Highland Reserve State School
P&C Meeting

3rd February 2015

Meeting Opened:

Present: As per sign on sheet

Apologies: William Owen-Jones, Jenni Beauzec, Kim McCarthy, Tarnya Field

Welcome New Members & Observers:

Confirmation of Minutes:

- Christine Main moved a motion that the December 2014 P&C Meeting Minutes be accepted as read. Approved Juanita Garland. 2nd Emily Ritchie

Business Carried Forward:

Christine advised that the December 2014 meeting had basically been a wrap up of the year.

Review Action Items:

Tea, Tissues & Tim Tams wrap up -
Christine said that this had been an event which was decided on towards the end of last year and said that she had been present on the morning. She said it was wonderful seeing so many new faces on the day. She said that it had been a very hot day and the Tim Tams hadn’t survived very well, but that she had manned the coffee station for the start of the morning, which was a big hit. She said it had been a good opportunity to get volunteers to sign up for the Election Day sausage sizzle.

Naomi Drew, a new prep parent had said that heading to the morning tea had stopped her from crying. She said it was great to see a lot of lively activity and that it had been warm and welcoming. She said it was wonderful to see the community spirit at the school and had made her very confident about the school. She said she was very grateful that it had been on. She said it had been lovely meeting new people and learning about all the activities on at the school.

Christine thanked Naomi for her feedback and said that she had hoped that new parents would come along and get lots of info on the school. She said that she hoped those new parents present could pass some of the information along to other new parents, possibly before or after school.

One of the prep parents said that she had been unable to attend the Tea & Tissues morning and that she had also had no time to speak with the class teacher as yet. She said she felt quite in the dark. She said what with all the chaos at the start of the school year, she also didn’t want to bombard the teacher with too many questions. Emily Ritchie said that the prep information sessions would begin next week and that a lot of questions could be answered then. Christine said that the purpose of the Tea & Tissues morning was to get a lot of that information out early and hoped that it helped a lot of parents out.

Christine said that she had consequently thought of a number of other things that could be discussed at the Tea & Tissues morning, for example, how to use the kiss n go area. Michelle Jetson said that this was not really necessary as a lot of prep mums don’t use it straight away.

Footpath along Rose Valley Drive –
Christine said that many parents may had seen the construction of the footpath along the “house” side of Rose Valley Drive during the school holidays. She said that this was great to see as the P&C had worked so tirelessly in getting the footpath installed. She said that one of the main reasons the P&C had joined up
with the Active School Travel program was to get children to school safely in the mornings. She said that the P&C worked really hard at having this path constructed, so it was a celebration to see it reach fruition. Carly White said that she had seen lots of children using the path, especially children that are not accompanied by a parent.

iChallenge –
Christine thanked Carly White for getting involved with the iChallenge this year. She explained that this was one of the P&C’s biggest fundraisers which raised approximately $15,000 last year to buy ipads for the school. She said that the children would bring home sponsorship forms to be filled in and then completed an obstacle course on the school oval. She said that it would take place in the last week of the first term, on 31st March. She said that the main issue for the P&C was getting enough volunteers on the day. She encouraged anyone to volunteer, whether only for an hour or for the whole day. She said that volunteers dress up in their camo and facepaint and get to shoot children with water guns and hoses all day, which was great fun. Carly said that this year she was hiring two big inflatable slides from Active Attractions. She said that one slide usually costs $1200 to hire for a day, but that the company was giving us a two-for-one deal. She said that we would support them with lots of advertising. Carly also said that this year we would get the slides for 5 hours, which was a bit longer than last year. She said she has been playing with the timesheet for the day and was hoping to get 20-30 minutes on the course for each class. She said that she had spoken with several teachers and they are keen to have a teacher’s race again this year. Abby Ross agreed and said that the teachers loved it. Carly replied that the teachers’ race had been pretty competitive, and that the kids had really gotten involved in cheering their teachers on.

