

FHS SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

TERM 4, 2017



Dear Fitzroy High School Community

School Council (SC) and its subcommittees met three times during Term 4 providing another long list of items to report and a bit of exciting news for 2018 so I will try to describe these briefly. Please contact me or the school council subcommittee convenors (check profiles on the Website for email addresses) if you would like further information.

COMMUNITY

NEW CANTEEN SERVICE PROVIDER 2018.

I am pleased to announce that after seeking Expressions of Interest from the community for the canteen service operation, we received 5 enquiries and 3 EoI's. From them we chose **Wild Mushrooms Catering** as the new canteen service provider for 2018. We have great expectations for the delicious range of fresh food options promised which are also affordably priced and hope this is well supported by the FHS community next year.

School Council thanks Joy Purdie of Hungry Hampers for 3 years of friendly canteen service and wish her all the best for the future.

Wednesday Night Fever- so much talent and fun all in one space! This can be best described with these comments from Tom Hoyle our Music Coordinator- *"The kids performed really well, and with the great sound tech we were able to hear every voice and instrument. In my 15 years as a music teacher this was the best music night I have been involved in. I hope we can do this again next year!"*

There really was something for everyone like string band The Pegs with Ukuleles and Mandolins, a Sousaphone in our fabulous Falconer St Band, techno beats by Que Cf. Erislayer (could be an old school description anyway they release music under the name Suburban) an AC/DC (Malcolm Young tribute) by the Safe Sex Pistols and many other well known and loved dance tunes sung and played with confidence and a sense of fun and enjoyment. Between sets we were kept dancing with much loved songs from our resident DJs - Matt N (Doubledutch) and Gram M. All through the evening there was much expected hooting and applause!

School Council thanks Tom Hoyle, our music program teachers and of course the superbly musically talented students for all their efforts in putting this event together. We also thank the Night Cat in Fitzroy for providing a well organised and enjoyable venue for this event.

EDUCATION

SC approved student subscription to **Edrolo** described by Chris Millard as -"a comprehensive, premium, interactive online video and exam simulation resource for the VCE, providing our students with the best opportunity to perform to their potential throughout the year' for use in our Senior Program Partnership with Collingwood College.

I am please to report that in 2017 a significant number of students were supported by the generous donations received from FHS families into our Scholarship Fund. This is a voluntary contribution fund managed by School Council and the Education Subcommittee and scholarships are awarded through the Leadership Team. Contributions can be made to the school office or through Compass at any time. Teachers and families may apply for scholarships for students from this fund, please speak to your child's advisor for details.

ENVIRONMENT

A **planting plan** for the school grounds will be prepared over the holiday break and so once approved we will commence planting (and removal of weeds). We have been discussing community involvement in ways such as possible working bees and/or sponsorship (for purchasing) of plants. If you have a keen interest in this area please contact our Masterplan subcommittee convenor and or attend the subcommittee meetings next year.

I have to share this photo of the **kitchen garden** with new wicking garden beds and clever frames for protection.



The Hands on Learning (HoL) and the VCAL students and teachers involved must be immensely proud of their work, as we are, and are now enjoying the delicious and abundant harvest. Look at those zucchini plants and that corn!

Voluntary Contributions

Over the holiday break a number of maintenance jobs will be performed around the school. School Council approved \$5,000 from the Building Fund for maintenance of the sash windows in Building A and another \$5000 toward the purchase of external security cameras in strategic places around the school. We have resisted resorting to camera surveillance but believe that it will provide a necessary deterrent against theft and damage. This will largely deplete our Building Fund resources and we do have other projects in mind that will benefit the whole FHS community so if you are able to contribute to this fund (with tax deductibility status) please do.

I take this opportunity to remind families to please pay the **Parent Payments** as set out by school council and recently posted on Compass. We rely heavily on these payments to support our range of interesting and engaging educational programs so your support in this way is much appreciated and needed. Please contact the school office if you have any queries regarding this.

Other School Council Matters

Acting Principal Term 1 2018. Pauline Rice announced to school council that during first term 2018 she is taking (well deserved) long service leave. Linda Mitchell has been accepted into the role of Acting Principal and Sandra Dickins as Acting Assistant Principal during this period.

We wish Pauline all the best for her leave and look forward to her return in Term 2.

Parent Member Positions - Recent casual vacancies have been filled by Marina Henley and Stephen Wise and we welcome them onto school council. Three parent positions will become available for nomination next year so if you are interested keep your eye out for the nomination process which will be announced through Compass.

On behalf of School Council I wish you all the best for a safe and happy holiday break.

Kindest regards
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