

Welcome to Father Chris, Staff and Parents to the 2021 Santa Clara School AGM.

Our year started with our welcome picnic in Term 1. We welcomed our Santa Clara community to an outdoor cinema evening screening Despicable Me. Due to the weather, we relocated this event from our school oval to the undercover area which proved to be quite difficult but we got there in the end. Despite the weather, it was still a well attended event with our undercover area bursting with excitement and families enjoying the evening socialising. Pizza's were on the menu with over 60 pizzas pre-ordered. We also had a coffee van, and slushes and popcorn on sale. Thank You to Clint and Kristy for picking up the pizzas and helping with the clean up. Thank you also to the staff for helping with the stall sales.

We then moved onto our annual Easter raffle, which is always such a great success. Many donations of chocolates were received by the school community resulting in lots of prizes for each class.

In Term 2 we introduced our very first Mother's Day stall. This was very well supported event. We planned to host a Mother's Day morning tea but sadly Covid had other plans and we had to cancel this event. We would love to put this on the agenda for next year.

Cadbury fundraising boxes were introduced this term, and very well received. I anticipated to only run this fundraiser for this term, however they proved to be very popular and we continued to sell them in Term 3 and 4, selling over 200 boxes. We are wrapping this fundraiser up with only 12 boxes remaining. Thank you to everyone who took a box or three home. And thank you to our biggest supporters, the staff, who had an endless supply in their lunch room.

Next was our school disco. We hired a professional DJ who had the children on the dance floor for the entire evening and a photo-booth, taking some classic photos and wonderful memories. Miss Fitz once again hit the floor and wowed us with her signature move, the worm, not once but twice this year! Our disco wouldn't be a disco without Miss Fitz! It was wonderful to see all the children and staff enjoying themselves. Thank you to all our volunteers who helped set up, run the shop and clean up afterwards. Thank you to Clint and Kristy for your support and help with shop sales and the clean up also.

Due to the success of our Mother's Day stall, we introduced our first Father's Day stall in term 3 which, like our Mother's Day stall, was also very well supported. This and our Mother's Day stall will be scheduled in for 2022.

For our athletics carnival we provided lunch for the staff and students from Subway Bentley. Thank you to Kathy & David Crook and Ruth Noonan for helping to collect the 180 lunch orders and deliver them to Wyong Oval. All Staff, Father's and father figures were also treated to a free coffee courtesy of the P&F. Thank-you to Miss Fitz who organised such a great event, our best athletics carnival yet! I know I say that every year, but they do get better and better each year.

Ending Term 3 was our bi-annual quiz night. This was a well attended event by both families and staff of Santa Clara with 10 tables booked. We received many donations from local businesses and the Santa Clara community and these were used for various prizes, raffles, auctions and games. Mr Jon Lennon, our host for the evening, did an amazing job entertaining everyone, getting everyone up out of their chairs, and even some on the tables dancing. A list of participating businesses have been placed in our newsletter. Please support these businesses whenever possible and thank them for their support and donations when visiting.

Last Friday we held the "Santa Clara Colour Run" The children were very excited that this was on the calendar again this year. The children (and staff) enjoyed being sprayed with coloured powder as they entered the colour stations through an obstacle course and inflatable arches. Students received a participation pack which consisted of sunglasses, a headband and satchel of coloured powder to use at the end of the event to spray one another with colour. They will also be treated to an icy-pole this week. Lots of positive feedback was received from staff and parents, with students who expressed "this is my favourite event". This has definitely become a yearly event and already locked in for 2022.

We have donated to various projects throughout the year which have included the purchase of a new ping pong table for our new outdoor games area, new reading books for our mini-lit program, ukulele's, trees along our front fence line, along with a contribution to our wonderful new playground and our 2022 Lexile Program.

The P&F also contributed to the St Clare's Day celebrations by providing a free sausage sizzle for all staff and students at our open night. Thank You to Mrs Thiel for cooking for us and to the staff for helping serve.

As the year draws to a close we will end with a variety of food trucks at our Christmas concert, and provide a small gift to all the students on behalf of the P&F. Not one, but 2 surprise guests will be there as well. We will also have a coffee van, slushies, popcorn, and fairy floss.

We will also provide a farewell gift for our graduating Year 6 Class which will be presented to them at their graduation ceremony. We wish them all the very best for high school and their future years ahead.

In the new year the P&F will start the year off with our welcome picnic. I am also very excited to host our bi-annual school fete. Don't forget to keep your eye out on the 2022 school calendar for lots more fun things happening.

Thank You to all the amazing staff for your support throughout the year. Our community is truly blessed to have such dedicated staff who go above and beyond in their efforts to teach and support our children.

To our wonderful committee members and volunteers, thank you for your help, throughout the year. Without you, the Santa Clara P&F would not be possible.

I love working with, and being part of the Santa Clara community and seeing the smiles, laughter and enjoyment from the children is my goal. It is the reason I do what I do. I believe we have achieved lots of great things and provided the staff and students with some wonderful resources, experiences and memories.

And lastly, Kristy! (aka Krispy) I don't really know where to start. Clearly you were only thinking of yourself when you made this decision!! You started your time here at Santa Clara just out of Uni at the fresh age of 22 as a teacher of the Pre-Primary class and now leave as a Mother of 2 beautiful girls. Over the years you moved up the ranks becoming our IT Specialist, Curriculum Leader and now Assistant Principal. But let's face it, you were steering the ship long before you were appointed AP. Clint absolutely saw your potential and just made your title official!!

Thank You for all your hard work and dedication to Santa Clara over the last 15 years. Your knowledge, expertise, passion, professionalism and caring ways have touched the lives of so many of us.

With a heavy heart and tears in our eyes, we soon must bid you goodbye. As your time with Santa Clara comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the best for the future. Santa Clara simply will not be the same without your gorgeous smile, and not to mention our Cadbury boxes will always be full!

Thank you for your support, and your friendship. St Judes are extremely lucky to have you, and I have no doubt that you are going to smash it! But...I must say one thing...good luck on finding better colleagues than us here at Santa Clara... oh and NO poaching!!

Bring on 2022, minus Kristy! But we got Jaymie!! We got this!!