



2023 11 20 ANNUAL COLLEGE COMMUNITY MEETING

CHAIR OF THE FRIENDS OF ST JOHN BOSCO REPORT

The Friends of St John Bosco has spent 2023 providing opportunities to bring our community together and continuing to fundraise for resources and improvements for St John Bosco College. It has been a privilege to continue to work alongside the College in these endeavours.

2023 has been an amazing year, our first fully back to business as usual since COVID. It almost seems like those years are a distant memory and everyone is enjoying spending time back at the College and coming along to support events. We as a committee have certainly felt the support and are extremely thankful.

Some of our fundraising highlights for 2023:

- Whilst we could not believe it, again our Easter raffle is so popular both with record raffle ticket sales, as well as our amazing community contributing to prizes with your generous donations.
- The Silent Disco was back, and whilst we do raise funds from this it is more about the fun for the students. Always happy faces and full bellies with the Pizza Food truck again providing us with a tasty dinner and not just for the students.
- We had a new fundraiser with a VIP tent at the Junior Athletics Carnival. This had an amazing response and as a little surprise we will be holding something similar for the Christmas Carols.
- Last, but not least, our Colour Explosion Fun Run raised a massive amount of funds that was used for fitness equipment for the Mazzarello Sport and Recreation Centre.

Other events, whilst raising smaller funds are still important in achieving our overall fundraising goals:

- Junior and Senior Athletics Carnival sausage sizzles
- Entertainment Books
- Subway Lunches
- Pizza Lunches
- Event partnerships with Boost Juice
- Hot Cross Buns
- Stuck on You labels

Whilst our community give so much, we like to make sure we let you know how much we value you. Our Mother's Day and Father's Day celebrations always bring our community together and this year was no different. Year after year more of our families come together for these special occasions. It is a delight to see mums and dads spending the morning with their children enjoying breakfast. The bacon and egg rolls were a huge hit!

All of our events, whether big or small, are not possible without our community, most importantly these wonderful people sitting up here with me tonight. I would like to thank my amazing Committee members for their tireless efforts and ideas in getting our events together: Deputy Chair - Jennifer Hebden, Secretary – Amanda Old, Treasurer – Belinda Law, Rep to the Advisory Council – Siminette Meyer and general committee member – Danial Newbey. Without these members, none of this happens so I am truly thankful. Also to our partners who support us in these roles, Marcus, Fletcher, Josh, Brendan, Craig and Aleisha. I would also like to thank Amanda and Siminette for their time in their roles, as they have both decided to step down.

Special thanks to our College Leadership team, College staff, class representatives and event volunteers. There are so many of you that put so much effort into assisting on event days, meetings, sharing posts and general support.

That leaves the Bosco community, fundraising does not happen without your support. Thanks for the continued donations, buying raffle tickets, sending your children to the disco, fundraising massive amounts for the colour run, purchasing hot cross buns and who can forget the sausage sizzles. Thank you to our community volunteers, some new faces were amongst the event days and it was so great to see. We thank you all so much for your part, whether big or small as it all contributes in the end.

Now for some numbers. Since the last Friends AGM we have raised over \$65,000 with the inclusion of the family levies.

Donations made by the Friends in 2023 include but are not limited to:

- \$25,000 for books and other items for the recently built de Sales Library Resource Centre (a commitment from 2022).
- \$1,252 for the Year 6 cohort to help create their fruit and vegetable gardens.
- \$17,200 for the new play equipment (café, plane and ship) in the Primary space.
- \$3,000 for the Senior Arts Tour.
- \$25,000 for fitness equipment in the new Mazzarello Sport and Recreation Centre.

Moving into 2024, The Friends have a healthy bank balance of over \$37,000 so our College staff should get their thinking caps on for what we can help contribute to in the new year.

Just because the College year is coming to an end, and the much-needed break for everyone is almost upon us, there are still ways that you can help raise funds with The Friends:

- Entertainment Books have single or multi-city options and are valid for 12 months from activation. Holidays are the best time to get one of these. Hard copy books are back as well as the digital option. The unique fundraising link is available on The Friends Facebook page.
- Stuck on You for all your sticker and name labels requirements. With a lot of deals on right now, there is no better time to get ready for the 2024 College year. Again, the unique fundraising link is available on The Friends Facebook page.
- And if you have any ideas for future fundraising events for 2024, we would love to hear them so send us a message on Facebook or via our email.

On behalf of The Friends of St John Bosco, we would like to thank you our Bosco community for supporting us through attending events, supporting our fundraising initiatives and for volunteering your time and donations made. We look forward to your continued support for 2024, and hope that we can provide some amazing things to get you involved in, as well as more amazing contributions towards our ever-growing College.

We also wish everyone a joyous Christmas, and all the best for the New Year ahead.

Kylie O'Neill

Chair

Friends of St John Bosco Committee

November 20, 2023