**Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury**

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**Parent Advisory Council**

Last Wednesday 28th October the revised Parent Advisory Council had its first introductory meeting.

In 2019 the School Board of Directors was expanded to include two additional members. The SMMC School Board currently consists of five members. Simon Horsfall- Chairman, Kathleen Horsfall, Thomas Horsfall, Philip Murphy and Andrew Garratt.

The School Advisory Councilhas been a part of the school from its beginning in 2009. This was an important part of the school life and provided excellent advice to the Board on matters relating to school life. It gave the parents a voice in the life of the school and an opportunity to serve the school community. The Parents and Friends (P&F) operated separately and was a fund raising body for the school. Excellent work was done by volunteers who worked in the School Advisory Council and P& F.

The revised Parent Advisory Council will be made up of ‘class parents’ who are invited each year to help out with their child’s class. The class parent position lasts for a year and a new parent is selected from each class each year. Together this group of ‘class parents’ will form the new Parent Advisory Council and will also take on the fundraising activities that were run by the P&F. It is expected a separate Gala Dinner and Fete Committee will be formed within the council to manage these important social and fundraising events within the school. Any other fundraising run by the parents will also go via the advisory council.

**Meetings**

Meetings will be run once per term, usually early in the term, in the first four weeks.

**Class Parents**

Each class at the school will have a couple who will be responsible for each class. They will attend the Parent Advisory Council meeting once per term as described above but they also have a role in caring for the families in their class.

Class parents are to be key figures in unity and communication, helping families in the school to be effective, to be positive, and to use the services of the school.

They would be appointed for a year at a time year by the school

They represent each class as a couple who knows the journey that the children in that class are on, not as ‘model’ parents or families. The people who are selected are preferably not a teacher at the school, have time available and/or have experience in organising events and fundraising.

**Some key tasks:**

* That every family be looked after materially whenever they have special needs such as illness, a new baby etc.
* Coordinate a phone tree to get messages out from the school
* Help new families settle in well
* Put a lot of effort into coordinating friendships amongst the families in the classes
* Have small group dinners in the course of the year that everybody in the class would attend
* Hold at least one major gathering for the class each year, for example a picnic
* Help out with events within the school such as parent nights, working bees, fundraising events and other school social events. The Board and management of the school will support them in this role also.
* One parent from each couple will attend the School Advisory Council meeting, once per term.

**Proposed class parents for 2020-2021:**

One parent per class that will also work together in teams to organise social events.

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| **Class** | **Parents- 2020-2021** |
| Special Invitation | Vera Galvin (ex P&F) |
| Kinder 2020 / year 1 2021 | James & Catherine Stewart |
| Year 1 2020 / year 2 2021 | Daniel & Esther Clark |
| Year 2 2020 / year 3 2021 | TBA |
| Year 3 2020 / year 4 2021 | Michael & Anna Green |
| Year 4 2020 / year 5 2021 | Wassim & Marcia Saliba |
| Year 5 2020 / year 6 2021 | Michael & Maria Sparshott |
| Year 6 2020 / year 7 2021 | Ben & Tanya O’Brien (also ex P&F) |
| Year 7 2020 / year 8 2021 | TBA |
| Year 8 2020 / year 9 2021 | Peter & Susan Voskulen |
| Year 9 2020 / year 10 2021 | Joel & Louise Wright |
| Year 10 2020 / year 11 2021 | Tom & Cheradee Gillespie |
| Year 11/12 2020/2021 | Tom & Clare Ryan |