



# ST IGNATIUS CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARDTALK

October 2017

## Term 4

Welcome back to Term 4. We hope you are feeling refreshed after the school holiday break. As you will have seen from the Heads Up sent at the beginning of term, Term 4 will be very busy for our school staff, children and families.

The Board would like to congratulate and welcome Alexandra Lonergan as our selected parent representative to fill the casual vacancy following Owen Hick's resignation from the Board. Alex has two daughters at St Ignatius, Anna in year 1 and Lucy in year 2. Alex has completed her induction and joined us at our first Board meeting of the term last week. We look forward to a successful working relationship between Alex and the existing Board members.

In this edition of BoardTalk we welcome our new staff, thank our wonderful PTA, update you on the charter review sessions held in Term 3, and thank the Parishes.

### Board of Trustee Members:

Clodagh Hoare (Chairperson/Proprietor rep)  
Jane Penney (Staff Representative)  
Stephen O'Neill (Parent Rep)  
Greg Pinches (Parent Rep)  
Karen Rassie (Proprietor rep)  
Alexandra Lonergan (Parent Rep)

Carol Sullivan (Principal)  
Nikki Peck (Parent Rep)  
Margo Thomas (Parent Rep)  
Peter Brown (Proprietor rep)  
Kim Ballinger (Proprietor rep)

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## Thank you PTA

The Board of Trustees would like to thank the PTA for a very successful auction night that raised \$40,864.81. A huge amount of effort went on behind the scenes; thank you to all involved. Thank you also to the generous donors for their goods and services. The school uses the money raised for essential important resources, central to our children learning. The money raised enables the BOT to employ extra 'people resource' i.e. Learning Assistants and extra teaching hours. Thank you also to all the families that turned out in superb 90's style on the night to support the event.

Please support the upcoming Term 4 PTA events: School discos celebrating our 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, open to current St Ignatius students only on this Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October. Moretons Quiz night Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November, start swatting up on your trivia!!

## Staff News

Welcome to our new teachers from overseas Miss Melanie Estella, Miss Megan McMahon, Miss Niamh O’Herlihy and Miss Ellen Butterly; we hope you will join us in making them feel welcome as they become part of our St Ignatius community and Aotearoa.

As previously advised Mrs Sullivan is retiring from her role as Principal of St Ignatius at the end of the year. The children are organising a special day for Mrs Sullivan next month to farewell her at school. On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December a special school mass will be held at St Ignatius Church for the community to farewell Mrs Sullivan, all welcome. Invite with further details and time will be sent later in the term.

## Charter Review – Update

Thank you to the parents who came along to the sessions we offered in Term 3 to provide input to our charter and school’s strategic direction. We had 10 attendees to the evening session and 5 attendees to the afternoon session during school hours. We had some great input from the parents that attended; thank you for the thoughts and preparation.

The board has collated the feedback received during the Charter Review sessions. We held an additional session with all our staff this week, to allow them the opportunity to provide input into the strategic direction of our school. Mrs Anna Swann, our incoming principal 2018 also joined us at this session, which included an opportunity to meet our staff at afternoon tea.

The Board will review all the input in the coming weeks and feed that back into the Charter for 2018 – 2020.

## Parish News

The Board would like to thank and acknowledge both St Ignatius Parish and Mother of Perpetual Help Parish, their sacramental programme leaders and helpers for the wonderful job they did in preparing and supporting our children through their Sacramental journeys this year.

Forty six of our children received the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion at both parishes this year.

## Board Profile – Peter Brown

My name is Peter Brown and I am a Proprietor’s Representative appointed to the board in 2016. This is the first time I have served on a School Board.

I have been a parishioner at St Ignatius since 1998 and over the years have been involved in the Parish Pastoral Council, Parish Finance Council and the Diocesan Pastoral Council.

This experience has shown to me the importance of our Catholic Schools and how important a close relationship is between the School and the Parish Communities. I also value greatly my own Catholic Education with the Sisters of Mercy and Christian Brothers in Dunedin and Oamaru. It helped me set my course for life with a strong set of Catholic values alongside a good academic outcome. My aim is that we achieve the same for all the children who attend our school.

I am therefore very happy to be involved in the School even though I am not a parent. I am an actuary who spent many years working in Insurance but retired from full time work last year and now do some consulting and non-executive work. This gives me time to assist at the School and I have taken on the role of Treasurer on the Board and assist with the financial management.

In my free time I enjoy reading, music, sport and travel.



**“Do all you can with the means at your disposal and calmly leave the rest to God”**  
*Saint Mary MacKillop (1891)*