Lisa McGuire asked whether the iChallenge was still a free dress day. Christine said that it was, but that it would be emphasized that the children wear old clothes on the day. She said that she would be talking a lot about the iChallenge at assembly this term, and would definitely bring that up. She also said she would mention at assembly that children needed to wear closed shoes and have a hat and sunscreen. She said she would also suggest that children pack a change of clothes. Carly said that the older kids would be going first and the preppies and Year 1’s would go last. She said that possible rewards that had been discussed were a free mini ipad to the top fundraiser at the school, as well as going in a draw for a mini ipad for anyone that raises over $20. She also said that the student that fundraises the most in each class would receive a $10 itunes voucher. Christine said that in previous years the classes that raise the most money would receive a class party. She said that the class party only took place the following term however. She said that the feedback from the children had been that they would rather have more time on the obstacle course as the highest fundraising class, instead of a class party. She said that the P&C were now working around having the highest fundraising class from Prep to Year 3 and the highest fundraising class from Years 4 to 6, spend more time on the obstacle course. Christine said that this would mean that the teachers for these 2 classes would need to be on the course with the students, and that this would probably have to happen during second break. She asked the teachers present for their feedback. Elly Patterson replied that she thought most teachers wouldn’t mind, and said that possibly if the teachers involved were not up to it, others may be. Christine said she would discuss this further with the school.

Carly wanted to thank Penny Beck for all the information from last year’s iChallenge which she had passed onto Carly.

Christine said that a permission slip for the iChallenge would be going out in the coming weeks and that every single child had to complete and return the permission slip in order to take part. She said that last year 5-10 children had to sit out of the iChallenge as their permission slips had not been returned, and they had not been happy about it. Emily stated that the permission slip required that every box on the form gets ticked, and if not the form would be returned to parents to be completed. Christine said that the permission slips were vital for the school for liability.

Carly stated that Active Attractions also had their own public liability and their own people would be present to supervise and make sure there were not too many children on each obstacle, etc. Carly also said that there was a new slide from last year with 2 exit points to stop the bottlenecking that had occurred previously.

Christine encouraged everyone present to get their friends, etc. to volunteer on the day as it required approximately 30-40 volunteers last year.

Friendship bench –
Christine said that this would be discussed at the next meeting as the teacher involved was away sick. Abby Ross said that Gold FM were currently looking for schools that required a Friendship bench installed and so had passed our details onto them.
President’s Report

Christine said that the P&C had hit the ground running at the start of the school year, which had been a busy week back. She said that even towards the end of the school holidays things had started, with her and Janet working on the Tea & Tissues morning. She said that this was why feedback was vital as it was always good to know if the P&C’s efforts were worthwhile, especially as this often came at a loss to personal time for the volunteers to contribute to the school. Christine wanted to thank the volunteers at the Tea & Tissues morning, as well as the sausage sizzle on Election Day.
Christine said that the Tea & Tissues morning was just wrapping up, and she had started getting things ready for the Election Day sausage sizzle. She said she had just managed to rustle up enough volunteers. She said it was a good learning experience for her as she had never organized a sausage sizzle before.
Christine said that she was spending this week looking at grants, as several of the grants available were due in on the 13th February. She said that she was also dealing with people in the community like Mark Boothman and Education Queensland regarding queries from parents.
Christine said that after 2 years of being President of the P&C, she’d like to not have to take on the role again for 2015. She said that every year the P&C grows and continues to build on the previous year and she would love to see other people put their hands up to be President. She said that anyone interested had 4 weeks to find out what the role entails and what’s involved, etc. as the AGM will be taking place next month. She said that she felt anyone who had been involved in the P&C over the last year or 2 would be in a good position to do the role and that already a lot had been put in place and in the pipeline for 2015.
Christine Main moved a motion that her Presidents Report be accepted.
Accepted Carly White. 2nd Scott Dippel
Motion Carried.

