

Annual Report 2023

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2023 SCHOOL STAFF



St Columba's Memorial School

Staff - 2023 Principal: Scott March



Alice Johnson, Suzie Harvey, Margaret Grainger, Jorja Warwick, Nicole Redman
Gabrielle Schmidt, Jo Minks, Caitlin Roads, Miriam Honner, Julie Anderson, Phoebe Watkins
Jessie East, Molly Flanagan, Emily Rowe, Scott March, Amy McPhail, Mandy Thompson, Elle Will
Michael Collins, Joshua Crommelin, Angela Grigoras-Oates, Katie Hughes, Amy Kenendy, Alison Murdock, Karlee Parsons, , Keyara Tucker Middle Row: Front Row:

Absent:

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A SCHOOL OVERVIEW

St Columba's Memorial School is a rural school situated in the southern section of the Yorke Peninsula in South Australia. The school began in 1957 as both a day and boarding school for students from the Yorke Peninsula. Students were taught and cared for by the Sisters of St Joseph following the Catholic tradition modelled by their founder, St Mary of the Cross Mackillop. Over the years renovations and additions have updated the schools' facilities. In 2002 the Sisters of St Joseph left Yorketown for other ministries and the first lay principal was appointed. The school no longer caters for boarders. Our students range from Reception to Year 7. The school welcomes families of all denominations wishing students to participate in a school with Christian beliefs. Our students come from as far as Marion Bay in the South to Minlaton in the North. One of our strengths in having a small community is every student is known personally and cared for by every staff member. The school works in partnership with parents and the wider community, nurturing students to love learning and search for truth. We provide a Catholic education developing each student's gifts, values and uniqueness. We offer Spanish as our LOTE subject, Art and Recorder (with specialist teachers) as well as the eight key areas of learning. Students participate in the Southern Yorke Peninsula Interschool Sports and Catholic Interschool Athletics. We encourage a pursuit of excellence in academic learning and prepare students as future leaders. We celebrate students' success, encouraging them with challenges to greater endeavour.

KEY STUDENT OUTCOMES

Student Attendance

In the event of a student absentee when a note or phone call has not reached the school, the school will use the student management system to send an SMS to the family to determine why the student is absent or late. If a child/children absenteeism is longer than 3 days without contact being made by the family, a staff member, usually a Teacher will contact the family. In the event of extended absenteeism, a meeting is scheduled between the family and the Principal.

Attendance Year: 2023
Term 1: 30/01/2023 - 14/04/2023
Term 2: 1/05/2023 - 7/07/2023
Term 3: 24/07/2023 - 29/09/2023
Term 4: 16/10/2023 - 15/12/2023

Year level	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
RE	86.2%	81.3%	86.3%	86.4%
Yr. 1	85.2%	79.8%	86.6%	84.9%
Yr. 2	87.7%	80.4%	82.8%	84.2%
Yr. 3	88.7%	87.9%	90.2%	91.0%
Yr. 4	86.8%	79.2%	82.1%	88.4%
Yr. 5	89.1%	85.4%	88.7%	87.7%
Yr. 6	89.6%	82.3%	83.1%	86.5%
Yr. 7	88.6%	83.8%	87.6%	92.1%

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THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL BOARD MEETING OF THE ST COLUMBA'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON MARCH 15TH 2023 STARTING AT 6.30 PM

Minutes of the St Columba's Memorial School Annual General Meeting held on March 15th 2023, starting at 6.30pm.

Attendees: See attached list

Principal, Scott March welcome everyone and thanked them for attending.

Opening Prayer: Scott March

Acknowledgement of Country: Mat Smith

Declaration of Conflicts of Interest: Nil

Apologies: See attached list

Minutes of the last Meeting held on May 4th, 2022: Gavin Bryan nominated to accept this report as a true and accurate record, seconded by Brad Caudle.

REPORTS:

Chairperson: Tabled: Mat Smith presented the report.

Simone Rowe nominated to accept this report as a true and accurate record, seconded by Jason Berends.

Parish: Scott March gave the Board a brief verbal report on behalf of the Parish.

Principal: Tabled: Scott March presented the report.

Mat Smith nominated to accept this report as a true and accurate record, seconded by Brad Caudle.

Treasurer: Tabled: Scott March presented the Treasurer's report prepared by Bursar, Margaret Grainger.

Simone Rowe nominated to accept this report as a true and accurate record, seconded by Gavin Bryan.

