OLGC P&F Meeting
Agenda Term 4
Friday 27th November, 9am
OLGC Staff Room

Attendees: Meredith Tomkins, Jackie Appino, Michelle Bignold, Ana-Bel Mor, Marijana Portelli, Jen Ford, Belinda Woollett, Vanessa Venning, Nicole Towill, Paula Robinson, Laura Dunlea, Julia Diebold

1. Discussion about managing the Oval

Garth -

- Met with Meredith and Julian Bignold earlier in year to look at options for the oval
- It is compaction kills most grass, and you end up with a dust bowl like the oval is now
- Some of the grass is shaded by trees near Eaton Mitre 10, which makes it hard to grow
- The oval is not a full oval like sports grounds
- Synthetic turf under seats, which cost $20K was the first stage of the project
- If you look at other schools, there is a number of them laying synthetic turf as it allows children to continue to play without concern about the grass (Killarney has a multi sport synthetic oval)
- Garth presented a picture showing an aerial view of the oval marking out where the turf would be laid, as well as details of costings and pros and cons of synthetic turf
  - $110/m2 for synthetic turf; approximately 980m2 area = $107,800
  - Benefits –
    - multi use play courts, excellent for all sports – we could have 3 active areas on the oval
    - 10 year lifespan, no to little maintenance (mainly sweeping/raking/blowing) – CSO agrees that turf would need to be redone in 2 years
- No down time due to raid / mud / dust
- Real turf will fail due to high usage and heavy shade and high ongoing costs
  - Negatives –
    - Upfront cost
    - Can get hot
    - Not a natural material
- Agreed that the purpose of our oval is primarily playtime
- Meredith has conversation with the previous principal, Mark who said that the Oval often looked like it does now – illustrating that the main difference between grass and synthetic turf is longevity
- The synthetic turf would be anchored with natural sand not rubber
- It can be re-sanded
- Concerns raised over synthetic turf not being soft and causing more injuries for the kids as it burns more than grass when they fall over
- Meredith raised the point that with the current oval, the fill sometimes comes out, which includes glass; synthetic turf will give another level over the current grass protecting children from this
- Possibility of having sandstone logs, which act as incidental seating, above the embankment which comes off from the oval
- Garth’s recommendation is synthetic
- Parent letter read
  - Believes it is better to have real grass
  - Agrees that synthetic turf is great under the seats
  - Preference is for an environmentally friendly school

Meredith
- Peter from the CSO came out and said that there was no choice really but to lay the synthetic turf; if he could do synthetic turf at every school he would
- The issue was raised with staff – only one staff member has a concern in regards to the environmental side of it – we are losing our grass, but we are lucky to have other grassy areas around the school
  - Request to have BBQ tables put around the school for students to sit at for lunch
    - Opportunity for this to be the gift given by year 6 in the future
• There is the possibility to start utilising the Parish Centre area – as a senior school playground?
• We will not be jeopardizing natural environment as we have other grassy areas to play on which aren’t utilised at the moment
• We could open up Daniel’s Walk more
• Decisions comes down to not being able to keep funding maintenance of grass on the oval to a high quality level

• VOTE taken – 100% vote yes for synthetic turf, which will be laid over summer

• P&F to pay for synthetic turf on the oval; Meredith to pay for synthetic turf under the seats
• Procurement – Meredith to talk to Peter about Phase 2 (oval)
• Belinda Woollett to draft up wording for the newsletter around what has been agreed and how the school will continue to be environmentally friendly school with plenty of natural greenery

2. P&F Reports
   a. President (Jackie Appino)
      • Fundraiser incredibly successful with $44K raised

      • Year 6 graduation
        o P&F have given $350 towards the day
        o Disney day
        o Parents paying $15 a head for themselves, as per previous years; year 6 students and siblings are free

      • It is worthwhile have the 2\textsuperscript{nd} class parent meeting mid way through the year as this is where events such as Year 6 graduation started being planned
      • Fundraising events done well over the last year – addressing concerns around nutrition and the number of fundraising asks

      • Meredith raised that classes collecting money for class parents causes conflict
        o We have a lot of volunteers across the school and it is not fair that some are recognized and others aren’t
There will be a Volunteer morning tea
  ▪ Meredith to sort with Nat
  ▪ Communicated through the newsletter
  ▪ Vanessa Venning wants to email Vinnies mums when a date set

b. Treasury (Ana-Bel Mor)
  • P&F has $150K in the bank

c. Communications (Michelle Bignold)
  • Michelle has been planning out the year’s key dates
  • Need to start organising the Kindy welcome evening
  • Plan out year of fundraising –
    o 2 cake stalls
    o 2 special Food days
    o Gingerbread house making night in hall
    o Busking day
  • Getting money from outside school – Bunnings BBQ in term 2?
    o Bakers Delight happy to donate the bread
    o Potentially $1200 - $1400

Question raised –
Why does canteen doing cupcakes day? And why are parents asked to bake them?
  • Juliette wants to try gluten free options and healthier options, and to raise more money
  • Other initiatives she is taking is doing fruit & veg days
  • Suggestion made to change the cupcake day to an ice-block day
  • Canteen is assessed once a term, with KPIs put in place by canteen committee

  • Marijana raised that when the health inspector was last in they noted the chipping paint on the wall- has this been communicated to the necessary person and fixed yet? To be looked into.

Nikki Towill offered to do the Entertainment Book again next year; done as it was last year, kept very simple and just sold to the school community

3. Principal’s Update (Meredith Tomkins)
  • Curriculum program - Elevate
The Australian government is concerned with Australia’s PISA results
- It’s in the top 40% where we’re falling down
- Federal and State Government + Australian independent Schools (AIS) are funding this project
- 12 AIS schools + 2 other schools across NSW chosen to for the first cohort of the project - Community of Practice – and OLG is one of these schools
- Innovation unit from the UK leading the project, which means there will be international ramifications, which is exciting
- 2016 will be the major year for OLG in terms of the program
- OLG – units like inquiry, integrated learning make us more ready to take on new programs such as these
- Top 40% of students are important – gifted program at OLG focuses on top 5%
- Schools normally pitch learning at bottom of the middle to encompass everyone
- 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
- Team of 5 has been pulled together
- Keeping inquiry & thinking units
- In NAPLAN scores, OLG is near the top of the Diocese – Broken Bay Diocese is the top group of schools across Australia
- For more info, google – Elevate

**Other Business**
- Some girls schools do a girls day on the oval – can we do that at OLG?
- Strong interest in having a Seniors oval
  - Restriction is around teachers on duty and needing to balance all teachers having a lunch break as well
  - Suggested that there is the possibility of parents volunteering to be on duty
  - FR Jose happy for us to use the space
- Kiss and drop needs to be sorted – Marijana happy to do first week
  - Coordinated through Nat
  - Meredith to chat to Nat