Principal’s Report September 2015

St. Martin’s Information for Parents and Friend’s and School Board

Major and Minor Capital Works and Maintenance

We have begun several smaller projects and about to begin the larger ones. Here is an update:

➢ Deck the Hall Project … Started should be completed early October

➢ Refurbishment to classrooms under De Porres and new Tuckshop … Starting November and to be completed by start of school 2016

➢ New vinyl cover for students waiting for parents on Broadway Street-Completed

➢ Staircase repaired behind 3G … Completed

➢ Fence along the valley/ sports field… Completed

➢ Repairs to administration roof completed (leaking due to air-conditioning units placements and installation … Completed

➢ Changing 14+ flouros in the Dominic Centre and cleaning filters etc in data Projectors

Learning and Teacher at St. Martin’s

As a Visible Learning school we are currently reviewing our foci for curriculum and pedagogy by gathering data around student learning. We are also moving towards setting Strategic Goals for 2016 including a focus on English. The Visible Learning focus looks at learning through the children’s eyes. Acknowledging and using their perspective to improve. It demands that we interview groups of children, look at data (including for us I.M.E.L.); see whether children are perceiving teacher clarity throughout the school day and that expectations are clear. Our team of four will be examining how student learning is progressing and gaining understanding of the level of ownership of that learning by our students.

Quality Assurance Process Ratings 2015

See attached Document.
Below is the Wish List Obtained from Teachers early this year:

✓ Improved drainage in sports field – Mike
✓ Fencing along back fence – Kylie
  Boom gate for staff – Maria

Vinyl shade over the area outside year 1 and 2 – for wet time and shade – Anne

Extension to roof outside library & waterproofing – Gail

Extend library and enclosing outside area to first green pole to provide reading areas – Madonna

More computers in year 4 – Kellie J

Improved netbooks for prep – Trish

Ipads for grade 4 (6 each class) – Karen H
  ❖ Tennis courts; Netball and volley ball courts – Gaming Grant in Karen H

Magical garden in early years area for imaginative play (plants, seats etc.) – Karen H

Back area from Karen H classroom to be cleaned up – mosquito issues – Karen H
  ❖ Master Planning Consideration: Extra toilets for preps – Jill

Under cover area near pick up area and outside grade 5 classrooms – Catherine

Drainage outside year 5 areas for flooding – Catherine

Photocopier in library – Monique

Extra iPads – Early Years

Clean up back of grade 1 areas, blackboard, wall for painting – Sarah

Bubbler in early years to fit water bottles – Sarah

Better use of grass space between two upper classes near library – Alex

Early years eating area to be shaded for year 2 with vinyl instead of mesh (transition) – Melissa

Greater access to technology - Mon
  ✓ Fix back stairs to J4 – Aimee

Update staffroom
New Parent Engagement Model 2016

In an attempt to further enhance parent education and engagement in 2016 I write to communicate draft plans and changes. We are looking to schedule five major nights in 2016 when

Parents can receive information, give feedback and interact all which improve our school and parent partnership.

The plan is threefold:

1. The elected Parents and Friend’s Executive will also be involved at the School Board Level with the meeting being one hour before the P&F
2. There will be input from guest speakers in the areas relevant to today’s educational trends and parenting challenges including The Cyber World; Mathematics; Improving Literacy; Reporting and Assessment and Resilience. I will discuss further topic options with staff and parents.
3. The P&F Agenda will follow the guest speaker

The nights may look like this:

Date 1 Parent Teacher Night which includes Principal’s address about school goals for the year.

Date 2 Term 1 Parent Engagement Night 2 Children and connected world they live in or Cyber-safety

Date 3 Term 2 Parent Engagement Night 3 Literacy in the classroom

Date 4 Term 3 Parent Engagement Night 4 Mathematics today

Date 5 Term 4 Parent Engagement Night 5 Student Well-being in the Catholic School

With the board meeting preceding and P&F happening after the input.

Principal’s Long Service Leave

From October 26th I will be taking Long Service Leave through to the end of the school year. A replacement has not yet been communicated but I will pass this on to the community when confirmed by the Area Supervisor.

Thank you for working in partnership to make St. Martin’s an even better school!

Mick Kelleher

Principal