



CUST SCHOOL PTA, PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2023

I am happy to present my first President's Report for the Cust School PTA for the Year 2022/2023, ending March 31. I first joined the PTA in 2018, and I have been pleasantly surprised with the relaxed but hard working attitude of our group. We have been busy over the past year, but our PTA members are constantly dedicated to the school community and the children.

Since I have been a member of the committee, the teachers have never asked for anything substantial. However, last year, with a change in pupil numbers, Teacher Aide support was not as strong as it has been. We were approached by the Principal to help pay for an all important Teachers' Aide for the school. The PTA and Casino Committees were formed and planning was underway for an unforgettable evening.

A great fundraiser in 2022 was the Annual Disco which, as usual, was a hit with the children. This year's theme was Bright and White. We encouraged the children to dress so that the extra black lights we set up would make their clothing and hair glow. We were able to move the event back to our local Cust Community Hall after a few years away. The highlights were the senior boys leading the Junior Disco and of course, Mr Schuyt leading the YMCA!

Fundraising highlights for the financial year (to 31 March 2023)

- School Disco
- Cookbooks – ongoing sales
- Second Hand Clothing sales
- Easter Raffle
- Served Tea at a Mary Riley's Funeral
- Oxman volunteers
- Pizza Lunches were introduced and have been a big hit with the kids
- Entertainment book sales
- Abacus Fundraiser

Other events / activities

- PTA catered a 'Thank you. You are awesome' morning tea for the teachers.
- Free sausage sizzle and ice block for the students at the end of the year
- Free hot cross buns for Easter
- A new student and parent meet-up was organized at the Cust Community playground.
- Movie night
- Donation towards the 2022 Year 8 hoodies
- Ice Blocks for the kids on sports days

Special Projects at School

Led by Casey Toon, we have beautiful painted artwork around the concrete areas at the school. It is very cool to see the children utilising the concrete art in games of four-square, hop scotch and many others. The art also brings a playful and bright feeling to our campus.

We were able to donate money and items toward Kate Cain, our local Occupational Therapist. The resources are used for a variety of needs at the school.

The PTA took the reins last year in hosting the Scholastic Book Fair. It is a big job historically organised by busy staff and the PTA were happy to help out. We had our most successful fair to date and will continue to hold one every second year coinciding with Book Week at Cust School. The money raised went directly back to the school in book credits for our library. The highlights of the week were character dress-up day and the excitement of the children as they browsed the amazing selection of books.

Led by Kathryn, we were able to finish the landscaping project around the new buildings at school. The result is beautiful and practical and a lot of hard work went into planting and planning. Great job everyone.

Hollie has worked hard to organise our new PTA closet located in the Multipurpose room. We now have a place for all of our decorations, tables, second-hand uniforms, tea and disco items. Thank you.

Term 2 was a time of endings and change. Our beloved Principal Robert Schuyt, his wife and teacher Anne Marie Schuyt and our long time school secretary Jennifer Thompson all said farewell. We as the PTA helped the staff organise 2 beautiful morning teas. Our members were able to serve the visiting friends and families, bake delicious treats and take part in both momentous assemblies. It was a special time at Cust School and we were so happy to be a part of it. A beautiful ornamental pear tree was gifted to Mr and Mrs Schuyt, with one tree at school and a matching tree in their home garden. A framed quote and leaf were included, mentioning that they will always have roots at Cust School.

The time and effort put in by our 2022/2023 PTA Committee members needs to be acknowledged – Fran Rae and Casey Toon (Treasurers), Rowan Walton and Victoria Trayner (Secretaries), Nikki Denley (Honorary Audit Reviewer), Hollie Mason (Vice-President), Natalie Kearns, Natasha Donoghue, Nerissa Thompson, Karen Gilby, Sarah Johnson, Liz Button, Sweetness Standfast, Kylee Gillman, Taryn Graham and Robert Schuyt. Your organisational skills, leadership and dedication are priceless. Thank you.

A special welcome to Gerhard in July, 2023, who will be a big part of the PTA as our main connection to the school. We wish him the best of luck as Principal at Cust School. Our children are lucky to have him and we look forward to what the future holds.

Thank you to Tracey George and the Board of Trustees for your continued support of the PTA and for attending our meetings with Board updates.

Thank you also to all the Parents and Caregivers who have helped us and supported us and our fundraisers over the past year.

Becoming involved with the PTA is a great way to meet other parents and to be part of what is happening in and around the school. We are always looking for people to join the PTA. If you are interested, please get in touch with one of our committee members.

Mitzi Taylor
Cust School PTA President, 2022-23