

It's been another trying year and this year has started in a way which is still testing us. Despite 2021 being complicated there were truly rays of light that shone through and we still were able to have a fairly successful year. This is due in most part to the wonderful PTA committee and executive and those who support us, no matter what. Thank you.

Thank you to our wonderful catering coordinator Katharine for being so fantastic again this year. The donations of baking and help in catering this year was good but we always welcome more helpers! We managed to have some events in the first 9 months of the year, including 2 SIDDC Focus days, which was so fortunate. I want to thank all Year 6 parents who have someone leaving this year, especially those for whom it is their last child at the school, for their years worth of support of the PTA.

We were lucky enough to have a fantastic Dunsandel Quiz, which was well supported. Thank you to everyone involved, especially the quiz master and bar manager and to the community and Selwyn Council. It was a fantastic night for all, even though the teachers won AGAIN.

This year we decided to try our hand at a winter fundraiser of pies and pasta. It is definitely something we should be doing again in the future. Thank you to all those who supported it.

The cake auction again came to the fore as the event of the year and we were so fortunate to be able to have it in a changed format. Thank you to everyone who baked or bought a cake and to the people behind the scenes making it all run so smoothly.

Calf donations again have blown me away with the generosity shown from our wonderful farming community. I would like to thank John Michael and the Calf Committee for their hard work on this initiative. Thank you to all those who donated.

And now to a little slice of Dunsandel History. In 2010 a small band of tenacious and dedicated people pulled together one of the greatest cookbooks ever created (well, maybe the greatest in the immediate area....). Over the Fence and Under the Oak Tree is a recipe book with a difference. It incorporates more than 180 recipes and 200 colour photos capturing the spirit and community of the Dunsandel area. All the recipes have come from within the community including kids, parents, grandparents and teachers, past and present. The book consists of 8 sections and is packed with tried and tested recipes. This is a book to sit proud on any coffee table! On the inside pages it has been dedicated 'To all the people of the Dunsandel community who have shaped it's past, to those who are today's caretakers, and to the children to whom Dunsandel's future will be entrusted.' I have tears in my eyes when I think about how this little book has supported the school for so long. Alas its time is nearly over with. We are down to the last few copies and we never thought we would be here. Over the years this book has been the primary fundraising focus to get the ICT (Internet Communications and Technology) up-to-date and get computers into classrooms. After the unbelievable work done by the last of a long line of Cookbook Coordinators, Liz Hurst has the pleasure of seeing the book to its last sale and I'd like to acknowledge the incredible amount that has been raised by her

endeavours this year. It is an inspiration to see that a book full of pies, slices and scones has raised the PTA over \$85,000 in pure lovely profit over the last eleven years. Thank you cookbook, and goodbye.

So for 2021 I have great pleasure in announcing that the total raised is over \$36,000. A truly phenomenal amount in testing times. Thank you so so much to everyone who helped.

Money Spent

We began the 2021 spending with some caution. At the beginning of the year the PTA and school changed how we supported EOTC by donating to the school termly. We are extremely proud of the support we give to the school for EOTC and it is still a part of what makes the school so special. Money from this initiative comes directly from the calf donation.

The PTA have committed to supporting a school wide music program and whilst Covid has had it's impact here we hope that this can be increased in 2022! We have continued our support of the classroom resources and the Computers on Wheels lease and we have also supported the introduction of the new E for Empathy PRIDE value with new Pride T-shirts. All of these initiatives are paid for from the catering, cake auction, cookbook sales and the calf donations from 2020.

So donations to the school this year have totalled over \$27,000, which is an incredible effort, thank you and we look forward to some spending in 2022!

The 2021 year was uncertain and challenging but also full of love, support and dedication. Thank you to everyone, I am grateful to those who could make it so. Thank you especially to my team on the PTA committee and the staff reps. We are a small band of merry ladies and gentlemen but we work hard to support the school and community.