



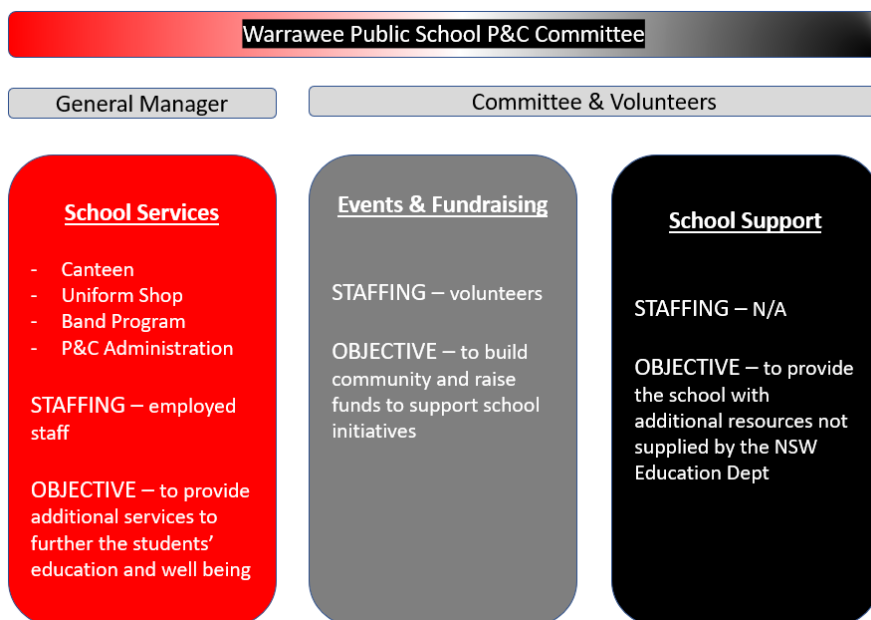
2024 Warrawee Public School P&C President's AGM Report

Tuesday 26th March 2024

Welcome to the Warrawee Public School (WPS) P&C AGM for 2024.

1. The **AGM** represents the end of the P&C year as well as the beginning of the following P&C year. The meeting is in 3 parts: dispatching of the prior P&C year, election of the new P&C committee and then the beginning of the new P&C year. Membership runs until the end of the AGM meeting at which point membership for the following P&C year starts.
2. This is then followed by the **1st General meeting** for the new committee.

What is the P&C and What does it do:



P&C Meetings

We held 5 General Meetings during the year, 1 in each term, 2 via zoom and 2 in person (and another attached to the AGM). While it is good to see people in person, we also want to make it easier for parents to engage with the P&C and as such we've found that zoom facilitates this. In addition to that we hold our AGM in person, once a year in term 1. This is in fact 2 meetings: the AGM to dispatch the committee year and start the next. We follow this immediately with the 1st general meeting of the year. The 2023 AFS audit report was signed on 28th Feb 2024 so this AGM being on the 26th March 2024 falls within the 3 month window as prescribed by the P&C Fed. While the P&C committee year runs from AGM to AGM the financial year follows the calendar year reporting on 31 December.

Committee

During the year we farewelled Ben Halkon who served as Treasurer for a year as well as Andy Donohoe who took up our Groundsforce role for a year. Both provided support and injections of energy at a time when the committee found itself with unexpected shortages. Claire Deane, having served as our Community Representative for 3 years and as a committee member for the year prior to that will be standing down at this AGM. We thank them for their time and effort over their tenure.

To the committee we welcomed Justin Smith (Secretary), Shantilal (Lal) Jain (Treasurer) and Charlie Walker (Vice president). At the beginning of last years AGM we found ourselves with the Events role vacant which it had been for 6 months. At her 1st meeting Jordan Weaver-Keeney jumped into the role and has brought an enviable level of experience to our committee leveraging her career as an events and wedding planner. Lucas Taylor has continued as our Traffic representative as well as VP. Yoni Kirsh has rounded out our committee by taking up the Executive Committee role and immediately leapt into running the inaugural Carols Showcase BBQ. Without these people stepping up there would be no P&C so as a community we are deeply indebted to them.

