

## Manly West Public School P&C General Meeting Minutes

Agenda: P&C General Meeting – Term 1

Meeting Date: 27th March 2018

Location and Time: Manly West Public School Library at 7.30pm

In attendance: Ben Goodland, Guy Holley, Helen Yardley, James Neal, Jessica

Kirknam, Jo Ann Plowman, Jo Day, Kirsty Mackay Fisher, Megan Harries, Melina Rohan, Michelle Lewis, Rebecca

Sutherland, Sarah Falzarano, Suzanne Cairns, Ruth Galloway, Fiona Gooland, Alison Garcia, Louise Flatcher, Gayle Graham, Sally Gee, Mark Adams, Lucinda Beaman, Cassie Matheson, Judy Home, Vicky Stokes, Tony Falzarano, Aaron Baldman, Cathy Bradburn, Orlailn Sheill, David Ford, Anna Manchie,

Maike O'Keeffe and Sarah Bickford

Apologies: Darren Wickham, Clinton Aver, Angie Penn

Previous Minutes

Review and approve minutes of General Meeting held on 23rd Nov 2017 - Approved

2. Business Arising

A surprise appearance from James Griffin MP for Manly, due to the issues surrounding BASC at the school. James sympathised with the issues for all families at the school regarding waiting list times for both before and after school care. He highlighted that this is an issue affecting a number of school the area but it did seem to be heightened at our school. James has asked the Assets Management team in the Department of Education to review the space within the school and report back. He commented that it might be that providing the school with another hall or room to facilitate more BASC spaces might be needed. A Demographer has been asked to report back to James Griffins also. It understood that the cost will be significant but funds would be made available. James opened the floor to suggestions/questions at the General meeting.

- Discussions re boundary changes could help with the issues. Julie stated that no boundary changes were planned in the near future so this could not be relied upon to solve the issues.
- Neighborhood 7 had been essentially shut down with the new State regulations requiring all careers to carry a Childhood Certification and this was not viable for most.
- It was felt that more demountable would just be a short term fix and therefore the school should investigate a more permanent solution.
- Julie highlighted that the requirements under <u>ACECQA</u> have removed the possibility of using classrooms for BASC.
- Bus children to offsite locations has been discussed previously but rejected due to heightened risk
- It was suggested that the Hop Skip Jump bus could be used to take kids to Kangaroo Street facility.
- It was noted that the stress on families is at an all-time high due to no options for childcare.
- There was a suggestion about proving your work status (roundhouse policy) before
  you can enroll in BASC was discussed but there was concern that this may
  disadvantage people looking for a job who would not be able to guarantee childcare
  before they accepted an offer of employment.

James thanked the room for their contributions and believed the relevant departments would have a plan of action.

3. Correspondence

None

4. Reports

#### 4.1 PRINCIPALS - TERM 4 REPORT - WELCOME TO NEW 2018 MEMBERS

Thank you to everyone on the P&C committees led by the 2017 President Mr Ben Goodland. At the P&C AGM, Ben Goodland, Michelle Lewis, Darren Wickham, Clinton Alver, Kymball Mann and Jo Summers stepped down from their positions for 2018. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of these P&C members who have contributed so much over the years at Manly West PS. The P&C is a significant business, run by volunteers who donate enormous amounts of generous time and skills to benefit our students. The P&C have managed some very big challenges over the last number of years to streamline and improve practices effectively. We are very appreciative of these services and as well, they have continued to fundraise and donate exceptional resources to our school. A great example of this was the highly successful 2017 Manly West Carnival, which was outstanding and involved all the community. Thank you to Kate Grant, Helen Yardley, Kirsten Highnam, Tracey Martin and their incredibly large team. Thank you on behalf of all the students, teachers and wider community.

2018 -classes and staff

In 2018, Manly West formed 34 classes with 874 students enrolled. We will continue to focus on all academic programs with a specific focus on Literacy and Numeracy and organise well-planned excursions and incursions directly related to programs and units of work. Student Wellbeing programs are implemented throughout the school curriculum.

