

# 2013 School Board Report

The St Cecilia's Catholic Primary School Board has experienced a significant amount of change over the last twelve months, with the departure of some of our very valued board members, the addition of three new members and the appointment of our School Principal, Mr Peter Allen and Assistant Principals Mrs Nicola Simpson and Mrs Mandy Sheen.

Resignations from the Board included Liz Burton who relocated to Perth at the end of 2012 and Patrik Melberg who stepped down as a General Member of the Board after serving a full term of six years. 2014 will also see Mrs Salome Mbenjele stepping down and I would like to extend the thanks and appreciation of the Board to these past members.

At the beginning of 2013 we welcomed three new members, Mr Tony Riches, Mr Bela Felsner and Mrs Rhonda Mitchell, joining existing members Mrs Michelle Bowins (Secretary), Mr Matthew Ravenscroft (Treasurer), Mrs Emma Merlo (P&F Representative), Mr Dean Rehn (General Member) and our parish priests Father John Martin and Father Tom Kessy.

As the Board members were all settling into our new roles, we commenced the year by participating in a School Board induction with Sally O'Dea from the Catholic Education Office. Sally met with both new and existing members to discuss our role on the School Board in accordance with the Catholic School Board Constitution. This enabled us to start the year with focus and purpose and a clear understanding of our objective which is to assist the school to fulfil its educational responsibilities. Throughout the year we have been watching the construction of new teacher housing which is due for completion at the end of 2013, with the teachers relocating to their new premises over the school holidays.

A thorough review of the existing school uniform was conducted by a dedicated group of parents led by Mrs Karen Felsner. Karen and the committee took the time to consult with parents in determining what the school community value most in a uniform. As such, we will be seeing some changes over the next twelve months in the boy's uniform, a new green sports polo shirt incorporating the faction colours and the introduction of a microfiber jacket that can be worn at any time of the year. Thank you to Karen and the committee for such a thorough review and a fantastic outcome.

In October the Little Stars Program was launched by the Minister for Education at a ceremony held in our School Hall. In partnership with the Indigenous Construction Resource Group, the aim of the Little Stars Program is to enhance the education of young aboriginal people in our community and is an initiative the school is proud to be part of. On behalf of the Board, we extend our congratulations to those students who have been awarded a scholarship due to their commitment, enthusiasm and hard work.

Once again, the Parents and Friends Association have put in a huge fundraising effort this year, with events such as the school fete, fun run, cookbook, raffles and disco's, all for the benefit of the children. Thanks to the funds provided by the P&F we have seen the installation of the fantastic new fitness equipment around the school oval and the overhaul of the playground near the tennis court including new grass and shade. Our sincere thanks goes to this group of parents for their continuous effort in providing additional resources for the school and children.

And finally on behalf of the Board, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the incredible Teachers and Staff at St Cecilia's. Their tremendous effort and dedication to the school and the students is what drives the children's education and we look forward to working together again in 2014.

Mrs Claire Smith  
School Board Chairperson

