

Silverdale Normal School Parent Teacher Group 2018 Summary

The Parent Teacher Group (PTG) have just had our AGM, so I thought this would be a good opportunity to let the community know what we have been up to over the last 12 months.

We have had a very busy and successful 12 months.

We have continued with our core fundraisers, which are well supported by the school community. These include:

- End of term lunches - sausage sizzle and pizza: \$800
- Term 1 & 4 Friday afternoon ice block sales: \$800
- Oxford Pies: \$575
- Mamasdonuts - new this year: \$330
- Term 1 & 4 Family Discos - a fun night for the kids as well as a good fundraiser: \$1700
- Community Picnic fundraising (pizza, raffles, iceblocks): \$760
- Food stall at the inter-school athletics: \$300

We have also branched out into grant funding, and have had a successful application to Harcourts Foundation for money towards the solar heating for the pool (\$2500).

Other online fundraising options we have tried this year include:

- Clothing labels
- Plastic free July - Earthmama campaign, plus reusable produce bags sold from the office
- Chiefs Rugby Game Fundraiser

These have been particularly unsuccessful.

It seems that food and event based fundraisers are the way to go for our community. And perhaps exploring more into grant funding for big projects.

What do we spend this money on? This year we have supported:

- Solar heating for the school pool - our major fundraising focus for the year - \$2500 (in addition to the grant funding)
- School camp \$2000
- End of year fun days (2017): \$1000 donated towards transport costs
- New Entrant books - we have presented over 60 lovely Kuwi the Kiwi books to new entrants over the past year
- Senior school exploration hour cooking group - the kids cook meals and baking for needy families and kids
- Matariki celebration - PTG bought a mandarin tree which was planted at the school
- Teacher Appreciation Day - a new initiative this year. We surprised the teachers in each class with a small ceremony and gifts to say thanks for being awesome. This was very well received by the teachers.
- DIY Beeswax wraps evening - an education evening where we got to try making our own own waxed cloths

A new strand to our PTG activities this year has been holding charity awareness and fundraising days. These are a way of us giving back to the wider community as well as increasing awareness and understanding of the diversity of our own kids. This year we ran:

- Blue Day for Diabetes - \$170 raised
- Onesie Friday for Autism - \$485 raised (we also sold ice creams that day)
- Cans For Good for Salvation Army Foodbank - 210 cans collected
- Pyjama Day, supporting Foster Hope Waikato - 90 pjs, 100 pairs of underpants plus a few socks, slippers and toys were collected (cash donations were used to buy pjs). Thanks to the Warehouse Hillcrest for their support for this.
- Loud Shirt Day for Deaf Awareness and providing cochlear implants for deaf kids - \$175 raised

Term 4 is set to be another busy term, with several PTG organised events:

- Dogs at School - casual get together on the field for dog owners and dog lovers
- Disco
- Year 6 leavers dinner - we are trialling this this year. If successful we would like to see it become a regular fixture
- Michael Van de Elzen's Good From Scratch kids cookbook tour - we have been lucky to be chosen to host this event. The PTG gets all profits from ticket sales so it should be a good earner as well a fantastic opportunity for our kids to see a celebrity chef in action.
- End of term lunch.

The PTG meets officially twice per term. These meetings are pretty informal. We have a fantastic group of mums involved. Louise Morgan has taken over from Sheana as teacher rep, and it's been great to see other teachers come along too. This year we have started using Messenger group chats to organise and coordinate events outside of meetings, and Google drive to store and share documents and information. These have been a great help for organising details, and saves a lot of time at meetings. We have also branched into casual get togethers for specific event organising: at the pub or over dessert at home. This has been a nice way to do organising and socialise at the same time.

Thanks to PTG members for all the time and effort you have put our activities this year. I feel privileged to be part of our group. We are awesome and a great asset for the school!

Thanks also to Priscilla and Barbara Anne in the office, for all the printing and help you give us. And to Michael and the staff, for making Silverdale Normal School a great place to be.

Where to for 2019? I would like to:

- Increase membership
- Find a new fundraising focus - any ideas??
- Look at organising more events that bring our families together and increase our sense of community

If you would like to be part of our group, you can contact us via email at ptg@silverdale.school.nz, or join our facebook group "Friends of the PTG - SNS"

Katherine Don
PTG Chairperson, 2018