Parent Interviews-are currently being held. Parent Information Nights were completed earlier in the term.

The State Government has allocated funding with statistical knowledge of Manly West to accommodate student needs particularly attached for EALD, Aboriginal Student Allocation, Support Learning and Low Socio-Economic Status needs.

## Maintenance work with Asset Management Unit (AMU)

We have three community-funded projects in the system. The K-2 BASC project was completed in 2017.

We are in the process of organising the final design ready for the Outdoor BASC Amphitheatre. The solar panelling has been suspended, with AMU and Solgen working together to resolve the issue. Initial discussions regarding the COLA for the playground have occurred with Principal and AMU.

## Literacy and Numeracy Progressions and Focus on Reading 3-6

We are starting our new 3 year Strategic Plan 2018-2020 and focusing heavily on strengthening our Literacy and Numeracy foundations K-6. Manly West has been successful in its application to be a self-funded Early Action for Success (EAfS) school. We also applied to become a Focus on Reading 3-6 School. In both cases, teachers will be given professional learning on the new ACARA Literacy and Numeracy progressions that align with the syllabus documents. We will particularly focus on data and interventions as well as specific comprehension and writing programs. These include Super Six Comprehension strategies and the Seven Steps of Writing. We have also combined this with the Sound Waves Spelling Program.

Mrs Julie Organ Principal

Discussion was had around staffing and children often having split class rooms (more than one teacher). Julie and the staff advised that they didn't believe this was an issue and in their view see the children benefiting due to a great mixture of teaching styles and teachers being refreshed if they are not required to work full time.

## 4.2 FINANCE - REPORT

You may not realise this but the Manly West P&C is big business!! With around \$1m in revenue and more than 20 employees – this is a serious enterprise!

For this reason, the P&C has a dedicated Finance Committee. The role of the Finance Committee is to:

- a) manage the funds of the association and its subcommittees
- b) monitor the expenditure of P&C funds given to the school
- c) advise the school on P&C financial matters as required

The 2018 budget and 2017 year-end financial information are provided in the Treasurer's report. Some highlights of 2017:

- Successful audit of the financial statements
- Assisting other committees / reviewing the finances for the Band, Uniform Shop, Canteen and BASC committees.
- The Finance Committee takes the P&C's responsibilities as employer seriously and has devoted time discussing staffing / employment matters.
- Some lovely wine was consumed.

I'd like to thank to the Finance Committee for a great year and in particular to Michelle for being simply outstanding as Treasurer!

All good things come to an end and after nearly 5 years as chairman—it's time for me to pass on the bottle opener to a new finance person. I think the P&C can be really proud of the things it has achieved and we are very lucky to have such a supportive Principal and a wonderful school!

Cheers!!

Darren Wickham, Chair – Finance Committee

## 4.3 BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE - REPORT

**Enrolments and waiting lists** - Enrolments for BASC from new students for 2018 is once again very high, with a number of high priority families being placed in accordance with Department of Education and Training Priority of Access Guidelines. Sarah Peters reported that the waiting lists have seen good movement, especially in the first few weeks of term 1 and that parents are making use of the **Inactive Positions on the Waiting List Policy** and of casual spots where available. In regard to the latter, concern was raised in relation to the fact that it had not been made clear to incoming parents that children who don't have a place at the centre are not eligible for casual places. Sarah Peters explained that the reason for this and undertook to look for opportunities to communicate eligibility for casual places moving forward.

There was extensive discussion at the meeting in regard to the reasons for the long waiting lists and exploration of opportunities to address them. While no immediate solutions were identified, it will remain a point of discussion for future meetings if circumstances change.

## Outdoor area/Maintenance

**K-2 BASC decking-** Work has been completed on the replacement of the decking outside the K-2 BASC Room.

**K-2 upgrade** - The replacement of the bathroom facilities and repainting of the K-2 BASC Room have also been completed.

