

## P&C Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019

- Best wishes for the AGM and thanks to the outgoing office-bearers
- MAHS has participated this year in the Best Start Year 7 program. Previously Best Start was a Kindergarten program which was extended to high school this year and we were selected as a pilot school. The program gives us access to literacy and numeracy testing for our new Year 7 students and training for staff about how to support our students in these basic skills.
- We are currently in the process of conducting a review of our wellbeing and discipline procedures. What previously worked for a school of 640 students probably won't work when we have 940 students so the timing is right. I have engaged a DP/relieving principal with a lot of experience in this area to interview a large number of key staff in our school and have a close look at how we do things. A range of recommendations should be ready in the next few weeks to be implemented during the course of the year.
- Our Boy's Group is up and running again in 2019. The Boys Group Program is offered to a selected group of boys in Year 10 and has been in operation for the last three years. The Boys Group Program has been very successful in helping boys achieve their goals and develop the social skills necessary for success at high school and life after school. This mentoring program takes place for approximately 1-2 periods each cycle and the aim is to expose the boys to positive life-long learning experiences and positive relationships. We know that many boys enjoy school and are successful in their studies. However, it is also clear that many others could achieve at a higher level with some assistance from a boys-specific mentoring program. This project is facilitated by Mr Hughes, who has led the program since its induction in 2016.
- We have had two compliments for the behaviour of our students in the past week. Last Monday a group of Year 11 students were travelling in by train to the city and a gentleman and his wife were so impressed with their manners that they sent me an email to praise them and say what a credit they were to the school. Yesterday a number of our students acted as officials and referees for the Mount Annan PS <sup>ATHLETICS CARNIVAL</sup> Gala Day and the principal Annette O'Neill sent me a message to say how wonderful they were. It's great to get these positive messages, as the public often point out negative behaviour from our young people!

Regards,

Brad Mitchell