Positions aren't for life and we in fact have a 3-year mandatory rotation policy for exec positions to ensure freshness so we welcome anyone that would like to give it a try. The connections you'll make will be invaluable.

Having served on the Executive Committee for 3 years, 1st as Treasurer and then as President I too will be standing down at this AGM.

Class Parents

In addition to the P&C structure we also coordinate the Class Parent network. Ange Sciacca has been pulling this together for the last 2 years (in addition to serving in several P&C roles prior to that) aided more recently by Jamie Hoy on the K-2 side. Keeping the communication channels between parents, teachers & the P&C live is enormously valuable to our community so a big thanks to them.





OUR SERVICES

Band

Our Band Program had yet another fantastic year and it’s all I can do to keep up with the steady stream of public performances:

- Music in the Forrest at Killarney Heights School (Intermediate, Performance & Stage Bands)
- Annual Band Camp at Camp Kedron with guest conductor: Prof Rob McWilliams (Apr 23)
- The Band Showcase in the School Hall (May 23)
- Forrest High NSSWE Concert (Jun 23)
- The Concourse in Chatswood at the NSSWE Spring Music Festival (Sep 23)
- Music by Moonlight at Normanhurst West Primary, Performance Band (Sep 23)
- Hornsby North Band Festival (Oct 23)
 - Training Band - High distinction
 - Intermediate band – High distinction
 - Performance band - Distinction
- Stage Band performed at both the Hawkesbury at Ebenezer Church & the Wahroonga Wine and Food Festival (Oct 23)
- Chamber Band performed at Mark Moran Retirement Village (Nov 23)
- Training Band performed at the Wahroonga Village Fair (Dec 23)
- End of year Carols Showcase Concert (Dec 23)

We are fortunate to have 3 enthused and motivated band conductors: Tim Ferrier (Training Band), Ben Perche (Intermediate) and Hayden Dalton (Performance and Stage) lead by the indefatigable Ben Perche. In addition to this we make use of rehearsal assistants that help corral the students during rehearsals so that the conductors can focus on teaching music. Lena, Kaitlyn and Lachlan did a great job of supporting all rehearsals in 2023.

The success of the band program is well understood within the school community, and this can now be seen through a large uptick in enrolments for the training band with a record intake this year.

Enrolments for the 2024 year are:

	2023	2024
Training band	35	56
Intermediate Band	40	26
Performance Band	44	52
	119	134
Stage Band	16	17
Chamber Ensemble	8	7

Uniform Shop

We've had a full year of uninterrupted sales and have seen a full resumption of the sale of secondhand uniforms which is what we want to see. These items are priced at \$4 each and this shift has seen \$ sales decrease but margins increase as there is no COGS on these items. It is great to see us getting full use out of recycling our uniforms.

Oksun continues to open the uniform shop for in-person sales on Wednesday mornings from 8:30am – 9:15am. This is in addition to online sales via FlexiSchools which are hand wrapped and delivered to classrooms.

Canteen

The Canteen is about:

- Healthy eating options
- Affordable price points
- Popular items
- Keeping the menu fresh
- Staffing

Getting the balance right for these elements is key to our success. We have had a full year of the new team in place and service has been great. Our sushi supplier closing with no notice brought forward our general manager's plan to offer sushi beyond the limited days previously available which has been a positive outcome from the situation. Further, we rolled out our slushy offering in the second half of the year which has proved to be wildly popular. With the stability and popularity of service we can now continue to explore more options on the menu.

Your canteen has been awarded 'NSW Healthy School Canteen' certification but we're always looking to do more. We are constantly exploring options for driving healthy eating while remaining attractive to our customers, the kids. Further to that, as with all our services, we're looking to drive operational efficiencies.

We run a kiosk canteen on the K-2 side of the school for over-the-counter sales and while sales are sparse it provides a nice completeness to our service.