**Outdoor space between K-2 and 3-4 BASC -** Plans for the renovation of the outdoor space are still in design phase.

## Centre administration and staffing

- A new modem has been installed in Year 3/4 BASC and also in Year 5/6 BASC (the latter of which didn't have access to the internet previously so this is a very exciting development!)
- o On Saturday 10 March 2018 BASC ran a first aid training for 18 out of 22 BASC staff.
- The Year 5/6 room leader has shown an interest in becoming a permanent member of staff.
   It was noted that Annette is a valuable member of the team and there was strong support for this to happen from parents of year 5 & 6 students
- Following a successful trial in Term 4 2017, iPay (the new direct debit payment system) has been implemented and is being closely monitored to ensure it is working smoothly. All BASC users are required to register for this new payment system before their 2018 session will be confirmed.
- Both Sarah Peters and Ruth McDougall have been approved to take periods of long service leave in 2018. Adequate cover arrangements will be put in place to ensure both leaves of absence will have minimal impact on the centre.

**Meeting dates -** Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 15 May 2018 at 6:30 in Year 3/4 BASC.

Sarah Falzarano, BASC Chairperson

#### **CANTEEN - REPORT**

The Manly West Canteen continues to be a significant operation employing a number of staff.

It continues to be an essential part of the P&C's operations touching and interacting with a large part of the school population each and every day.

It's focus continues to be to provide quality food and drinks to the students of Manly West Public School and to adhere to and develop Canteen Policies and Procedures as required under the Manly West Subcommittee Guidelines (2006).

The smooth operation of canteen relies on continued support by parents and the school community to ensure that all volunteer places are filled.

**New Canteen Staff -** There have been some significant changes in personnel in the canteen recently. This resulted in review and documentation of the various job descriptions and the organisational structure in canteen. As part of this review it was decided to create a new Canteen Co-Manager role. In total there have been 4 new people join canteen since end of term 4 in 2017. We welcome Yvette Gooley as Canteen Manager who shares the role of Canteen Manager with Shona McKenzie. An additional Canteen Co-Manager and two Canteen Assistants have also been appointed. The recruitment process had to be undertaken rapidly to ensure that the new recruit was suitably up to speed by the time Shona took some well-deserved long service leave in week 2 of 2018.

**Technology** - Issues with the computer and internet have resulted in IT professionals being brought in to assess and resolve canteen's IT challenges. The canteen computer finally ceased working in February and the P&C Executive provided urgent approval to replace the equipment. Geeks2U installed a new computer and Telstra gateway on Monday 26 February. As at the time of writing the new system is fully operational and successfully supporting Flexischools and the printing of labels. The proper operation of Flexischools is essential to canteen operations and so it is hoped that this will run smoothly moving forward. The computer and equipment were paid for by canteen reserves.

The canteen budget now also includes provision to replace the computer on a more regular basis moving forward to avoid the catastrophic failures and reliability issues that have been responsible for significant disruption of canteen operations over these last few months.

**Finances -** Canteen made a nominal loss last year although this loss was not as large as expected, mainly as a result of the price rises that were put in place in Term 4. The canteen is projected to make a nominal surplus in 2018.

Continued focus on ensuring there are sufficient volunteers is ongoing to ensure that short term casuals which canteen has to pay for will not be required. It was these increases in wage costs that drove the need for increased prices at the canteen in term 4 2017. It is hoped that no further price increases are needed in 2018. We encourage all parents to volunteer for one or two shifts a month to help us maintain food at our current prices.

Suitable provision for replacement of freezers and office equipment have also been made in the 2018 budget and we recommend the adoption of the 2018 budget to allow vitally important equipment to be purchased.

Melina Rohan, Canteen Co-Ord

#### **FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS -REPORT**

The P&C has hosted a number of social and fundraising events & activities in 2017, including:

- Easter Morning Tea
- Music Trivia Night
- Manly West Carnival
- Melbourne Cup Screening
- Entertainment™ Book membership sales

The P&C also held two events in Term 1, 2018.