Treasurers Report

- Incomings for December/January
  - Subway lunch December
  - School banking commission
  - Go n run takings

- Spend for January
  - Graduation payment
  - Prep playground
  - Senior camp subsidy
  - Subway lunch expenses

- Expected for February
  - Book pack commission
  - Sausage sizzle

- Budgeted Spend for February
  - Mothers’ day gifts

Scott said that there was currently $28,500 odd in the P&C bank account. He said that the P&C now had another bank account, which was the Building account, which could be used for tax deductible donations.
Scott reminded everyone that school banking started again this Thursday. He said that a sign up day would take place on Friday for new parents.
Scott moved a motion that he prepare the books for the auditors for the AGM. 2\textsuperscript{nd} Christine Main.

Scott stated that after roughly 3 years as P&C Treasurer, he would not be seeking to be nominated again for 2015. He said that he would still be around, just not on the Executive. He said that the books for the P&C were not that hard to complete and that Qld P&C run a course on being Treasurer if anyone was interested.

Christine said that the money in the bank account had been fundraised last year and was already budgeted to be spend on the Ditto show, Life Education programs and school camps coming up. She said that the balance would diminish as the year goes forward and that this money went directly to the kids at Highland Reserve.

- Scott Dippel moved a motion that the Treasurer’s Report be accepted.
  Approved Kerry Kable. 2\textsuperscript{nd} Stefan Maslen
  Motion Carried.

\textbf{Correspondence}

Janet Nicholson said that quite a lot of correspondence had come through already this term. She thanked Mark Boothman for a $100 donation for Pacific Office Supplies, which the P&C had received. She said that several grants had been received from the Gold Coast City Council and Queensland Government which had been forwarded to the school to see if it was something they would be interested in. Some of them pertained to road safety and shade structures, which Christine will be completing as the school had confirmed their interest. She said several fundraising emails and brochures had been received, e.g. Cadbury fundraiser, a Hot Cross Bun fundraiser but that the P&C had discussed last year that enough was going on in the first term with the iChallenge to look at other fundraisers. A brochure for a seed fundraiser had been received which was forwarded to Christine to possibly look at later in the year. Several mother’s day gift brochures had also been received, which Janet was discussing with Carly.

\textbf{Fundraising Report}

Election BBQ wrap up –
Christine said that, as this was her first sausage sizzle, she had bought way too much food. She said that a lot of people that had turned up to vote had been quite cranky but that the volunteers’ charm had won them over in the end. She said that the volunteers had started spruiking towards the end of the day to get rid of any leftovers. She said she had spent just over $800 on food and drinks for the day, and had made about $650 profit after expenses. She said that half of the volunteers were new parents, which was great, and said that there were lots of dads manning the barbeque. She thanked them all and said that they did a great job. She said that it was great that new parents got to meet other parents at the school. Christine said that quite a lot of softdrink was left over after the barbeque, which she would chat to the teachers about selling in the fridge in the staffroom. Michelle Jetson said she would chat to Christine about it and the P&C would invoice her. Christine said that the leftover water could be kept for the cross country bake sale as lots of water was always sold on the day, as it is usually stinking hot.

\textbf{Principals Report}

Andrew Cummings welcomed everybody. He said it was great to see so many new faces and said that there would be an exciting year ahead. He said he was excited to be back at Highland Reserve for the start of 2015. He said that he was in Acting Principal role at this point in time. Christine said that she had discussed the role of Principal with the Regional Director, as she was also the chairperson of the school council and her input would be needed on the interview panel for the permanent school Principal position. She said that the fact that she may not be President of the P&C during the interview process was irrelevant, as it was the chairperson of the school council that got to sit on the interview panel. Christine confirmed that
Education Queensland planned on interviewing the position of Principal early in Term 1, now that David Roach has accepted a permanent position. Christine said that she had asked what the timeframe would be and was told that the position would be advertised for a period of 3 weeks, beginning late January or early February. She said that these applicants would then be shortlisted, and that the shortlist would be interviewed in order of merit. She said that the Regional Director expected to have a permanent Principal in place for week 1 of Term 2. She said it was good to get some clarity on this and that things certainly seem to be moving forward.

