What did your P&C do in 2013?

Well it's been a big year......again! All events held were successful not only financially, but rich in community spirit also. Our wonderful league of volunteers and supporters were there for us again to make it all possible. We can't thank them enough.

The P&C events began with a welcome morning tea for new families to meet us. Then Walk to School Day breakfast, Mother’s Day stall in May, Pie Drive in June, Sports Day Stall, Sausage Sizzle at Masters and the Fun Run in August, Father’s Day stall and Spooky Disco in September, World Teachers Day and Day for Daniel in October, 2014 Booklist service in November and lastly Swimming Carnival Lunch in December. And all the while through this we ran a Tuckshop 2 days a week as well (or atleast Mel did!) Thanks to Mel for doing an outstanding job this year! The Tuckshop is a great success.

The P&C committee considers a balance of fun for the kids, education, fundraising and community when planning events for the year. We also try to disperse our investment in the school in a variety of areas too, as you will see if you read on.

While this years committee has decided on not having a Fair next year, when our next tri-annual fair is due, (and the next committee may well decide otherwise), I have been pondering the pros and cons of this decision. The Fair is with out a doubt a wonderful community spirited event that invites our wider Mackay community into our school and shows how great our school is and how proud we are. This is a great thing. But I also feel that the work we do in smaller events on a regular basis (virtually monthly), gives us a much stronger foundation within our school - a family feel. We work together more often, in smaller less stressful events, we share and try out a variety of ideas. We get to know each other better doing things this way and it gives new members to our community a chance to join in along the way. Rather than one big event we all secretly dread, everything seems to be riding on it’s success so we worry over it and are then exhausted and glad to see the back end of it and each other for a while (3 years to be exact). And that’s if it doesn’t get rained out. Sorry if I’m speaking too directly. But when I mention Fair to anyone I see pain and fear in their eyes, some even flinch! So that’s why we haven’t been doing any forward planning for a fair yet. Instead we want to have a grown ups only Quiz night and make the Fun Run bigger and better which is a treat for the kids and a community interaction too.

Getting down to some business, as at 31st October, our income was $39097 (General business) and $47046 (Tuckshop) Totalling $86,143. What did we do with it? Well for Tuckshop, to give you a rough idea of where it went, the biggest chunk of $23000 was eaten by the students! (ie cost to purchase food sold at Tuckshop). Wages, tax, insurance and super came to $11000. New equipment, repairs and maintenance $2000. $400 was given away in vouchers – to students (green card and Deal/No Deal rewards) and Tuckshop volunteers. From the general account (ie all non Tuckshop activity) we spent $1000 on fridge
maintenance (assessment report, temperature check, new seals), $2500 on P&C’s Qld membership, insurance and audit.

$15000 was paid to the school as detailed below and a further $22000 is earmarked for projects as detailed below.

In Oct/Nov approximately $15000 approx, was paid to the school to cover costs of new noticeboard outside Prep A, Trophy cabinets in reception, chess sets, Prep Prep Program set up, Laser pointers for interactive whiteboards, an Interactive whiteboard for yr 3 and ¾, new shade tents for school and sporting houses, maths resources audit and restock to support the school’s Numeracy focus, rendering of front gate, gardening club, chainsaw for groundsman.

The following items are earmarked to happen pending quotes/full funding available or event to occur, totaling $22000. (These are in no particular order of priority). Upgrade internet switch so internet access is faster for staff and students $6000, Concrete pathway from stop drop go shelter to gate, Common lounge area furniture, Covered walkway to Library, Age Champion Swimming Medallions. Paint, plants and fertilizer for groundsman projects. Curtains in Prep A, 1/2 and 2 classrooms. Yr 7 graduation cake and photos, P&C Safe. Paint front gate and put new sign letters on. Replace backboard of one basketball court.

While accounting for all this we can still manage to reserve $15000 in savings for next year’s committee to have opening cash flow to work with. A full report and audit of accounts will be available at the AGM in Feb/Mar 2014.

If you would like to have a say in where funds are invested then I strongly encourage you to complete a membership form and send it in to the school office. Then attend a P&C meeting or at least contact me on 0478 887 655 to put your ideas forward.

Next time we put out a note that we need your help, to donate a plate of food or do a half hour shift on a roster – remember that every little bit eventually adds up to all the great things we can and have done for our school - our kids education. Your contribution counts no matter how big or small it may be. Really it’s an invitation to join in something that’s great fun and rewarding. Thank you again to all the wonderful volunteers who make it possible.

Wendy Batley
President
2013