- Kindergarten Cocktail Party
- The 2018 Easter Morning Tea.

All 2017 events and fundraising activities have been tabled in the 2017 General Meeting Reports. Details of the Term 1 events are listed on the following pages.

The P&C would like to acknowledge the MW School Executive, teachers and staff, particularly Julie Organ, Wendy Mwanga, Phil Perks, Narelle Franklin, Helen Simpson, Joy Milner, Jacquie Daddo and Keeley Clarke for their ongoing support and assistance with the P&C events and fundraising activities.

## The P&C fundraising activities in 2017 raised \$67,496.23.

**The Event Process for 2018 -** The P&C are seeking volunteers to join the events and fundraising committee to assist with the coordination of events in 2018.

Year groups will be asked to help source volunteers to assist running these events.

**P&C Sponsors -** The P&C often needs to seek sponsors to assist with P&C projects.

Sponsorship guidelines have been prepared to ensure we have a consistent approach to seeking sponsors and that all sponsors across all projects can gain similar benefits for their investment.

The events and fundraising coordinator manages the list of sponsors and can provide guidelines on sponsorship levels and agreements.

To ensure a consistent approach to managing sponsors is maintained, all committees and sub-committees should contact the events and fundraising coordinator prior to seeking sponsors.

#### **2018 Events**

# Kindergarten Cocktail Party Term 1, 2018 Friday, 2 March 2018 Event Coordinators: Tracey Martin and Cath Williams

The Kindy Cocktails is a social event for the parents and carers of children in the MW 2018 Kindy classes.

- Representatives from the school and the P&C also attended.
- This was the first time the event has been held it was extremely well received.
- Guests received a welcome drink and a meal. They were entertained by current and former MW students who take piano lessons at school. Many thanks to Lyn for arranging the students.
- The event was held at the Manly Golf Club and 132 guests attended.

**Volunteers -** Many thanks to Tom Hutton for producing the poster artwork and to Helen Yardley, Kirsten Highnam, Kate Grant and Cath Williams from the Manly Golf Club for their help with event logistics. Special mention to Ben Goodland, our P&C President for making the welcome speech alongside Wendy Mwanga.

**Sponsors -** Event Sponsors: Manly Golf Club and Cunninghams Real Estate.

**PROFIT -** Nil. The Kindy Cocktails is a social event. All event costs were covered by ticket sales.

**Easter Morning Tea Term 1, Tuesday, 27 March 2018 -** The Easter Morning Tea is a social event and is a free for all those who attend. The P&C raises funds by holding an Easter themed raffle and selling MW tea towels. The morning tea was held in the school hall on the morning of the K-2 Easter Hat Parade.

**VOLUNTEERS - Thank** you to the P&C Exec for supporting this event. Many thanks to Tom Hutton for producing the poster artwork, to Helen Yardley and Nicole Macnicol for supervising the sales of MW tea towels and raffle tickets. Thank you also to those Kindergarten parents who helped on the day and also to all the parents who answered the call for volunteers in the newsletter.

**SPONSORS** - Bakers Delight Balgowlah, Coles Balgowlah and Stockland Balgowlah.

**PROFIT** - To be advised.

## WHAT'S ON NEXT...

**Entertainment™ Book Memberships -** Sales will commence in April and continue until October 2018.

**Mother's and Carer's Day Stall -** Friday, 11 May 2018. Event Coordinators: Nicole Macnicol, Marie-Clare Johnson and Tracey Martin. Volunteers are needed to help run this event.

For more information about the MW P&C events and fundraising activities listed in this report please contact, Tracey Martin by phone 0408 884 959 or email <a href="mailto:tracey.mwpc@hotmail.com">tracey.mwpc@hotmail.com</a>

## 4.4 UNIFORM -REPORT

Very busy start to 2018 at the Uniform Shop!

