

Introduction

Good evening everyone and thank you for joining the Board and staff for the annual Santa Clara AGM.

The purpose for tonight is to give you an update from the school Board and from the P&F about the key events and undertakings that occurred through the year and what we can look forward to in 2021. Principle Clinton Payne will give you an update on key initiatives that are under way.

Firstly, I would like to invite Fr Chris to open our meeting with a prayer.

Chairman's report

2020 has been an extraordinary year, and while we have been extremely lucky in Western Australia, with very little impact from COVID to date, the staff of Santa Clara have had to deal with and adapt to uncertain and changing conditions. I have to remind you that 2020 was not only Mr Payne's first year at Santa Clara, but also his first year as a principal. I would like to say well done on behalf of the school community for your guidance through such a difficult year. I think Mr Payne will agree that he had outstanding support from a dedicated team of staff, all of whom helped the school get through the year's challenges. But I think special mention needs to go to the leadership team including, Kristy Madaffri, Adrian Tulett and Fiona Messer.

I am happy to report that this year we had a number of new faces join the Board, but we were also sad to see a number of long serving members retire. I would like to extend our thanks to Wayne and Jo Barton who stayed on the Board to help with the transition of principals from 2019 to 2020, but have now stepped off. Jo acted as Treasurer for several years and Wayne took on the difficult issue of the trees along the schools fence line. I am happy to say we finally have a resolution for this issue. Throughout 2020 Board has operated in a constructive and harmonious way. Thank you all for your participation.

I am sure you have all seen the changes that have taken place around the school grounds. Mr Payne's initiatives and the Board's support have seen capital spend on much needed repairs and upgrades to the school, as well as a facelift to the gardens. We can now boast that we have one of the greenest ovals of any school in our area. Just a few items I would like to make a special note on include; the joint purchase of the new school furniture between the P&F and the Board and the joint purchase of AV, again between the P&F and the Board. Ongoing improvements will continue through 2021 to provide a safer, more productive and more enjoyable learning environment for our students.

I think we need to give a special acknowledgement to the P&F. We are very lucky to have a such an active group who work hard to raise funds and put on fantastic events for our kids. Thankyou Michelle and all the ladies who dedicate their valuable personal time and help out.

We end the year with the school in a sound financial position and strong student enrolments for 2021. While COVID has affected some of the services the school offers, such as out of school care and the canteen shop, they will be maintained. Affordable out of school care, is one of the schools most attractive attributes and a godsent for many working families in our community.

That's it from me. But I would just like to encourage all parents to spread the word about our great school to help bring in new families. Higher student numbers increases the funding to our school and enables us to invest more resources for the betterment our children. This is a great school with strong Catholic values, dedicated staff, good leadership and a real sense of community. While we are Catholic, we are welcoming to all cultures, nationalities and religions. Testimony to our community spirit, is the fact that nearly every kid from Kindy to Year 6 knows the names of nearly everyone in the school.

Thank you.