Welcome to our brand new P & C Quarterly Newsletter

North Arm State School has a busy and active Parents and Citizens Association and contributes in many ways to assist our school community raise funds and develop facilities for students and our community.

It is a myth that P&C is boring

North Arm State School P&C attracts about 25 attendees to each month’s meetings. These meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month and start at 6.30pm in the Library. All are welcome and you don’t need to wait for an invitation to attend. It is also a great opportunity to get to know our school principal on a more personal level. We encourage parents/care givers to come and attend a meeting so they can see for themselves firsthand the wonderful things we are achieving as a group for our school.

Our nights are filled with some formalities but the main emphasis is on open discussions and sometimes debate on the agenda topics. Each attendee’s points of view and ideas are respected and valued. We also enjoy a great deal of laughing, and friendships are easily formed.

Our aims and objectives as P&C group

The P&C effectively supports the school by drawing on the P&C members’ personal skills, contacts and resources that already exist within the school and community. This allows us as a group to work together and provide long term support and sustainability to ensure North Arm State School continues to grow and remain unique and this is what sets us apart from many other schools.

Responsibilities of the P& C:

Did you know the P&C is responsible for the running of the Tuckshop, Uniform Shop and the Before and After School Care Program. The P& C employs staff to operate the Tuckshop and the Before and After School Care Program currently the Uniform Shop is run purely by volunteers.

We hope you find the new newsletter interesting and that it provides information that you need and want to know about our wonderful school.
Meet our P&C Executive for 2013

President: Sue Pele

- Mother of 3 children – 1 child in Year 1
- Works for Sunshine Coast Council in the role of Community Development
- To me the most important reason I joined the P&C was to ensure that all kids have a safe and fun environment to learn in. I wanted to understand what the school has in place for kids in the areas of bullying or if a kid has challenges what’s the support?...I found that it’s all that and more. So if you want to know what’s happening please come and join us at the next meeting.

Vice-President: Tracy Farmer

- Mother of 4 children – 1 child in Year 2
- Works at Nambour Plaza Chemmart Pharmacy in a Management position.
- I was invited to attend my first P & C meeting by Sue Pele. I always thought the P&C was not something I would ever get involved in. Boring, Bitchy etc etc. Well after my first meeting I felt like I had something to contribute and became the Vice President of the NASS P&C at the second meeting. I have met so many wonderful parents and am so proud that my children attend a school that is still so full of life and love.

Secretary: Min Simpson

- Mother of 2 children – 1 child in Year 4 and 1 child in Year 2
- Works at Nambour Plaza Chemmart Pharmacy in Administration
- Curiosity and confusion over the cryptic comments in the school newsletter enticed me to my first P&C meeting four and a half years ago. I discovered a small group of fun people determined to make a difference for our children. At that meeting I learnt about the myriad aspects of the P&C and decided that I wanted to be part of it. I joined the executive the following year. My experience has been so varied and I really enjoyed it – especially slogging it out around in the mud at the Eumundi Markets! Ultimately, I love seeing the happiness on the kid’s faces when the P&C provides an event or getting new equipment – that sense of satisfaction knowing that my small contribution helps make North Arm State School a little bit better for the students.

Treasurer: Liisa Ames

- Mother of 2 children – 1 child in Year 2 and 1 child in Prep
- Works as an Accountant
- The reason I am part of the P&C is to participate in my children’s schooling in an effective way, as I felt this was a good utilisation of my skills, and also to understand more about how the school ticks and works. It has been a wonderful insight into the energy and ideas that make North Arm State School so special.
2013 Achievements & Goals to date

Fun Fair – 2 June 2013

The P&C is proud to announce that the 2013 Fun Fair was the most successful and profitable Fun Fair to date. Gross Takings $50 000  Net Profit $32 000

From these funds the P & C has pledged $10 000 to the school to purchase new computers.

The P&C is now in a great financial position to assess the P & C “Project Register” and decide how this money can best be utilised and spent within the school. To determine how these funds may be best spent, the P & C has set up a sub-committee to consult with the Student Council to see what the student’s wants and needs are. In addition to this a notice will be placed in the school newsletter asking for parents and citizen to submit their ideas. The more ideas that are submitted the more chance we have of acknowledging and prioritizing what the students and parents of this wonderful school feel are important.

Flexischools – July 2013

Flexischools allows parents to order and pay for their children’s Tuckshop and Uniforms requirements online. Listed below are just some benefits of ordering through Flexischools:

- Hygiene – no more money in food bags
- No more lost change
- Less cash to be counted, handled by Tuckshop Convenor
- Less food wastage, better control of ordering food supplies
- Reports on best sellers and slow items
- Less interruptions to Convenor during cooking and preparation times
- Lucky draw: 4 Students per week who order online will win a free ice cream or a apple slinky
- Order Uniform’s and Tuckshop at any time

It is truly beneficial for parents to support this new initiative and the aim is to have close to 100% conversion to this Flexischools system by the end of year.

Go to www.flexischools.com.au today!

Water Bubbler on the School Oval - August

The P&C is currently in the process of having a water bubbler installed on the school oval. Currently there are no drinking facilities for our children in this area. The cost to have this installed is approximately $2500.

Tuckshop Grant- $1000 – money spent on electrical equipment

Gaming Benefit Grant – $23 600 – money to be spent on shade sail over playground, shade, seating and plants
Upcoming Community Events

Movie and BBQ Night – Friday 13th September 2013
Father’s Day Stall Friday 30th August 2013
North Arm State School Centenary Committee Meeting
   Wednesday 18th September 2013 3:30pm

ALL interested people are invited, to become part of the planning committee.

The P & C organises at least one family event per term. This may be a Disco, Movie Night/BBQ and the end of year Christmas Concert.
In addition to this the P & C also fundraises by organising the Mothers Day Stall, Fathers Day Stall, Easter Raffle, Christmas Raffle, Fun Fair and a couple of other fundraisers.

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program
Four years ago, North Arm State School successfully applied for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program Grant. With the $60 000, our Tuckshop had an amazing makeover and the Kitchen Garden burst into life. Sadly, $60 000 doesn’t last for ever and this valued program is in dire need of a cash injection. We are asking you, the community for any ideas to assist the school to find a way to keep the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program sustainable. If you have any ideas to assist in funding the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, please feel free to discuss these ideas with Kelly Edgar the principal.

Frequently Asked Questions:
Q: What does P & C stand for?
A: P&C is short for Parents and Citizens

Q: Is the P&C meetings only by invitation?
A: these meeting are open to all parents and citizen of the school

Q: Do you have to attend every meeting?
A: as many as you like

Q: How long do I have to be a member to vote?
A: You must be a member and have attended two meetings

Q: Do I have to become a member?
A: No, you can simply choose to attend

We hope you have enjoyed the first edition of the P & C Newsletter. If you have any questions that you would like answered please send an email to pandc@ntharmss.eq.edu.au

North Arm State School P&C