## Tasks completed during Feb 2018

- Stocktake at end of Term 4 2017
- Opened Uniform Shop during School Holidays for parent convenience (nearly \$6K uniforms sold in 3 hours over the counter at the Uniform Shop)
- Nearly 130 Uniform orders fulfilled via Flexischools in first 2 weeks of Term 1
- Advertised in the MW Newsletter for volunteers received an excellent response, an additional 12 volunteers (we lost half existing volunteers at the end of 2017)
- Increased prices as per supplier increases 2017 on approx. 12 items these price increases have been updated on Flexischools, pre-programmed into cash register & updated at MW Office
- 2018 Pickles ordering completed (for both Winter & Summer uniforms)
- Arranged new basket storage for Uniform Shop via Gumtree (for socks & stockings)
- Have arranged laminated labels for all Baskets

#### To Do

\* Stocktake at the end of Term 1

Continuing to promote use of Flexischools for uniform purchases - continuing to deliver all orders within 48 hours

#### Information

- We have 15 volunteers to assist weekly, 1 shift (approx. 2 hours) per term
- Approx. half orders received via Flexischools per week
- No Uniform items have been changed

Should you have any queries, please contact Natalya Hansson Ph 0403 806 339 Email mwuniform@gmail.com

## 4.5 BAND COMMITTEE -REPORT

Manly West Bands Committee is pleased to report an outstanding year for Band in 2017. Many families have expressed their great appreciation of the Band Program and its contribution to their children's growth and education.

## Performances and Highlights for 2017

**Northern Beaches Symphonic Winds End of Term Concert, 23 March -** The Performance Band had a great start to their musical calendar with an outstanding evening of great music.

**Northern Beaches Band Festival, Pittwater High School, 14-25 June -** All four bands played alongside other schools and bands of all different levels over weeks. The adjudicator commented that when Performance Band and Intermediate Band played, that Manly West set the standard as the beacon band program of the Northern Beaches.

**NSW Schools Band Competition held at UNSW, Sunday 20 August -** This was the highlight for ALL bands year. For the second year running all 4 bands received a GOLD Award at the competition. This was an enormous achievement for our Band Director, Penny Coucill, the tutors and the students.

**NSSWE Spring Music Festival, Chatswood, 8 September -** Performance Band took part in this festival and performed beautifully. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity of performing in such a professional setting.

**Battle of the Bands, Balgowlah, 10 September 2017 -** The concert band rocked the house and won the "Battle of the Bands" in a tie. The prize was \$500 which was used to give the timpanis a much needed service.

**Musical Theatre Excursion: My Fair Lady, 13 September -** Always one of the highlights for any student in Performance Band. This was much enjoyed by the students and accompanying adults.

**Arrounounbai School, 13 November 2016 - Both** the Training Band and Intermediate Bands performed beautifully to the joy of students and teachers alike.

**Schools Showcase, Warringah Mall 31 October - Concert** and Performance Bands did a great job at this event.

**Band Christmas Concert, 28 November -** All the bands played wonderfully to the joy of their parents and fellow band members. It was a sad farewell as always to the outgoing Year 6 Performance Band members. We wish them well in their musical endeavours at high school.

**Northern Beaches Symphonic Wind Ensemble Concert, 30 November -** The Intermediate Band performed at Pittwater High along with other schools and the Northern Beaches Symphonic Wind Ensemble.

## 2018 Auditions and Training Band "Blow Test"

Approximately 70 children completed the "blow test" for Training Band. Other bands also completed their "auditions" for the more senior bands. Lots of noise and thanks to those volunteers who assisted Penny on the day.

**Pizza Lunch, December, 2017 -** All Band members were rewarded with a Pizza Lunch which was greatly enjoyed by all students..

**Band Camp, 5-6 June, 2017 -** Band Camp was held at the Academy of Sport in Narrabeen. The Band Committee, with many parent helpers, supported Penny Coucill and several Manly West teachers, in the successful running of the camp which was greatly enjoyed by all the students. As well as receiving many additional hours of music tuition, the students took part in many fun activities which were run by the Academy of Sport staff.