General Management

The role of General Manager was created in late 2019 with the appointment of Simon De Rosa, which has been really important in ensuring continuity of operations during the last three and a half years. We have fantastic people working across the Canteen, Uniform Shop and Band Program, and the General Manager role is critical in providing the professional support to enable them to thrive in their roles. We employ staff so it's essential that they have a consistent management structure, and the General Manager position provides this stability which is reflected in our low staff turnover this year.

Warrawee Care Centre (WCC or OOSH [Out of School Hours])

We have arguably the best OOSH in the country. Don't take our word for it, look to the ratings which confirm it with another Excellent Rating awarded last year. This marks the fourth time the WCC have been awarded this quality rating since it came into effect in 2012 and currently there are

32 services (ours included) out of 17,000 education and care services that hold the Excellent Rating. This is the highest rating an education and care service can achieve. The rating is nationally recognised and awarded by the National regulator, ACECQA and scopes across long day care, preschool, family day care and OOSH. WCC are also the second service to receive this rating since they introduced the new National Quality Framework (earlier last year) that they are assessed against. There are only 3 OOSH services in Australia currently holding this rating.

From a legal structure point of view the WCC is a standalone parent convened not-for-profit. However, with recent legislation changes the OOSH either has to be put up to tender or wrap in under the P&C. After much consultation with parents and the WCC we would like to pursue the latter. At our last general meeting we voted to trigger a due diligence exercise of the WCC. If this proves favorable, which we expect it will, then the P&C will embark on a vote to initiate the roll-in of the WCC as an additional service of the P&C.

EVENTS & FUNDRAISING

Unlike other P&C's we do not bill the schools' families to run the P&C. In addition to that we have no staff to run P&C Events and Fundraising activities. Our efforts are entirely dependent on the enthusiasm and generosity of the parents that give the school community their time. Without them there simply would have been no events. Jordan Weaver-Keeney joined our team as the Events manager and together with Claire Deane they've delivered a commendable itinerary of events. Bec Smoker managed and delivered both our Mothers' Day stall and Teacher Appreciation Day with her usual efficiency and military precision as well her team of regular volunteers.

Initiatives and Events delivered during the year:

The Year in Arrears

It's been a busy year at the P&C with events including:

- 3 x Working Bees - 6 skips filled and the community garden revamped.
- 2 x Election BBQs (& a Bake Sale) – close to 2,000 people served.
- Outdoor Movie Night – over 300 entertained.
- Easter Raffle - \$1,400 raised for the Hornsby Kuring-Gai Women's Shelter
- Mothers' Day Stall – 700 energetic customers served.
- Fathers' Day Brekky – over 400 Kids & dads' breakfasts served.
- Parents-Night-In Trivia night – over 100 parents enjoyed the revelry
- Teacher Appreciation Day event
- Year 6 Farewell supported.
- Year 6 Return & Earn initiative launched and conducted with \$1,000 raised through recycling.
- Festive season Gingerbread Drive
- Carols Showcase Concert BBQ

All these initiatives have been run and supported by parents and students who have made time in their schedules to make a contribution. You are our secret sauce and an asset to our community.

GROUNDS & SUSTAINABILITY



We conducted **3 working bees** during the year during which we filled 6 skips with garden debris. In addition to this we focused on bringing the kitchen garden back into functionality which included:

- Clean up and clean out of debris.
- Taking down and disposing of the old, rusted shed
- Repairing planter boxes.
- Deploying 5 cubic meters of new topsoil.
- Resurfacing the rear of the kitchen garden with 3 tons of blue stone



Class	Teacher	TOTAL 8 Dec	# of Deposits
Class 6S 🏆	Savage	\$ 415.30	91
Class 6C	Cowley	\$ 195.00	40
Class 5/6O	O'Shea	\$ 295.70	87
YEAR 6 Total		\$ 906.00	218
P&C Deposits		\$ 114.30	
TOTAL RETURN & EARN		\$ 1,020.30	