Parents and Friends – Gather and Grow Group: Verbal: President of Gather and Grow, Simone Rowe presented the Parents and Friends report. See attached.

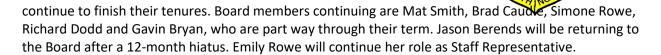
Brad Caudle nominated to accept this report as a true and accurate record, seconded by Jo Forbes.

Work, Health and Safety Report: Tabled: Scott March presented the report prepared by Amy Kennedy. Mat Smith nominated to accept this report as a true and accurate record, seconded by Brad Caudle.

Election and Renomination of Board Members: Scott explained to those attending the AGM about the format of the Board and the vacancies available. Scott went on to explain that some Board members will

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Scott opened the floor for nominations to the School Board:

Mat Smith nominated Georgina Halman for Board member, seconded by Jason Berends. Georgina Halman accepted the nomination. All in favour.

Mat Smith nominated Jo Forbes for Board member, seconded by Simone Rowe. Jo Forbes accepted the nomination. All in favour.

Election of Officer Bearers:

Chair Nomination:

Mat Smith will continue his role as Chair.

Deputy Chair Nomination:

Mat Smith nominated Gavin Bryan for position of Deputy Chair, seconded by Brad Caudle. Gavin Bryan accepted the nomination. All in favour.

Treasurer Nomination:

Richard Dodd will continue his role as Treasurer.

Secretary Nominations:

Nicole Redman will continue her role as Secretary.

General Business: Nil

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday 5 April 2023 starting at 7pm.

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ATTENDEES LIST

St Columba's Memorial School

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held on March 15 th 2023 Name Signature						
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ST COLUMBA'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S ANNUAL REPORT 2023

School Board AGM Report Luke Buchanan 27/03/24

In conversations with previous principal Scott March, 2023 was the year of great change. The completion of the new classrooms and toilet block were completed, and Students waved goodbye to the transportables and settled into their school lives in their new surroundings. We farewelled staff, welcomed new families and principal. In January this year, we finalised the school grounds with the relaying of the school oval. A huge thankyou to Moorowie Earthmoving and the extra attention Anna and Nathan Phasey gave during some hot days. The arrival of the new outdoor furniture arrived during the term and has complemented the new elements to our school nicely.

As part of the Principal's role, not only is it to plan strategically but also breakdown focus areas for each school year. St Columba's 2024 Annual Improvement Plan is focussed on Community and Connection. 'Increased parent engagement around student learning and strengthening the partnership between home and school' is a key outcome for the year ahead. The year has begun strongly with a fantastic turn out to the Parent Information Night. This was accompanied by our first assembly whereby our school Captains, SRC group and Australia Day awards were handed out in the company of Mayor Darren Braund. A generous audience gathered with Parents, grandparents, and extended family.

Staffing

Last year St Columba's farewelled some members of staff. We farewelled Emily Rowe, a long-standing staff member of 13 years. Emily and her family have moved to their farm at Sherlock and Emily has taken on a teaching position at St Joseph's Murray Bridge. We also farewelled Scott March and his family, Lucy, Harrison, and Thomas. Scott was Principal at St Columba's from 2019 and has shaped the school to what it is today with increased enrolments, new facilities, and experiences for the students. I want to thank Scott for all his hard work especially over the past 12 months and wish him all the very best in his new role of Principal at St Francis of Assisi, Newton.

Finally, we farewelled Pheobe Watkins, who was the Year 1 / 2 teacher and staff member since 2021. Pheobe won a permanent position at All Saints, Catholic school, Seaford.

Staffing 2024

This year St Columba's staffing consists of eight class teachers, nine classroom ESO staff, three administration ESO, APRIM, Inclusive Education Coordinator and Principal. Consisting of 24 staff for this year.

We welcome Alicia Miller who joins our community in 2024 as the Year 1/2 teacher who shares her class with Alexandra Tilley. Alex joins St Columba's as a package deal with myself as the new Principal. Both Alicia and Alex have settled into their positions superbly.

We welcome back Keyara Tucker and Danielle McGrath who are team teaching in the Year 5 classroom. Keyara had previously held a specialist teaching position in 2023 and Danielle was employed as the Mid-Year Reception intake teacher.