Andrew said that the current “caretaker” mode of government could be stalling this process slightly, as he was yet to see the position advertised.

Andrew said that the first 8 days of the school year are always enrolment driven. He said that staffing can only be finalized based on the number of children on seats on day 8 of the school year. He said that the school was expecting 770-780 students this year, which was similar to last year. He said that he felt this was pretty good as the Year 6’s and 7’s from last year had left to go to high school. He said that he felt the school had good numbers, and that this meant we were a Band 9 school. He said that the year started off with a fairly smooth transition. He commended the teachers on doing a fantastic job in getting the kids settled. He said he also could not forget the role of parents, and that it was indeed a group effort in getting kids well settled and well started for the beginning of the school year. He said that he had been down to the preps, who were very cute. He said we currently had 122 prep children with a capacity of 125. He said that this did not mean that the school would not accept any more enrolments for prep. He said that we expected the preps would reach over 125 students and that he would need to discuss this with the Department. Andrew welcomed the new parents and new students to Highland Reserve and said that this was one of the best school communities he had worked in. He said he was amazed that, with the size of the school, it still has a small community feel. He said he was not expecting this level of community. He said it was a credit to the school and the P&C as a group.

Andrew welcomed Tony Sinclair, the new Guidance Officer. He said that he had made the decision at the end of last year not to advertise the position of Guidance Officer as a permanent position, seeing that the school does not have a permanent principal. He said that this line of thinking also applied to several other appointments, namely the Deputy Principal role and Head of Curriculum. He said that these roles were all acting roles for the first 6 months, as he was trying to build some consistency.

Andrew introduced Katherine Field, the Head of Curriculum. He said that Highland Reserve always enjoyed good results but that the school curriculum was always a changing environment, so it was good to have someone heading that up.

Andrew thanked Joanne Hayhurst for standing in a school chaplain for the year.

Andrew said that he had been listening to the feedback regarding the bottom car park from August to the end of last year. He said he realized that this process seemed to go slowly but said that this was due to the necessity of obtaining 3 quotes, getting approval, etc. Andrew said that there were now speedbumps on the bottom car park access road and on the kiss n go road, as well as a pathway from the bike racks relocated near the environmental enclosure joining up with the pathway outside of C&K. He said that this had come at a cost of roughly $13,000. Christine encouraged everyone to talk to other parents about the new pathway and said that children and parents are not to cross the access road in front of the C&K gate.

Emily said that the traffic map would need updating. She also said that groundsman Matt had spoken about painting signs on the pathway showing where to go.

Lisa McGuire asked if the school could push the new pathway, maybe with Active School Travel or in class. Christine said that assembly is always a good time to bring things like this up and said she would talk to Matt Howland about possibly doing a video, as he has done in the past. Andrew said that the changes were only very new, with the bike rack being moved on the first day of school. He said that he would publicize the changes with the kids.
Andrew thanked and acknowledged the efforts of everyone involved with the Election Day sausage sizzle. He said he had had a great chat to 4 new dads with kids in prep at the school and said they were a great bunch. He thanked Christine and everyone else that contributed on the day.

Andrew said that this year is a quadrangular school review year for Highland Reserve. He said this meant that this is a year where we review what is happening in our school. He said that all the data, process and practices are reviewed and evaluated on their practicality and how to best value-add to the systems in place. He said it is a good opportunity to set some goals for the school for the next 4 years. He said that, given the role of principal will only be finalized some time next term, he would only begin the review process. He said that this may entail making random phone calls to parents to get some feedback on how the school is travelling. He said that the Regional Director believes that feedback is the breakfast of champions. Andrew said that whoever is principal of the school, you don't want to be unhappy. He reminded everyone that, while their children are precious to them, they are also precious to the school. He said that the school would be working with parents at making a fantastic school even better. He said we would be building on the reputation of excellence. He said the school literally had people beating the door down to get in. He said there is a lot of positive stuff at the school, and that we would only be value-adding.

