

Parents Et Friends Report

The P&F is the parent association which helps parents to share the joy of educating their children in a positive Catholic community” (Federation of Parents and Friends Association of Catholic Schools in QLD)

We are delighted to report that 2018 has been a successful year for the P&F and we are thankful for our many contributors and volunteers who have kindly donated time and resources to benefit our school and students.

For many years we have been fortunate to have a strong and supportive P&F who work in partnership with the Principal and Staff of Marist in order to run a successful association. We are privileged to had a small but dedicated group of parents involved in attending our meetings and volunteering this year.

Our success this year would not have been possible without our Executive committee consisting of Wendy Gaskin, Secretary, Belinda Whittaker, Treasurer, and Chontal Broadwith, Vice President.

This year we were lucky enough to meet and learn from a Brisbane representative (Bernadette Kreutzer) from The Federation of Parents and Friends Associations of Catholic Schools in Queensland. She visited us this year to help clarify what the role of our P&F is, and to assist us in ways to encourage parent engagement within our school. When families and schools work together, children and young people are more likely to build good relationships within their communities, completing a rewarding and successful education.

Once again, Marist College held a very successful Marist Race Day on the 19th May. This was the 15th annual Marist Race Day, which was a great achievement by the parent, student and staff bodies of Marist College, and also by the wider Emerald community. The event has been an opportunity for Marist College to be showcased within the community. Whilst it is a P&F event, the day would not have been possible without the endless support of the school. Many thanks to Mark Green, Leah Stirton, Amber Harris, grounds staff, Ben and Jake, the Marist Teachers and Staff, and our parent volunteers, for the time they donated to make the day a huge success.

The P & F also organised and ran the bar for the Marist Formal. As it was the first time that the Formal had been held at the school, the profits from the bar

were donated to the school to help cover the costs of the purchase of the dance floor. The Formal was an enjoyable and memorable event for the Year 12 cohort and parents.

Every year, we use the funds from the P&F levy and any fundraising to purchase items for the benefit of the students and staff at Marist College.

In 2018 this included:

- \$5000 donation to help cover the costs of the defensive driving course offered to all of our Year 12 drivers
- Cooled water drinking taps
- 40 Round tables (used for Formal, Graduation Dinner and other school functions)
- Approval for a winch for the undercover area
- Cash register and ordering tablets for Hospitality
- New C-Block desks and chairs
- New Combi oven and dishwasher for the tuckshop

I would like to thank all the parents who have donated their time to the P&F and to Marist College this year. There are many ways to be involved in your child's secondary education – whether it be attending P&F meetings, volunteering at fundraising and school events, or volunteering at the tuckshop. I have had children at Marist College since 2005 and have found my involvement with the P&F and the school over the years very rewarding.

I encourage everyone to become involved in the school community – any time you are able to donate is greatly appreciated and rewarding. Being a parent of a student at Marist College, you are already a member of the P & F Association. When you become an active member is when you can really assist in bettering the environment and experience that is so pivotal to your child's development and future. Over the past 13 years, I have been able to witness the difference the P&F makes in student and staff lives, and am extremely proud to call myself a positive contributor to our school, Marist College Emerald.

Thank you

Ali Adams *President*