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In 2024, the classroom structure is:

Receptions – Jorja Warwick (Full time)

Year 1/2 – Alicia Miller (0.8), Alexandra Tilley (0.3)

Year 3 /4 – Amy McPhail (0.6) Angela Grigoras-Oates (0.4)

Year 5 – Danielle McGrath (0.4) Keyara Tucker (0.6)

Year 6 / 7 – Caitlin Roads (Full time)

I am also pleased to announce Amy McPhail has taken a Position of Responsibility as Inclusive Education Coordinator. This role oversees all students with special needs, SOLASTA and CESA communication. Amy will be released out of class each Wednesday to fulfill this role. Amy joins Miriam Honner and I to make up the Leadership team in 2024.

Teaching and Learning (Academics)

Compare to Students with similar background			All Australian students			
	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar	Numeracy	
Year 3	373	401	377	391	403	
Year 5	491	445	469	487	491	
Year 7	555	543	523	561	565	

As St Columba's completes another year of standardised testing in Years 3,5, and 7 we have been advised not to compare data from previous years. This was due to the fact that the NAPLAN testing window was brough forward to early in the year. In saying that, each test conducted last year is 'At' or 'Above' schools of similar demographics.

This year we move into CESA alignment with testing and collection of student learning and wellbeing data. Teachers have familiarised themselves with the student dashboard where all data is collated for each student regarding their learning and wellbeing each term. This informs future practice and better informs staff.

The school continues to use programs established within the academic year, last year. The younger students access Initialit and their phonological program and this is the sounding board for students needing Literacy intervention. As well as MiniLit, PreLit and Reading Tutor. The students Year 3-7 continue to rotate in spelling groups using 'Spelling Mastery' and this occurs every morning with Vertical streaming.

Community

The past 12 months have seen our community gather on numerous occasions. Sport Day, Book week Parade, Parents & Friends fundraisers, Presentation evening, AGM, assemblies, and Sporting events. It is on the back of a generous, loving community spirit that I wish to connect deeper and support each other wholeheartedly.



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Opportunities outside the classroom

Our students display unbelievable talent in a variety of fields, this was highlighted last year in winning the Section 9 athletics carnival at SANTOS and more recently achieving 4th place at the Interschool Sports Day. The Catholic School Festival choir performed beautifully and shone on stage with not just their voices but their presence as well. It is opportunities like these that I will continue to offer for our students to ensure the students year ahead is filled with experiences outside of the classroom which enable our students to flourish, develop and grow.

Musical Highlights: Last year the staff and students engaged in a Musical spectacular 'Peter Pan,' an evening inclusive for all children. The event ensured community involvement from costume making and supply through to face painting. With over 300 community members attending it's incredible to see such talent showcased and enjoyed by many.

Canberra Trip: 2023 saw the Year 5/6/7 groups of students travel to the Nation's Capital to experience all the sights and delights. For some of these students this was the first time out of their state. Attending the War Memorial, NASA Space Centre, Old Parliament House, Institute of Sport, Questacon, National Gallery and Governor General House, these students accessed a once in a lifetime primary school opportunity. A huge thanks to the P & F for all their fundraising and to you the school community for your generous donations and support to help send these students interstate. I look forward to attending the camp in 2025.

Catholic Identity

As a Josephite school, we continue to uphold the Josephite and Catholic ethos that was shared by Mary MacKillop. "In all things Love" is a motto held dear by the sisters of St Joseph and one which sits proudly on our crest. As a community we interact, speak, listen and engage with Love at the forefront of our being, this is the essence of our Catholic Identity.

Not only have we had strong connections with the school community, but we have had a strong connection with the Parish. I would like to thank Miriam Honner our Substantive APRIM for all the work she does with the staff and students and the connection she drives between school and Parish.

We welcome back Fr John Mbaraka from Kenya. Fr John returned to us midway through Term 1 after being absent for 12 months on a Visa renewal. I would like to thank Fr Anthony Adami for his for his constant presence in our Parish including our beautiful Graduation Mass and inviting the Year 3 / 4 students to the Cathedral to meet with him and share a meal. We also thank Monsignor David Cappo for his time celebrating mass at the beginning of the year commissioning the staff and all the varied retired priests who came and celebrated Mass with families, staff, and parishioners. We look forward to having Fr John regularly share mass and whole school celebrations this year.