Andrew Cummings moved a motion that the Principal's in Report be accepted. Accepted Kerry Kable. 2nd Stefan Maslen Motion Carried.

**General business**

Kiss n Go shelter –
Christine said that she had been discussing the Kiss n Go shelter with Mark Boothman and handed over to him to discuss. Mark said that the election had really thrown a spanner in the works as far as the Kiss n Go shelter was concerned. He said that he had had a discussion with the Department and believed he could get capital funding from the Treasury to pay for the Kiss n Go shelter. He said that this would entail a $100,000 to $200,000 fully covered pathway for the length of the Kiss n Go area right up to the top. He said that, due to the government currently being in caretaker mode, no funding can be allocated at the time being and no policies can be amended. He said he did not believe there would be a government in place for at least a month. He said that this was largely due to an elected member of parliament being found to be bankrupt, i.e. the Palmer United candidate for Ferny Grove, as mentioned in the news. He said that it is a strict condition that a member of parliament cannot be a bankrupt and that this may go to a bi-election.
Mark said that he had been speaking to his colleagues and that if the outcome is a Labour government, then they do not need to stick to any LNP promises. He said that, in the meantime, his office could assist us in applying for a gambling grant for the Kiss n Go shelter. He said that this would equate to roughly $25,000 to $35,000 meaning a shelter only for the Kiss n Go area where the children wait. Christine said that there was also a Traffic Management grant which came out towards the end of last year which was for $25,000. She said that the project could cost up to $35,000 and she had gone to Andrew Cummings regarding any possible shortfall, if we are successful in getting the grant, as the grant needs to be in by 13th February. Andrew’s reply was that, if we could tailor the project towards something close to $25,000, the school would be willing to put some funds towards any shortfall. Christine reminded everyone that we could be unsuccessful in obtaining the grant though. Mark said that if the LNP forms government, this would make the grant null and void and they would continue with their plans to build the large Kiss n Go shelter for the whole area. Andrew said that the school may still require the Traffic Management grant money for something else though.
Christine moved a motion that she submit the grant on behalf of the P&C for a shelter over the Kiss n Go area. 2nd Jay Joseph. All in favour.
Ditto show –
Christine said that the Ditto show was coming up and that the P&C would be paying for roughly 509 students to attend. She said that this was from prep to Year 2 and that there is usually 100% attendance. She said that at other schools this would be at a cost to the parents, but here we pay for the Ditto show out of P&C money raised at the Highland Fling last year, out of the KidsMatter contribution. Christine moved a motion to give the school $2545 for the Ditto show, 2nd Bec Phillips. All in favour. Andrew stated that this year the school was making sure that those costs are shown on the permission form as fundraised by the P&C.

Cross country bake sale –
Christine said that the Cross Country would take place on 24 March for every grade. Janet volunteered to run the bake sale. Christine said that volunteers would be needed to help sell and bake for the bake sale, she also said that the P&C hires a refrigerated van on the day to store the baked goods in as it is usually stinking hot. Christine said that the proceeds of the bake sale usually go towards the P&C so that they could purchase new gazebos for the school. She said that the bake sale usually raises approximately $1,000. She said that the gazebos are used by the school to provide shade for all the students on the oval for the Cross Country races, as there is currently no sun shelters on the oval. Christine said that if anyone was wanting to lend their gazebos to the P&C for the day, then the P&C will lend their gazebos to the school for the students. Christine said that any baking was to be dropped off in named containers at the school on the day requested. She said that this would be advertised. Christine said that the bake sale was always good fun and that the kids love it. She said that the P&C also sell water and icy poles. Carly said that Zarraffas probably won’t be able to have a coffee van this year, as it was currently booked out. She said that not a lot of coffee usually gets sold as it is usually such a hot day. Carly stated that last year around $200 was raised, of which half went to the school and half to Zarraffas’ own charity. If anyone knows of any other charity coffee vans, please get in touch with Christine.