Band Camp in 2018 will be held on 22-23 May.

**Band Membership 2017 & 2018 -** Band numbers have remained steady overall. The numbers below reflect current band numbers against those in February 2017.

Training 61 (59 in February 2017)
Intermediate 38 (45 in February 2017)
Concert 35 (37 in February 2017)
Performance 45 (46 in February 2017)
Total: 179(187 in February 2017)

**Band Sub-Committee First Meeting 2018 -** The first meeting of the band committee was held on 12 February with the Band Director, Band Liaison Teacher and the P&C Band Coordinator.

At the meeting, Rebecca Sutherland was re-elected by the Band Committee as the Band Convenor for 2018. This is yet to be approved by the P&C at the AGM.

**Band Instruments -** Currently the Band has 128 instruments including amps, drum kits and timpanis. The Band has 64 instruments that have been hired to Training Band and some larger instruments to our older Band members. We have had no instruments that have been written off in 2017.

**Band Handbook -** The existing Band Handbook was updated at the beginning of 2018 and remains an invaluable resource to parents in answering many questions about the Band program as well as information about child safety, costs and Band terms and conditions.

**Performance Dates for 2018 -** Penny has confirmed the following dates so far for 2018:

**March 23, Training Band, K-2 Assembly -** This will be the first official performance of the Training Band for 2018.

**April 5, Performance Band, Northern Beaches Symphonic Winds End of Term Concert:** Performance Band only.

May 22-23: Band Camp, Narrabeen Institute of Sport and Recreation: Training Band to attend 22 May only. Other bands to stay over. Fantastic opportunity for intensive musical learning with 4 hours each day of solid tutorials and rehearsals followed by the reward of some fantastic activities including canoeing, abseiling, archery and high ropes.

**7 June: NSW Police Band, Manly West:** Workshop for Performance Band and performance for all Bands.

August 12: NSW School Band Festival, UNSW: All Bands - times to be confirmed

**Band Program Funding/Fees** - It was decided that fees would increase by an overall cost of \$10 per year per family in 2018. This increase was to incorporate the costs of 2 excursions that are run for all Bands in Term 4.

## Fees for band per semester in 2018 are:

Training Band		Intermediate, Concert & Performance Bands	
Joining Fee (one off fee)	\$75	Band Fees:	\$330
Band Fees	\$280	Instrument Hire	\$130
Instrument Hire	\$130		

Fees were issued on the 14 February 2018 and due on 15 March. There are currently 25 invoices outstanding in the amount of \$10,970. Reminders have been sent again this week.

**Outstanding Invoices for 2017:** At the end of 2017 all invoices had been paid.

**Scholarship Recipient for 2018 :** This year's scholarship has been awarded to Ava Nicholson.

This student was chosen by Penny with consultation with Helen and Julie as a deserving member of the band community. The scholarship was then approved by the P&C executive. The scholarship covers all costs of band fees, band camp and any other band related excursions. It does not cover personal costs of private tuition.

**Band Buddy "Mentor" Program for 2018 -** This year we have started a new initiative for the Concert and Performance Band students. We have commenced a mentoring program whereby interested students attend one or Training Band rehearsals to assist Penny and the new students in learning about their instruments. So far there have been approximately 25 kids who have offered help. The students have received a school pin as a "Band Mentor" and this commitment will be acknowledged in their school report.

**Meetings for Band Committee in 2018 -** Future Band Committee meetings for 2018 will be:

Term 2: Monday 30 April 6.30pm

Term 3: Monday 30 July 6.30pm

Term 4: Monday 8 October 6.30pm

**Acknowledgements for 2017 -** The Band Committee would like to formally acknowledge our amazing Band Director, Penny Coucill, our Teacher Liaison, Virginia Esparraga and Bec Sutherland our Band Convenor.

