OLGC AGM 2016 Agenda
Thursday 18th February 7.30pm
OLGC School Hall

Attendees: Meredith Tomkins, Jackie Appino, Marijana Portelli, Michelle Bignold, Jennifer Ford, Ana-Bel Mor, Kylie Patchett, Marianne Perkovic-Devlin, Donalda Brown, Lesa Paul, Paula Robinson, Katrina Wood, Karin Sawakid, Diana Weir, Cara Schipper, Sally Leese, Chris O'Donnell, Karen Doherty, Georgina Koch, Deb Walker, Emma Seward

1. Meeting began at 7.40pm with a prayer led by Meredith

2. Record of attendance and apologies
   • Vanessa Venning and Pippa Cadwallader sent apologies

3. Confirmation and acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting
   • Meredith Tomkins and Marijana Portelli accepted the minutes

4. Business arising from those minutes –
   • No business arising from the minutes

5. Reports

President
   • Jackie started at OLGC with Alex
   • Her role as President has been to strengthen the partnership between school & families
   • Encourage everyone to support the P&F – it can only be successful if parents are involved
   • P&F meets once a term – encourage everyone to come
   • P&F has funded many projects across the school such a iPads for the classroom
   • 2015’s Fundraiser was a great success and has enabled OLGC to lay the synthetic turf
   • Jackie not standing again this year – thanks everyone for support and help while she’s been President; OLGC is a great community
   • Meredith presents Jackie with flowers to say thank you for her role as President

Treasurer
   • Last year $82,707 was generated by the P&F
     o $43.9K – Major Fundraiser
     o $16.8K – Canteen
     o $4.2K – One Agency Donations
     o $3.3K – Easter raffle
     o $3K – Kids disco
     o $3K – Cake stalls
     o $2.3K - 2nd hand uniform sales
     o $2.2K - Interest
• $2.1K – Special Food Days
• $1.3K - Clothing Commissions from Pickles
• $982 – Entertainment Books
• Mufti Day - $498

$17K was spent on outdoor seating ($2K) and projectors ($15K)
$153K in the bank, which includes $4K in Schools24 Funds received in advance, which leaves $148K net
$30K to keep in the bank
$100K will be sent on the synthetic grass on the oval
This leaves $18K for spending on other projects such as technology

Communications
• P&F activities will be communicated through the newsletter
• Communications manager is responsible for managing the calendar of events for the P&F and aligning them with school activities
• This year different activities will be added for the kids to participate in -
  o Busking day
  o Gingerbread house making night (replace cake stalls)
• We have also secured a Bunnings BBQ – raising funds outside of the school; this should bring in the same amount as a SFD (of which we still have 2 planned throughout the year)

Principal
• Major accomplishments – accepted as one of 14 schools to be a part of Elevate-
  o The Australian government is concerned with Australia’s PISA results
  o It’s in the top 40% where we’re falling down
  o Federal and State Government + Australian independent Schools (AIS) are funding this project
  o 12 AIS schools + 2 other schools across NSW chosen to for the first cohort of the project - Community of Practice – and OLGC is one of these schools (180 schools applied)
  o Innovation unit from the UK leading the project, which means there will be international ramifications, which is exciting
  o 2016 will be the major year for OLGC in terms of the program
  o OLGC – units like inquiry, integrated learning make us more ready to take on new programs such as these
  o Top 40% of students are important – gifted program at OLGC focuses on top 5%
  o Schools normally pitch learning at bottom of the middle to encompass everyone
  o This programs looks at pitching learning at top level and extrapolating down – take learning to different level, raising the expectations of what kids to do, confidence of teachers to raise teaching levels
  o Team of 5 has been pulled together
  o Keeping Inquiry & thinking units
  o For more info, Google – Elevate