NCCD - Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

Last year St Columba's 2023 NCCD listing saw our school identify 21 students with additional learning needs. This meant 35% of the school were accessing adjustments to their learning. Our ESO staffing model was constructed around these numbers and extra support was implemented to support those students with significant learning needs. We are fortunate to have Amy McPhail take a position of responsibility as Inclusive Education Coordinator and work with CESA coaches and staff to ensure compliance within our school.

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2024 and Beyond

I am truly blessed to be an integral member of the St Columba's Memorial school board and community. I thank Mat Smith for his guidance and all board members for supporting both Scott March and myself. With new beginnings comes change and whilst change may be scary it is also exciting to think what is in front of us. St Columba's has a strong sense of community, love, and courage in all that we do. As a board we are conscious of our roles and ensuring we continue to create opportunities and set high expectations for the students of today and the future.

God Bless

Luke Buchanan

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ST COLUMBA'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Welcome to St Columba's Memorial School Board AGM 2024. Firstly I would like to thank you all for coming tonight. To the existing members for your ongoing support, also new attendees tonight. The board encourage your consideration of joining. We have expressed our thanks and blessings to Scott March for his leadership and involvement at SCMS at the end of last year and also to Emily Rowe for her leadership through education.

We appreciate the parents and friends for their fundraising throughout the year, the money they raise helps with events and camps. This financial input is extremely important for events to go ahead.

During the second semester we were informed that Mr Scott March, Emily Rowe and Phoebe Watkins would be leaving the school for other opportunities. This was hard news to receive for the school community however opened new opportunity for change. All of these staff members had a big influence on the school. Emily Rowe had been at SCMS for 13 years and she had been an important leader for the students and staff at the school and community. Mr Scott March was our principal for 5 years and lead with his motto "small school, big opportunities" through his time here. The biggest example of this, was the master plan which has changed the school design and has given it a modern look. Mr March will be remembered as a fantastic leader and role model for the students and staff and also within the local community. Miss Watkins brought a bright presence to the year 1 /2 class.

At the end of 2023 we saw the completion of the master plan. Scott had worked tirelessly on the plan and managing the project with the support of the boards approval to make sure the built could get finished as promptly as possible, despite many delays. As we rolled on into term 3 we saw some of the students moving into there new rooms. By the end of the year all the students and staff were in their new rooms. The outside entrance with the deck and new courtyard look amazing and spacious as you walk in, all this was complemented with a new fresh lawn that was laid in the school holidays from Moorowie earthmoving. It's nice seeing everyone enjoying the new space.

Now that the master build is complete and the builders are no longer using the Coombe residence the board will be working to get it ready for possible rental. This might involve parents input with a working bee.

We can look forward to the children having great opportunities with events beyond the Yorke Peninsula such as combined Catholic School Choir, which is a great way for children to build confidence in front of a crowd. Also Athletics in an Adelaide sport stadium and other class excursion throughout the year that the class teachers plan. The biggest school excursion that the school has ever done took place in October last year. The year 5/6/7's Canberra Trip. A well facilitated camp that included families meeting at Adeliade airport with a total of 4 plane trips which the staff and children managed extremely well, considering some have never been on a plane or out of the state.

As Chair of board, I was involved in multiple interviews throughout the year in preparation for change of staff. 2024 year started with the new appointment of principal Mr Luke Buchanen. I officially congratulate and welcome you Luke on behalf of the board. We look forward to supporting you as our leader and all you will bring to our school. Also extend our welcome to your family. Alexandra Tilley is a welcomed teacher to support Alica Miller in the 1 /2 class and wish them well. We have also welcomed back Father John to provide stability back to the parish.

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Moving forward we are excited as a board to see what the future brings for the SCMS school and community.

Thank you and God bless

Mathew Smith Chairperson 2023

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ST COLUMBA'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL FINANCE ANNUAL REPORT 2023

- St Columba's Memorial School had 86 students at our February 2024 Census.
- KPMG are currently conducting the audit of the 2023 school financials. Once completed, reports
 will be available for signing by the school board Chairperson and will then be provided to Catholic
 Education.
- 2023 saw an overall surplus of \$471,811 for the school (please note this is a DRAFT amount until
 the audit has been completed by KPMG). This was due to a number of factors including additional
 funding received from the State & Australian Government and loan repayments commencing later
 that expected. The surplus will enable the school to continue its growth throughout 2024 and has
 already allowed us to upgrade the school oval and finalise some landscaping.
- Aged Debtors for 2023 resulted in only \$3,997 outstanding. We are confident that this outstanding amount will be paid over the coming year. A vast majority of families continue to make use of our direct debit arrangements to spread their school fee payments over the year.
- The Parents & Friends group had a successful year ending with a profit of \$3,784. Specifics will be covered in their report.
- Budget for 2024 has been finalised. We hope to have the property at 49 Warooka Road available
 to rent by the middle of the year. The school is currently investigating the purchase of a new
 school bus or vans due to increased numbers on the Minlaton route this has been partially
 budgeted for with the hope that Catholic Education will help with funding.