Furthermore, to all of the teachers who have been involved in Band Camp and other aspects of the Band program throughout the year, thank you for your help.

Gabrielle Davis thank you for managing MSM and the accounts for 2017.

We also farewell our Band Committee members, Rachel McCallum and Natalie Ball. We would like to thank them for the contribution over the years.

**Volunteers -** The Band Committee would like to thank the many volunteers across all of our bands, who have been invaluable in managing the logistics of events, transporting instruments and supporting the children, the Band Director and tutors. THANK YOU.

#### 4.6 ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE-REPORT

## Solar panel project

- Solar panels installed.
- Solar panels will feed electricity back to the grid rather than used by the school.
- Yet to be determined whether the school will benefit directly (money back/reduction in bills) from this.
- Aim is to work with student Environment Committee and members of parent body to facilitate the students benefiting in other ways from solar panels, eg setting up education panel in the school to educate the kids on renewable energy.

## Parents & students with positive ideas for small environmental projects

Julie Organ proposed a meeting with environmental committee/interested parties\* to establish a 3-year plan (2018-2020) for environmental projects/making the school as environmentally friendly as possible. This meeting would include review/inclusion of the environmental management plan proposed by the student Environment Committee under Nicola Wilson. Jessica Kirkham has drafted a waste-management flow-chart and project-monitoring framework for consideration as one component of this plan. Following this, a regular meeting (1-2 per Term) with environment committee/interested parties and Julie to review the plan/projects.

\* In 2017: Beth Dowdle and Angie Penn (Kitchen Garden) / Audrey (Canteen) / Nicola Wilson (Student Environment Committee). Staff names may change for 2018 – yet to be advised.

Jessica Kirknam, Environment Co-Ordinator

Action Point – Arrange meeting with Julie and relevant persons.

## 4.7 KITCHEN GARDEN-REPORT

What's happening in the Kitchen Garden at Manly West...

Term 1 sees Year 3 start in the garden. There are 4 classes on Wednesday's (including the 3/4 class) and one class on Thursday's. Because they are new to the garden, Year 3 started with orientation lessons, learning the names of the tools and where everything is stored. They've also been learning some garden jobs such as how to make compost, and how to maintain worm farms and compost bins.

Beth Dowdle has been teaching the science unit on seeds, flowering and fruit so they have been learning about how seed and fruit form on plants via pollination. This is a great topic to teach in the garden as the children can observe this process happening and it prompts lots of interesting discussions on the importance of insects and pollinators, companion planting, beneficial insects and why we grow flowers in a kitchen garden etc., topics that come up again and again throughout the Kitchen Garden program. I deliberately let a number of plants 'go to seed' in the garden over summer so they could observe the formation of seeds and they have been fascinated with this. They have also learnt to identify plants and seeds and one technique to plant seed in small pots to pot out into the garden when they've grown into seedlings. So far this term they have tasted tomato and basil, sesame, sunflower and pumpkin seeds, roasted pumpkin with cumin, and baba ganoush!

We also started the term with a working bee which was really well attended and allowed us clear out the overgrown chook run and and the Kitchen Garden and get it ready for autumn planting. Thanks, Angie Penn, Kitchen Garden

It was reported that the Kitchen garden was vandalised at the weekend it was an upsetting situation for all who have been involved in the Kitchen Garden. Phil has been working with Angie to put everything back up. Angie is continuing here great work in the garden.

Action Point – New KG Co-Ord Anna Manchie to arrange meeting the Julie re moving forward.

- 4.8 TRAFFIC COMMITTEE- NOTHING TO REPORT
- 4.9 ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE NOTHING TO REPORT
- 4.10 CARNIVAL COMMITTEE\_REPORT NOTHING TO REPORT

## 4. AGENDA ITEMS

## 4. GENERAL BUSINESS

## 5. CLOSING

The Next Meeting is proposed for Tuesday, 29th May at 7.30pm in the School Library.