

Ambrose Treacy College Parents and Friends Association

President's Report 2016



The primary focus of most schools is for children to learn and graduate to move to the next stage in their lives, but in some cases schools become much more. Ambrose Treacy College is a community like no other. Based on the Edmund Rice tradition Ambrose Treacy College strives to offer a liberating education based on spirituality and an inclusive community committed to justice and solidarity. The school leadership, students and parents and friends of the College all play an integral part in building that culture and community. I'm proud to say that in 2015/2016 the P&F has yet again played its part and built upon the great work done by its predecessors of years past.

If I was to characterize this year I would say that it was a year of hard work interspersed with lots of laughs. We challenged ourselves with what we did and what we should do and delivered an ongoing stream of events and activities that enriched the lives of our students, parents and staff. From Coffee Catch-ups to Mother's and Father's day events, from Boys Day Out events to helping make the Jazz by the River Festival a great success, it is all part of building an inclusive community and one we can be proud of.

It would be remiss of me not to thank on behalf of the P&F everyone that has helped make the past year the success that it has been. I am grateful to Mike Senior and David Gardiner for supporting our program and providing both informative and at times very amusing updates at our monthly meetings. To the ground staff and canteen staff without whom many of our events would not have been anywhere near as successful, we really appreciate your support. Thanks to Rhonnie and Glynis for helping us stay on track from a diary, organisational and communications point of view. To Dave Capra and the Sports Coordinator Support Group – Donna, Andrea and Helen who have kicked off a wonderful new support group for ATC sporting teams and their families and supporters. To Conor Finn, for running the wonderful Service Program which is integral to the ATC philosophy and for keeping us updated and taking on board our feedback. To our wonderful P&F members who help out at all the events and contribute at our monthly P&F meetings that aid the ATC community in to continuing to evolve. To our diligent year level coordinators, Year 4 – Loretta and Donna, Year 5 – Tobin and Andrea, Year 6 – Helen, Year 7 – Sandy, Prue and Sharon, Year 8 - Kath and Be, Year 9 – Anda and Michelle, who all quietly help parents and ATC students to make connections and build their own year level communities. And finally thank you to the P&F Executive, our Treasurer – Diana, Secretary – Sharon, Communications – Retta, Michelle and Sharon, Technology – Andrea and Kaylene, Care & Concern – Megan, Grants – Dana, Service Program – Dana, Sport Canteen – Andrea, and lastly our Sports Coordinator Support Group – Donna, Andrea and Helen.

In particular my thanks go to everyone who has put in a huge amount of work, ensuring the successful running of the enormous program of events undertaken by the P&F over the past year. To the many who organized or helped out on the ATC Trivia Night, the staff Xmas Lunch, the Welcome Nights, ATC Car Show, the Mother's and Father's Day Breakfasts, the Mother's day stall, the many Boy's Day Out events, Middle School Drinks & Nibbles, working bees, Elder's Day, fishing weekends, Orientation Day, Jazz by the River and the Melbourne Cup lunch my sincere gratitude.

There's the old saying about a "duck on water": quiet on the surface and paddling like all hell underneath! That for me is a great description of the ATC P&F as we are always striving to improve our friend-raising and help build on the ATC Community so that students, families, staff and friends get to be part of a wonderful community and make new connections event by event. We feel honoured to give just a little back to the wonderful community that is ATC while having a laugh and enjoying each other's company at the same time. Well done!

Martin Bradshaw

ATC P&F President 2015/16