Capital & Significant Expenditure

Property

Building Works Completed \$1,748,135

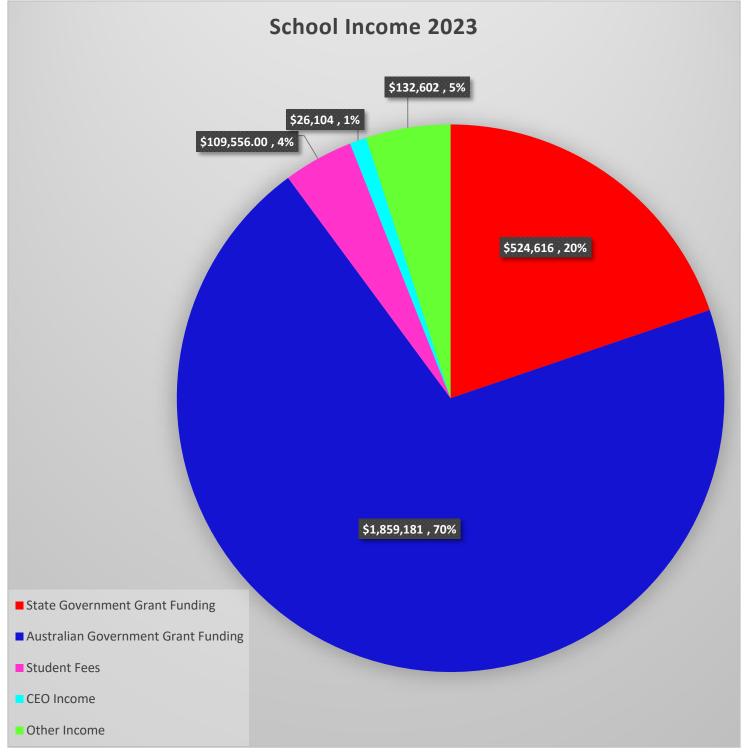
Furniture & Equipment

- New Classroom Furniture \$46,399
- Fencing \$22,220
- Sewer Pump \$11,682

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School Name	St Columba's Memorial School, Yorketown					
BUDGET YEAR	2024 CASH MOVEMENT BUDGET					
Cashflow Data	Budget	Actual	Budget			
	2023	2023	2024			
	\$	\$	\$			
INCOME						
Student Fees	97,263	109,556	90,000			
Commonwealth Government Grant funding	1,630,256	1,859,181	1,726,552			
State Government Grant funding	528,745	524,616	576,729			
LSL Reimbursements	16,000	26,104	10,000			
Other Income	39,087	132,602	54,700			
	2,311,350	2,652,060	2,457,981			
EXPENDITURE						
Salaries & Wages - Teaching Staff	-981,300	-1,044,105	-1,089,886			
Salaries & Wages - Administration Staff	-191,274	-206,080	-239,137			
Superannuation Contributions	-122,440	-133,574	-145,454			
Maintenance, Grounds & Cleaning Expenses	-83,319	-57,570	-93,650			
Levies	-82,153	-117,704	-72,258			
Other Expense - Tuition	-127,190	-146,002	-124,796			
Other Expenses - Administration	-290,157	-307,040	-255,395			
Audit Fees	-5,500	-5,960	-5,665			
	-1,883,333	-2,018,035	-2,026,241			
Operating Surplus/(Loss)	428,017	634,025	431,740			
CAPITAL INCOME						
State Capital Grant Funding	0	0	0			
Other Capital Grant Funding	0	0	0			
Commonwealth Capital Grant Funding	0	0	0			
out and a second	0	0	0			
CARLTAL EVERYDITURE						
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE		0	0			
Freehold Land - at cost Buildings - at cost	-1,794,848	-1,748,135	0			
Fixed Equipment & Improvements	-1,794,040	-38,693	-20,000			
Furniture & Equipment	-60,000	-46,399	-65,000			
Computer Equipment	-20,000	-3,666	-30,000			
Plant & Machinery	0	0,000	00,000			
Motor Vehicles	0	0	-80,000			
Right to Use Asset	0	0	0			
	-1,874,848	-1,836,892	-195,000			
Interest Income	1,075	3,162	1,500			
Interest Expense	-15,000	-8,855	-26,538			
Loans - Repayments	-49,000	0	-70,925			
Loans - Drawdowns	800,000	788,438	0			
	737,075	782,745	-95,963			
Any non-specified accounts	0	29,296	0			
Contingency	0	0	0			
Total Surplus/(Loss)	-709,756	-390,826	140,777			
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ST COLUMBA'S MEMORIAL GATHER AND GROW PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2023