• NAPLAN results really good
• Delay in laying the synthetic turf due to Meredith needing to make sure all stakeholders were happy – Father Jose, parents, Catholic Schools Office. It will be laid in the April holidays
• Newsletter will now be fortnightly to allow Diana more time to work on maintaining and enhancing the website
• We will be implementing an App from a company called Frameworks which will be linked to the website and will allow continuous updates to go out to parents; unsure of whether Weebly will be able to be integrated into the App, may just need to be kept separate for Kindergarten parents
• At the Executive meeting Meredith raised the idea of taking the password off the newsletters, which would mean we would have to remove surnames and photos to preserve privacy
  o Reasons for - it is good for people to see the newsletter and what is happening in the school when considering schools to send their child to
  o Reasons against - good for the school community to see what’s happening and who is doing what in the school, and to be familiar with names of people we interact with in the school & help put faces to names; it is also a recognition tool – it defeats purpose of being recognised if people don’t know who you are
  o Decision made to keep the password and Meredith will check in with schools who are removing passwords in a few months to see how they are managing it
• Teachers can no longer accept gifts that are valued over $50 each without declaring them.
• Bomb threats –
  o There is a meeting tomorrow with police at Dee Why with principals from across the area to discuss this in depth;
  o Changed evacuation place to behind the church as this is a safer area than the oval, as recommended by police; this is the place that everyone goes to including those on canteen duty; if it’s extremely hot or raining or helicopters need to be brought over the church will be used instead
  o Nat & Diana have been given a list of questions to ask if they do receive one of these calls, and they feel prepared
  o The process followed if there is a bomb threat is that the evacuation bell is rung to let teachers know they need to leave the classroom, the Vice Principal grabs children in toilets, Nat/Dina call the police, parents are notified once police take over
  o If the incident happens at lunch time, children will be taken straight to the designated area
  o “Lock down” (for when a threatening person enters the school grounds) is a different process – changing the strategy from staying under table to pulling across the curtains, reading to the children and keeping them calm; children are told that there is a stray dog in the playground which the teachers are trying to get out of the school
• Question raised as to whether back gate is ever locked to keep children from getting out / people getting in – Satellite teachers mainly responsible for this due to the different drop off / pick up times of some of the Satellite children; Meredith to look into further
  o Discussion held about keeping all gates locked but need to keep some way for parents to get in if they need to; not all schools have lockable gates around them
• Musty smell in rooms is being investigated
• Facebook groups – these can’t be stopped but there are rules these groups must abide by –
  o The OLGC name cannot be used as the Group has nothing to do with the school
  o There are to be no photos or videos of other people’s children posted. This is a legal issue so this is hard and fast
o No slandering of teachers or the school.
  o Be respectful of other parents and their views at all times

• Facebook groups start due to people needing a network of people to ask random questions to. A few strategies will be implemented to try and manage this better –
  o Re-emphasise role of class parents in building the community of the grade
  o The Buddy system will be re-instated
  o Given the angst starts well before the school year starts, class parents will be nominated and present at the “parent info” orientation session, and families will be given details of their Buddy in their orientation pack, so they can start contacting them ASAP if they need to
  o Class parent permission sheet to be given out at orientation so that it allows the possibility for play dates to be organised before school starts
  o Call out for Class Parent volunteers will begin at the end of Term 3
  o School in the past has organised a big play date at Clontarf the day before school starts but teachers like to attend and it is very difficult now that Best Start Assessments need to be carried out on all children
  o A FAQ/Tips & Tricks sheet will be prepared with answers to questions such as “should I get Velcro or laces on my sneakers” and put in orientation packs
  o During the first week or two of school, we will hold 15 minute sessions in the morning and afternoon for Kindergarten parents to come and ask questions that have arisen

• A question was raised as to whether OLGC had considered doing bulk Stationary orders where each child gets a pack and it was discussed that other schools have tried doing it and have stopped because the packs were often problematic with items missing, wrong combinations etc.

• Parking issues –
  o People parking in the ELC who shouldn’t be parking there – Meredith considering whether a boom gate is needed
  o There is a 15 min limit in the ELC – notes could go on cars / to people (mainly grandparents who aren’t aware of the rules) to tell them they are doing the wrong thing
  o Jennifer Ford offered to be ELC Parking cop
  o People are parking on lawn of the church which is disrespectful – need chain a chain to go up to stop people
  o Police have been around and giving fines for illegal parking
  o Parking issues will calm in term 2 – always chaotic in First Term when people want to walk their children into the school each day

6. Re-election and Election of Executive roles
  Those elected were -
  a. President – Michelle Bignold
  b. Vice-president – Jennifer Ford
  c. Treasurer – Ana-Bel Mor
  d. Communications – Kylie Patchett
  e. Secretary – Julia Diebold

