

## **Board Chair Report AGM 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

On behalf of the School Board it is with pleasure that I present the 2019 Our Lady of Lourdes board chair's report.

This year the Board has been busy assisting the School Executive with a number of improvements around our school. These have included;

- Resurfacing of the school and parish carpark, including the marking of parking bays and the one way system,
- New outdoor blinds along the year 1, 2, 3, kindy and pre-primary classrooms,
- Repainting of external areas of the school, which also includes the murals next to the vegetable garden near the year 1 classroom,
- New HP laptops in the IT room.

The school also purchased new school banners to help increase exposure of the school within the wider community and you may have seen these on display at the sports carnival at the beginning of this term. Marketing of the school continues to be one of the major focus areas for the Board and we have continued to look at ways to promote our school. Marketing will be an ongoing focus for the Board in 2020.

2020 is looking to be a busy year for the School Board. A capital development plan has been formulated and has been submitted with an application for funding. This is an exciting new project which encompasses the redevelopment of the IT room and library, staff room, a sick bay and the re-development of the outside area between the years 1 to 6 classrooms.

We are very lucky to have worked so closely with Father Stan and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. 2019 saw the introduction of Family Masses on Sunday mornings as a way to further develop the already strong links between the school and parish. Two classes were paired together and were rostered on to attend two Masses throughout the year. These have been welcomed by parishioners and school families with the children actively involved in many aspects of the Mass. These masses have been very well attended and the children have enjoyed being more involved with the benefit of further enriching their faith.

This year has also been a year of change for Board members. We welcomed a number of new board members; Holly Sansalone, Karen Radici, Christina Giorgio and Tina Iemma. Thank you all for your input and assistance with all of the tasks faced by the Board in 2019. I look forward to working with you all again in 2020.

This year we will also be saying goodbye to Board secretary, Luke Credaro. Luke, thank you for the advice and valuable input you have provided during your three years on the Board.

There has also been one staff change this year. I have been privileged to have been a part of the panel of interviewers for the position of Digital Technologies teacher while Mrs Baldock is on maternity leave. I have found this a valuable experience and Mrs Wardrope has proven to be a vital member of the teaching staff at Our Lady of Lourdes.

Earlier this year the School Board took part in the principal review of Mr Ryan. The review was conducted by CEWA and was a very thorough process which reviewed all aspects of Mark's leadership within the school. It enabled time to reflect on Mark's strengths as principal and enabled the formulation of a professional growth plan. This was a very positive process and the School Board looks forward to continue working with Mark long into the future.

In September of this year I attended the Catholic Schools Board Chair Conference. This provided me with insight into the function of different school boards throughout WA and was a valuable networking experience. One of the main focuses of this conference was to explore what made a good catholic school and the role of school boards into the future.

The Board has also played a role in the formulation of a new school Evangelisation Plan. One of the outcomes has been the creation of sacred spaces within each classroom with focus on the children's awareness and understanding of the Liturgical Seasons throughout the year.

Over 2019 the Board have worked well as a team along with Father Stan and the School Executive to accomplish many of the milestones set out in the School Improvement Plan. Our school is continuing to build on the fantastic relationships with the Parish, within the community and achieving great outcomes for our children. It is with enthusiasm that I look towards an amazing 2020 for our school.

Thank you.

Nadine White  
Board Chair 2019