



CARMEL COLLEGE

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE



P&F President Report – 2021

Who would have thought 2021 would prove to be as challenging as 2020! Fortunately, there were no extended lockdown periods, although a few short-term periods that caused some inconvenience. None-the-less, the Carmel College community prevailed and with great support from the teaching and support staff, all students have managed to complete another year of schooling.

Again, there were many activities that were postponed or cancelled this year, so the P&F did not provide as much financial support to students as in previous years. However, the framework that was adopted in 2020 will make the process easier for students to access this funding in future and when all forthcoming sporting or other curricular activities can resume a permanent fixture on the school year calendar. I would encourage all parents and carers to consider the financial support available to our students when representing their region or school in a range of activities.

The P&F were again happy to provide financial assistance to the QISSN representative netball team. We were also very pleased to be able to make a significant financial contribution to the landscaping project for the new administration building, which looks amazing.

The P&F would like to thank the principal, teaching and support staff who always work so diligently to provide a supportive learning environment where our students can reach their best potential. We were pleased to once again be able to show our appreciation for all staff at Carmel College by providing a special lunch to celebrate World Teachers Day. It is important to celebrate these special events and the people who play such an important role in educating our students.

The P&F continues to provide advice and support to the principal and school staff in important decisions on planning, resourcing, school functions and creating links to the broader community. This year we have had some input into relaxing some uniform requirements to make students more comfortable in the warmer summer days. We have also contributed to the planning of the new school hall and are ready to provide further assistance when needed. If you would like to have a say on what happens in the school, come along to a P&F meeting where your voice can help influence decision making and make a positive difference to learning and the well-being outcomes for all students.

The last couple of years have caused some hardship for many families in our community and while the Care and Concern group is ready and available, there seems to be a limited uptake on this support. The P&F would like to remind parents and carers of this valuable service and advise that we will work again in 2022 to try and increase awareness.

Family involvement and engagement is a key feature of Catholic schools and evidence shows those students whose parents are actively involved in their school have better outcomes. Joining the P&F is a great way to show your children that you value their education and are interested in what they do.

This year, I was again well supported by a dedicated and enthusiastic executive committee and would sincerely like to thank Ben Cribb (vice president), Melanie Meredith (Treasurer) and Meaghan Dillon (Secretary) for their assistance which enables the P&F to run so efficiently. The executive in conjunction with a small but committed group of parents who take the time to attend our quarterly meetings, helps to foster a positive and productive partnership with the college.

Finally, the P&F congratulate our 2021 Year 12 graduating students. As you complete your schooling years and finally move on to the next stage of your lives, we hope your time with Carmel College has been filled with lots of personal achievements and memorable moments. As we have so often seen, the future is unpredictable and will hold many challenges as well as successes for each of you, but we trust your time at Carmel has helped lay a solid foundation that will lead you in a positive direction for the future. Be considerate and generous to people you may meet on your pathway through life and be brave and confident and remember to always 'Let your light shine'.

Bernadette Systs
President
Carmel College P&F