During the year we introduced our 1st recycling program. WPS has no recycling plan to speak of and a woeful amount of recyclables make their way into landfill bins. Not a single year six came to the last working bee of the year and indeed the majority of the 2023 year-six class navigated their 7 years through the school without contributing to any ground's initiatives. This is a culture that needs to change. As such we introduced a **Return & Earn recycling program**, using the Tomra platform, for year 6, which involved a competition between the 3 classes (winner earned a Dominos lunch) with the full proceeds of just over \$1k going towards the year 6 farewell party. Less than half the year 6 students participated in this program, but it represents a start. We'll be running the program for the year 6's again this year as well as adding a group for the 3-5 and K-2 cohorts (they too can choose how they wish to expend the proceeds).

Mrs Huby introduced no-packaging-Wednesdays. This initiative is to help us be more aware of volume of packaging waste generated by our daily lunches. This is a great initiative that the P&C would like to facilitate in any way possible.

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS

We exist to provide services to the school, run events to help build our community and contribute to the school environment where we generate a surplus. We were able to supply the school with new soccer goals on both sides of the school as well as new athletics equipment this year. We are always looking for opportunities to contribute more. However, it bears mentioning that in contrast to a school's budget our finances are extremely modest and as such we're looking for high impact and noticeable initiatives that can be delivered with speed.



TRAFFIC, PARKING & ROAD SAFETY

Traffic, parking and road safety has remained a top priority for the Warrawee P&C across the previous 12 months. We continue to work with parents, carers, Council, residents, bus operators and Transport for NSW to ensure we get the best outcomes in challenging standards around our school.

As many of you are aware, Council and Transport for NSW as part of the Pinch Point Program have upgraded the roads around our school, particularly on the highway and on Blytheswood. Small changes have been made to parking signs and parking areas to increase convenience and clarity. Slight changes were also made to the bus zone to grant greater access. Council have also conducted a sign review around the school to ensure all signs are relevant and easily identified. Additionally we continue to work to address challenges construction brings to our streets, especially on Finlay.

Throughout the year, you would have noticed that our previous school crossing supervisor moved onto other opportunities at short notice. Thank you to Mrs Robertson, Mrs Roumanos, Mrs Pegalo and all the staff that filled in with a hi-vis vest to keep the crossing operational. After two meetings with the Senior Manager of the Transport for NSW School Crossing Supervisor program, we were able to welcome in a new School Crossing Supervisor. Please make them feel welcome when you next see him.

The TP&RS committee are in regular contact with Ku-ring-gai Municipal Council rangers and work with them to ensure they fairly assist in ensuring compliance around our school, particularly in the morning and around Kiss and Ride zones.

Please remember that parking in a kiss and ride zone and moving more than three metres from your vehicle or staying longer than two minutes is considered an infringement of parking regulations. Council Rangers frequent this zone.

The committee has taken and progressed numerous traffic, parking and road safety comments and issues through the inbox, traffic@wpspandc.org and encourages the early raising of issues and any ideas to assist.

Traffic and parking is a challenge around our school and slow progress is being made, particularly around steps on the Finlay kiss and ride zone. While progress in this area is being made, with all our contribution and a little patience and understanding, great progress can be made in ensuring the safety of all students at our school.

Local Charity of the Year

For the 2023 year we've initiated the concept of partnering with a local charity. For 2023 our chosen charity was the **Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Women's Shelter**. The shelter provides support and refuge for women under the threat of domestic violence. They are, unfortunately, oversubscribed and have to turn people away. We launched our Easter Raffle in support of HKWS the proceeds of which will go entirely to the shelter. We managed to raise \$1,400 for the shelter which was less than the value of the donated prizes. In relative terms this was very modest, and sales were disappointing. As such this initiative is not being repeated in 2024.

FINAL WORD

This will be my final President's report. It has been an honour to lead and be a part of the P&C. I am extremely grateful for the people and spirit thereof with which I've had the fortune to meet and work.

James Deane