Mothers’ day stall –
Anthea Irvin put her hand up to run the mothers’ day stalls this year as Carly was doing the iChallenge. Emily moved motion to give $3500 to Anthea to put towards gifts for the mothers’ day stalls. 2nd Scott Dippel. All in favour.
Carly explained what gifts were available at the mothers’ day stalls (coffee cups, jewellery, picture frames, etc.) and said that every class is given the opportunity of going to the stalls during their school day to purchase gifts. She also said that volunteers would also be required to man the stalls and said it’s a really fun couple of hours for the volunteers.

School council & principal position – discussed

Fundraising goals –
Christine said that we would re-look at the fundraising goals for 2015 after the AGM. She encouraged everyone to give their feedback to the new executive. She said that not every idea can be implemented that year, but that ideas are always in the back of the minds of the P&C executive. She said sometimes a suggestion from a parent only eventuates the next year or later, but that most things usually come to fruition. She said that the P&C would be busy dealing with these for the next couple of months. Christine asked if anyone was thinking of putting up their hands for any of the executive roles within the P&C as yet. She said that if no one puts their hand up for president, the P&C gets disbanded. She said that for their first year, she didn’t expect brand new parents to put their hands up. She said that, at the start, it was just good to get involved in the various fundraising events in the school. Janet Nicholson said she would continue in
the role of Secretary for another year. Christine said she felt it was good to have an executive role for more than a year, if possible.

Chaplain Committee meeting –
Stefan Maslen advised that the school chaplain, Sharleen Firth, had now left the school to go on maternity leave and that she currently had about 3 weeks to go. He stated that Jo, Sharleen’s mum, had taken over from her. Jo said that she was excited to be part of the school in the chaplain role. She thanked everyone for the warm welcome she had received. She said that she acted as more of a supportive role for parents, teachers and children especially where help was needed with settling in or with other problems where help was needed. She said anything deeper goes to the Guidance Officer and that they work hand in hand most of the time. She encouraged everyone to stop by, say hi and have a chat.

Stefan said that the Chaplain Committee had met that morning. He said that the meetings are a good opportunity to get another point of view and to hear feedback. He said that it had come out this morning that, due to the $5,000-odd donation the P&C makes as part of the KidsMatter fundraising from the Fling, this had topped up the government grant for a chaplain to allow Sharleen to be employed at the school for 2 days a week. He said that because Jo is on a different pay bracket, this meant there was a bit of money left over from the P&C donation. He said he was wanting to put it to the P&C that this extra money went to employing Jo for one extra day per fortnight.

Christine clarified that the Highland Fling raised $26,500 last year and one of the main reasons for the Fling was to raise funds towards the school chaplain and a number of other Kids Matter programs. She said that this money goes towards KidsMatter and other things as well, but a set amount every year is allocated for the school chaplain. She said that the P&C had already budgeted for the whole amount anyway and said that it was only due to the differing pay bracket that allowed Jo to be employed for an extra day a fortnight. She said she had no hesitation and fully supported this. Stefan Maslen moved a motion that the extra money allocated for a school chaplain goes towards employing Jo for one extra day per fortnight. 2nd Jay Joseph.

A new prep parent enquired whether the money has to go towards a chaplain, or whether it could go towards a social worker at the school. He enquired what about people that are not religious. Christine said that she had worked with the chaplain before and that their work was not religious-based at all, and wanted that to be very clear. Andrew said that there is strict departmental protocol around the role of chaplain and that any religious-based instruction must be with the permission of a parent, like Religious Education.

