



# Boarders' Parent Group Meeting

Date: 7 May 2024

Time: 7:30pm

Location: Online

Minutes: Carolyn Farr

## Attendees:

Carolyn Burgess, Lamia Rockwell, Annie Graham, Edwina Beveridge, Carolyn Farr, Kerry Roberts, Tessa McLaughlan, Karen Peters, Bertie & Kim Stanley, Tamara Warren, Ann McDermott, Alana Heckendorf, Mel Sunderland, Danielle Pringle, Ellen Gleeson (Chartwells), Tara Taubenschlag, Lucy Hurlstone, Jono Coatley (Chartwells), Jodie Batman, Sarah Kirkby

## Minutes

### 1. **Welcome: Edwina Beveridge - BPG President.**

### 2. **Boarding Update: Carolyn Burgess - Head of Boarding.**

- Vertical Boarding – has been positive, no requests to move, please call if daughter not happy. There have been a number of initiatives to bring year groups together, they are enjoying meals together each evening.
- The girls are providing suggestions for year group catch ups and these have been implemented.

### 3. **College update – Lamia Rockwell – Deputy Principal**

- Master Plan projects including update on Grey House Precinct which houses Psychologists & Health services, Dance studios, OOSH & Early Years, yr. 5 & 6 STEM classrooms.
- Other projects as part of the Master Plan include the library internal refurbishment, colonnade refurbishment for upper school common space and Heads of Years.
- Spoke about power supply being interrupted over 2 Saturdays to complete work. School and Boarding working together to ensure minimal disruption to boarders. Outings planned.
- Now entering Phase 3 of Master Plan which will go to 2029.
- All updates are in the weekly newsletter.
- Pymble has partnered with Australian Olympic Committee and is an affiliated pathways school. Launch on Saturday. Head of Sport Mr. Adam Raw to be commended.
- Invites questions...

### 4. **Community Weekend update – Carolyn Burgess**

- Community weekends are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend of every term, with the exception of Term 3 where there is a clash with the Foundation Day service.
- Carolyn showed some photos of the most recent Community weekend including
  - Friday: Evacuation drill, 7-9 Social at Pymble, 10 –12 Social at Ravenswood
  - Saturday: School sports, Saturday night: Just Dance competition
  - Sunday: Chapel service and brunch followed by friendly dodge ball & bench ball competition.
- Carolyn praised the girls for the wonderful weekend.

**5. Boarding numbers and further updates – Carolyn Burgess**

- There are 130 boarders
  - Year 7: 16
  - Year 8: 15
  - Year 9: 20
  - Year 10: 19
  - Year 11: 33
  - Year 12: 27
  - Another 6 to 8 new boarders joining next term.
- Carolyn will be attending the Dubbo Boarding School Expo
- Leadership Positions: 17 candidates, 7 positions. Currently in election process, then voting, then Interview with Dr Hadwen, Ms Rockwell and Mrs Burgess.
- Year 12 prefects recently had afternoon tea with other schools.
- Dr Hadwen has had dinner with year 7, 8 & 12 – looking forward to hosting year 9, 10, 11 soon.
- Spoke about upcoming Boarders' Week. Highlights will be posted on socials.

**6. Pymble comes to you 2024 - Dr Hadwen on Tour**

- Has travelled over 2500km's over 6 days.
- Has visited and connected with 26 families past, present and future.
- Spoke at assembly with emphasis on importance of farming to our lifestyle and showed the whole school some photos of her tour.

**7. Parent Community events – Edwina Beveridge**

- Parents Regional weekend in Hawkesbury next weekend
- Spoke about some future events in Term 3 including father/daughter event, Garden Party and Term 4: mother/daughter lunch
- Icebreaker: all agree the 'afters' at Pymble Pub!!

**8. Chartwells Catering – Jono Coatly; Area Operations Manager and Ellen Gleeson; Dietician**

- Chartwells is the largest caterer in the education sector.
- Jono spoke of the steps creating a menu:
  1. Head Chef drafts a menu
  2. Reviewed by Chartwells brand standards
  3. Reviewed by dietician
  4. On-Site Chartwells Manager implements.
- The menu is a 4 week cycle, with no main meal repeated in the cycle.
- Menu is unique to site and will include celebration days and theme days.
- Ellen spoke of the Australian Guidelines for healthy teen girl eating, which includes checking menus include "smart" foods, developing healthy eating habits, variety, increase iron which is important in female teens. Ellen presented slides.
- Encouraged girls to use "instant feedback" such as taking photos and writing in feedback books, online surveys etc as changes are made from this feedback.
- Questions?

**General Business: Questions?**

Q: Mother/daughter lunch in Term 4 may clash with Vision Valley – investigate further.

Q: Boom gate rules? Open at the start and end of each term. Ring through to security or House to open outside these times. Flexible. Call the house if you can't get onto security as Heads have swipe cards to boom gate. Lamia will mention to Operations Manager.

**Meeting closed 8:34pm**