7. Matters arising from Executive meeting
  a. Donnie Brown’s awareness initiative for HeartKids
  • Donnie has been part of the OLGC community since 2000 when she started at the school with Daniel, who Daniel’s Walk is named in honour of
• Daniel’s passed away in 2002 due to a complex heart disease
• Her son Riley, who is in Year 6 at OLG also has heart disease
• HeartKids is a charity for kids born with heart disease – 8 children every day; it is the biggest killer of children under age of 1; 1 in 100 children are affected by it
• 14th February was HeartKids biggest awareness day - Sweetheart Day; the awareness campaign runs for the whole of February and raises money for childhood heart disease
• Riley is fundraising for HeartKids and his video can be seen here http://www.kidsgive.com.au/campaigns/eatart-for-sweetheart-day/
• One of the aims of Sweetheart Day is to involve schools in raising money through selling heart shaped treats – such as watermelon cut in hearts / strawberries, heart shaped cookies for 10 cents/20 cents each
• Not about the volume old, but effort and education, and awareness
• Money goes into research for a future without heart disease
• We could also do a mufti day wearing red
• We would need volunteers – perhaps year 6 kids and year 6 mums could get involved?
• Overall, voted as a yes to hold a awareness/fundraising day at OLG for HeartKids – date to be reviewed with Michelle and Kylie
• Suggested that each class goes and does Daniel’s walk over the week that the Awareness Day is held

8. Other business
   a. Financial Literacy for Kids (Marianne)
      • Marianne, who works at CBA spoke about a Financial Literacy Program which OLG could possibly introduce – ultimately it will be the teacher’s decision on whether they implement this and if they do it will be done in the context of the school mathematics program
      • CBS spent $50m in developing Financial Literacy program for schools to teach them about spending money on wants vs. needs, principals of superannuation, currency, cashless finance
      • No CBA branding
      • Utilise finance Superheroes to engage the children “Want” vs. “Need"
      • Can be integrated into the school market day – children set up a company, have different roles, produce products, people get paid and then have the money to spend at market day
      • It is a lifelong skill – wealth creation and management
   b. Vinnies Night Patrol Catering Project (Vanessa Venning)

This time last year Mr Steve Foresto presented an opportunity for OLG to take on a catering project for the St Vincent de Paul Night Patrol. They provide sandwiches, snacks, coffee, tea and conversation to the homeless on the streets of Sydney.
A big thank you to the OLG parents and students (Yr 4, 5 & 6), who have helped make sandwiches for the Vinnies Night Patrol last year.
Since we started the project in May 2015 we have made 2,340 sandwiches. These have been transported to Marist College the same afternoon and delivered that evening.
The project is underway again with our volunteers back into sandwich making mode last Monday 8th February.
Next Monday (22nd February) we will be doing a snack pack drive, asking OLG families to send in donations of lunchbox snacks e.g. muesli bars, small chip
packets, Cheese Dip-it’s, shapes, etc. So please send your child to school with a
donation to place in the Vinnies Box in the classroom or bring to the canteen.
I have enjoyed being the coordinator of this project and will gladly continue in this
role for 2016. If you would like to assist us in sandwich making between 2pm –
3.15pm on a Monday afternoon (even if it’s once a term), or would like to know
more about the Vinnies project please contact me on
vanessa.venning@optusnet.com.au

c. Other Business
  • Non-slip strips for Year 2 steps – someone fell down and hurt their shin badly; yes,
    Meredith will organise the strips
  • Let Meredith know of any other things that need to be fixed in relation to OH&S
  • There is a large tree with a split down the middle of it near Daniel’s walk (this was
    subsequently taken down on 26th February); an Arborist comes once a year to
    assess all the tress
  • A concern was raised about Pest control in the toilets – this is done regularly
  • Can we find a way to get Dad’s more involved in helping out at the school?
    o Dad’s could do a Special Food Day – sausages on the BBQ
    o Invite them to help on canteen (offer is always open for them to fill out the
      volunteer form that goes out at the beginning of the year)
    o Help out on excursions
    o Volunteer at carnivals (there were a few at the swimming carnival)
    o They can have the App on their phone when it’s ready
    o Bunnings initiative can be a way for Dad’s / working mother’s to be involved
      in helping out
    o Need to give Dad’s and working parents plenty of notice
  • Mother’s Day –
    o Can mums go into the classrooms like the dad’s get to?
    o Timings of mass – can there be an early mass so working mum’s can go to
      that if they can’t stay for the morning tea / classroom time?

Meeting close at 9.33pm