Erin White said that a chaplain had to be affiliated with a religion though. Stefan agreed and said that one noticeable difference between a chaplain and a social worker is that a chaplain provides a spiritual side as well as physical and mental. He said chaplains were not there to convert anyone to a specific type of faith. He said that there is the option of the school Guidance Officer, other than the chaplain. Christine said that it was not compulsory that children see the school chaplain. She said that the P&C fundraises to top up the chaplain grant in order that children have the opportunity of having a chaplain in their school. She said that if a parent doesn’t want their child to see the school chaplain, they can notify the school and opt out. She said that this is the same with all the KidsMatter and Life Education that the P&C raises funds for. They are just providing the same opportunity to all children, but not every child has to participate in them.

Andrew said that the chaplain talks to students where the parents sign off on that and that the chaplain was extremely busy in the school. He said that a referral process takes place through the student support team, and this is where the chaplain is brought in in around 8 out of 10 cases. He says the other 2 out of 10 is where a child is in crisis. He said that the school delivers religious education, but that the chaplain role is a very different role to religious education.

The parent recognized that there was a need for children to have extra support. He believed that there may be a need in the community for a social worker instead however. Scott Dippel said that the money the P&C raised was merely a top up of a government subsidy. He said that the P&C could never hope to use that money to pay for the cost of a social worker. Christine said that the money was already allocated last year.
to the chaplain, and that unfortunately only current members were able to vote. All in favour. Nil against. Motion moved.

Christine stated that this only applied to the current year. She said that she encouraged the feedback and that this could be something the P&C looks at for next year. She said that it was good to clarify all of this for the new parents in the school.

Andrew stated that the cost of a social worker would be much more significant than the chaplain top up, and the school would get a fraction of the time if a social worker was employed. He said that the Guidance Officer role had been increased for this year. He had recognized that the children and community were in need of a far larger counselling role. He said that the Guidance Officer was funded by the Department and that the service of the chaplain was as to assist the Guidance Officer. He said he was happy to discuss this at the end of the meeting.

Kiss n Go –
Michelle Jetson said that there were lots of new families and lots of new cars in the Kiss n Go area this year. She said that last year they had implemented the Surname card on the visor, which assisted her and Jason in getting children ready. She said that this didn’t quite work as not everybody used the Surname card. She asked for suggestions on how to get the word out as previously it was up to her and Jason to get the surnames from the parents that used Kiss n Go, so that the office could make up the cards. She said that there were just too many people using it this year to attempt that. She said she felt it needed to be up to parents to enquire after a Surname card. Christine said she would look into it with IT Matt and felt that a template could go on the website and also in the newsletter. Michelle said it would be better if the office made up the Surname card, as last year some of the handwritten cards were difficult to read. Christine said that a Surname card request form could go out to all the kids. Emily said it should go out to every family, and that the teachers could hand them out when the office had made them up.

Carly said that she saw a sign at another school at the entrance to their Kiss n Go area that reminded parents to put their visor down, and asked if we could have something similar installed. Andrew said that he would see to the signage issue.

Bec Phillips said that she had seen last term and this year that prep children are still running over the road at Kiss n Go to get to the school gate and to the Kiss n Go area. She asked if a fence could go up around the Kiss n Go roads to prevent pedestrians using them. She said that parents were also doing this and that she had seen several near misses with small preppies. She enquired whether a staff member could be located there at the end of school temporarily. Emily asked if another pathway could be put in for prep children to access Kiss n Go and the top school gates. Andrew said he was busy drawing it up and said he would look into it. Christine said that there would be another Active School Travel meeting next week and she would discuss it there.

Highland Way / Active School Travel –
Juanita Garland enquired whether the Wednesday after the meeting was “Walking Wheeling Wednesday”. Christine replied that it was and said that breakfast club would be on.