I Chantel Wilde led the Parents and Friends group for 2023. The name of the Committee was officially changed from Gather and Grow at the start of 2023 to the St Columba's Parents and Friends Committee to help explain the purpose of the group and to hopefully encourage more families to join the Committee. We also developed and finalised St Columba's Memorial School Yorketown Parents and Friends Committee Terms of Reference to help define the groups' purpose and responsibilities.

I would like to take the time to say thank you to the entire Parents and Friends group for all the support this past year and also to our Principal Scott March. We had a dedicated group that was able to help with some huge fundraising goals for the year.

Our AGM saw me appointed as President, and Lucy March as Vice President. Secretary/Treasurer place was taken by Emily Dodd. We also had amazing help from Lisa Bryan who took a step back from holding an official role but continued to be a very valuable member of the SCMS community and the parents and friends group. Thank you, Lisa, for guiding myself, Lucy and Emily and answering our many questions!

This year our fundraising goal was quite high but this was so we could support the school and families in sending the older students to the first ever Canberra Camp. A goal of \$10,000 was set and we had a great plan in place to try and achieve this.

We started off the year with our first fundraising event at Sports Day, the weather was perfect, lots of families joined in and we had many donations of cakes and treats to sell alongside out sausage sizzle. Overall, it was an extremely successful day.

Our other fundraising efforts this year involved a WebberQ raffle, online auction, formal dinner- which included an auction, some fundraising games and a wine wall which generated excellent profits. Thank you to Chloe, Robyn, Simone and the committee who worked hard behind the scenes to organise and support our formal dinner at the Troubridge Hotel. The night was well attended, and many generous donations were made during the auction on the evening.

Other fundraising initiatives includes a trading table outside the Yorke Hotel, school concert catering and the gingerbread houses to finish off the year. Our online auction was also very successful, and I would like to thank Emily for taking the lead in organising the auction and the local businesses who generously supported us.

We also continued to support the broader SCMS community by preparing meals for the community kitchen and received a generous donation of \$300 from a parishioner to support this important work. Our financial report from Margaret Grainger (school bursar) saw our profit from 2023 at \$14,027.10 this was all put towards the camp.

This year like any year we had to farewell a few families from our school community and this year It felt extremely hard with Scott, Lucy March and their family leaving. We also farewelled long serving staff member Emily Rowe and her family, teacher Phoebe Watkins. Other families leaving the school were Wennie and Rob McConnell, Kara and Troy Johnson, Adam and Jade Hughes and also Mohammad Islam and Rokhsana Shirin.

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Thank you for supporting myself as President and the entire parents and friends' group and to all those that made contributions to the school. A huge thank you to Emily for her support with drafting the minutes and supporting Lucy and myself. I hope we can continue to grow the Committee in 2024.

Thank you so much and we will see what 2024 has in store for us. Chantel Wilde
President of Parents and Friends

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ST COLUMBA'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL WHS ANNUAL REPORT 2023

2023 saw a change in personnel within WHS as Amy Kennedy departed the role and we welcomed Amanda Pitt into the fold.

Amanda's focus has been the WHS Task Schedule which specifies what tasks are to be completed during the school year and how often. This has been a great starting point as it has allowed Amanda to get a firm grasp of operations across the school and highlights any potential risks that may need addressing.

The new build presented some interesting challenges in the WHS space as we continued to function as a school during the construction period. With the completion of the build, Amanda has now finalised new emergency evacuation plans for the site which are now displayed around the school.

Amanda continues to respond to the need for Risk Assessments across the school as we begin to book camps, excursions and hold various events on our school grounds. We are extremely fortunate to have her wealth of experience within compliance in our dynamic admin team.

Nicole Redman