association WA, (CSPWA) so we will be able to access and benefit from grants and support from the association.

Natalia is assisting with organising a meeting between Siobhan Allen, the Chair and the P&F executive team to give us an overview of how the association supports schools. We look forward to reporting back after learning how this can benefit our school community.

REVIEW OF:

❖ WELCOME MORNING CUPPA – First Day Back at School

The P&F were happy to host the welcome morning cuppa on the first day back at school. Thank you for the volunteers and the P&F team that assisted on the day. It is always a wonderful way to start the year

❖ PANCAKE SHROVE TUESDAY, Tuesday 17 February

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 Pre-Kindy children do not get to participate, but the P&F make sure our youngest group do not miss out with special pancake treats saved for them to enjoy as part of their class.

❖ P&F SUNDOWNER

On Friday 20 February The P&F hosted the annual Sundowner.

It was a wonderful warm summer evening and we sold 72 tickets, slightly down from the 84 tickets sold in 2025 but the turn out was fantastic. It was wonderful to see so many of our new families attend the evening, getting to know our school community.

The guests were treated to freshly made gourmet pizzas and for dessert, gelato and sorbet cups were handed out to enjoy.

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A huge thank you to all the volunteers that assisted with the set up on the Friday as well as those that came to the school on the Saturday morning to help with the clean-up. Many hands make light work and the help was so much appreciated.

A special thank you to my husband John for assisting me with the whole event including the set up of the lights and of course the whole P&F team.

Thank you to everyone that came and I hope that you truly enjoyed the evening coming together as a school community.

The P&F team always strive to be careful with funds, stick to budgets to ensure that P&F funds are going back to the children and school community as much as possible. We are very proud to announce that ticket sales covered the costs of the event and no extra P&F funds were used to host the event.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 1:

❖ HARMONY DAY, Wednesday 25 March

Like other years, P&F will purchase and serve icy poles to the children to enjoy at lunch on Harmony Day

- Last day of Term 1, Thursday 2 April
- First day of Term 2, Tuesday 21 April (After Pupil Free Day 20 April)

❖ PLANNED P&F EVENTS 2026

- Harmony Day, Wed 25 March (Icy Poles Provided by the P&F)
- Mother's Day Stalls (2 days before school), Mon 4 May & Tues 5 May
- Mother's Day Breakfast & Liturgy – Wed 6 May
- Edu-Dance Concert (Refreshment Provided by the P&F), Tues 16 June
- Founder's Day Liturgy & Morning Tea – Wednesday, Wed 1 July
- Father's Day Stalls (2 days before school). Mon 31 Aug & Tues 1 Sept
- Father's Day Breakfast and Liturgy, Wed 2 Sept
- ARTs Show & Learning Journey, Wed 16 Sept (Term 3)
- ARTs Main Fundraiser as Individual Event (Date TBC – Term 4)
- Grandparents Day Liturgy & Morning Tea, Wed 21 Oct
- World Teacher's Day, Wed 29 Oct

ANY QUESTIONS OR POINTS FOR DISCUSSION.

Thank you and meeting close.

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