Lisa McGuire enquired what was happening with the roadway between the school and the estate, as heavy machinery could be seen up there. Christine has since confirmed that she had spoken to Stockland and they were just moving some machinery up to the southern end of the estate and that all machinery has been moved and it should be safe for the children to cross. Lisa said that children were still cutting across the piece of land where the road is going and accessing the school at the oval. Christine replied that this had been discussed with Stockland last year and that the road was necessary to access blocks at the back of the estate. She said that they had met regarding the development of the estate to try to forecast the number of enrolments for 2015. At that stage, Stockland didn’t think they would build Highland Way (the name of the road between the school and the estate) for another couple of years as the Queensland
Government didn’t have the money to do so. She said that land was selling so fast within the estate that Stockland brought the building of the roadway forward so that they could access those back blocks to sell off. She said that the school is making sure that they are kept in the loop with regard to access to the school, etc. Christine said that she will chat to Stockland and see where they are with the building of the road. Juanita Garland said that her family would use the school entrance at Highland Way a lot once it is completed. Andrew said that this was why the school is in discussion with Stockland, so that they can have some input. Emily stated that the main entrance for the school is actually meant to be from Highland Way.

Christine said that with regard to Active School Travel, Mel is not running AST at the moment. She said that Breakfast Club would continue on a Wednesday and the passports, prizes and stamps would still be in place. She said, though, that they would not be leaving from Café 2 for the time being. She said she still had to confirm this with Kim McCarthy, but for the time being the AST would not be leaving from Café 2.

P&C membership –
Christine said that anyone present who was interested in becoming a member of the P&C would need to fill in an application form, and this would be approved and valid from the AGM when all current memberships lapse. She said there would be a short P&C meeting on 10th March, followed by the AGM. She said that this was the only meeting of the year where you could join the P&C without actually being present.

A parent enquired whether the P&C gets discussed at the prep information session. Christine said that the information session was more about the prep curriculum and about the classroom. She said she encouraged other parents to talk about the P&C. She said that information about the P&C also appears in the school newsletter. She said the P&C puts out as much information as we can through emails and the newsletter and to be on the lookout for upcoming events where volunteers were needed to sign up.

Birthdays / “red food” days –
Anthea Irvin enquired whether it was possible to have a list of suitable foods recommended by the school instead of birthday cakes. She said that icy poles were not suitable for some children due to the bright colours, etc. which can affect childrens’ behavior. She said, in these instances, birthday cake is actually a better option. Christine said that the school email had stated that Berri or Quelch icy poles were the preferred option. Emily enquired what the school’s stance was on bringing fruit in, which was healthy. Andrew replied that some children are allergic to different types of fruits, his daughter being allergic to watermelon. Emily enquired whether the school’s stance was on bringing fruit in, which was healthy. Andrew replied that the school didn’t want to do this and said that the school was just trying to curb some of the outlandish stuff that had gone on in the past. Naomi Drew said that, for some children, they don’t get the chance to celebrate their birthday at home for whatever reason and so having a celebration in class was their only real option.

Christine said that some parents may make a mistake in the correct food being brought in and that teachers may need to remind parents at the information sessions, for example, of what should be brought in. Emily said it was also important for parents to educate their children on what they can and can’t eat, as children do get exposed to foods other than what is packed in their lunch boxes.

Carly asked whether a pack of bubbles was suitable. Andrew said that this was a very difficult thing for the school to manage. He said that the school had a responsible food strategy that they need to be upholding, limiting the number of “red food” days in the year. He said that this was what they had come up with to try to stick to these guidelines and that he took all the feedback on board.

Christine said that as far as “red food” days were concerned, the cross country bake sale was a classic example. She said that it was up to parents to educate their child on what they can and cannot eat and to possibly not give their child money if they have certain allergies, in worst case scenario. She said that we would be encouraging Gluten Free options at the bake stall and were taking donations from 8am. She said that the P&C would be selling Quelch icy poles at the Cross Country and iChallenge in keeping with school
guidelines. Emily also suggested that parents make their teachers aware of any allergies or restrictions that their child has.

Next meeting: Tuesday 10th March at 6.30pm
Annual General Meeting: Tuesday 10th March at 7.00pm

Meeting Closed: 8.26 pm