

The Schools Advisory Council this year had a positive injection of new people and ideas to help advise the direction of the school and our meetings were always robust. We started the year with Andy as Principal, who with his positive nature and eagerness to hit the ground running provided staff and students with a zestful energy. The principal position was then advertised as planned this year and the SAC's involvement in that process was to provide community insight to the position and who would best suit the context of St Mary's as Principal. Enter David Hemsley, from our SAC meetings and conversations he has been more than willing to understand the staff and students and learn how things have been done at St Mary's. He has been a steadying hand and we look forward to working with David and his team in 2024.

The rollover of the canteen operations to Wild Poppy Cafe has been a great success and as close to seamless as we could possibly hope. We would like to thank Pauline for leading this transition and of course Hayley Billing and her staff for providing this great service to the St Mary's community. This agreement will continue throughout next year. Thank you once again to Wild Poppy, just one example of how St Mary's is shopping local, supporting local.

St Mary's and the SAC are aware that the pre-Kindy and Kindy programs are an area that draws parents and students to our school. It is a point of difference to the college and the smaller supportive community is a factory that entice parents to choose St Mary's. The area is looking tired and there have been funds directed to give this space a new lease of life. Improvements have started, however, additional improvements will be made once further consultation is had regarding environmental factors around the area.

It has been positive that the school has taken on advice in providing further leadership opportunities for our senior students. In 2024 there will be the introduction of House Captains and Event Organisers to complement the Head Boy and Head Girl roles to develop leadership potential in more students.

As parents are aware a uniform committee has been formed and the SAC would like to thank those parents and community members who took the time to complete the survey and provide their feedback. The Uniform Committee have been working hard in the background and have been provided with samples of some new designs and materials. Further information will come throughout next year and in David's address.

Finally, I would like to thank all the members of the School Advisory Committee this year for their professionalism and debate to improve the learning environment of the school. Decisions and advise are always made with the further benefit of our children in mind. Special thanks to Tessa Crook who has finished her term on the committee your down to business attitude and thoughtful opinions have been greatly appreciated. The SAC looks forward to a productive 2024 working closely with David and his team to further the learning experience for all students at St Mary's.