

St Mary's School Board Chairperson's Report Presented in 2015 for the 2014 School Year

Mr Ben Williams

Welcome to parents, students and returning staff and thank you for attending the AGM. I would also like to welcome to the AGM and to our school the new staff members being our Principal, Mrs Melissa Marquis, our Year 5/6 Teacher, Miss Sinead Donnellan, the K/PP Teacher Miss Rebekah Walton and Mrs LeeAnn Walton, the Support Teacher in the K/PP and Year 1/2 Class.

During 2014, I received the resignation of our Principal, Mr Justin Tuohy. While I wished in him all the best with the next chapter in his life, the process of replacing him was one I was hoping to avoid during my time as the Chairperson of the Board. With the guidance and assistance of the Catholic Education Office, we interviewed a number of applicants and we were lucky enough to have Mrs Melissa Marquis accept the position.

St Mary's continues to improve and develop, during the year we have replaced our school car, painted, purchased new lap top computers and a TV for the Church. The single biggest project that has commenced in 2014 has been the development of the playscape. The Board has financially supported the P&F in this project and I would like to congratulate the P&F for the progress. Our school is a small community and we have had assistance from nearly all families in the school to see this project proceed. In particular, Corinna and Owen Mulgrew who have been the drivers of this project. Thank you to everyone involved.

Looking forward to 2015, we have already seen the resurfacing of the basketball courts over the school holidays and the replacement of the photocopier is also scheduled.

2015 will also bring a few changes on the school board with Jayde Teakle completing six years on the board. I would like to thank Jayde for her dedication and commitment to the staff and students of St Mary's. I have completed three years as the Chairperson and would like to hand that role over to one of the other Board members. I will continue on the Board as a member.

Thank you again for attending and looking forward to another great year at St Mary's!