



The importance of Parents and Friends cannot be undervalued as an instrumental part of all fundraising activities.

In fact, **last year over \$120,000 was raised** due to the support of our families. Some of these funds were used to provide many enhancements outside the College's normal funding budget. These included; funding towards the Year 9 'Racing For The Future' event which had five teams competing, including an all-girl team for the first time, the new Junior School adventure playground at Keilor Campus, continued support of the Artist in Residence program, the barbecue area outside the Taylors Lakes Campus Gymnasium and the purchase of commercial equipment to better support our catering activities and Country Fair.

Additionally, Parents and Friends assist with the management of the Family Contribution Scheme, with **over 100,000 hours of work completed** by our parents each year. Each Parents and Friends committee member is formally elected and each is responsible for a portfolio of workgroups managed day to day by our parent coordinators across both campuses.

During the school day, some of the ways parents contribute their time are by helping out in the classroom, the canteens, the catering group, first aid, office and excursions. The after hours options include the cleaning of the Multipurpose Hall, the Gymnasium and the Sports

and Performing Arts Building, mowing, watering and helping out at working bees. These are just some samples of the many options available, and the benefits to the parents in assisting at the College are many.

Through the Family Contribution Scheme parents give skills, life experiences, time and expertise to the College community and as a result, provide the opportunity for extended services and an enhanced quality of the College community life, by their active participation.

#### **In return parents:**

- meet new people
- try something new
- learn new skills
- retain skills
- gain experience
- stay active and involved
- have fun
- support the College

As chairperson I see how much effort so many people put into the College and I am very grateful for this commitment. We could not function without our dedicated parents and friends, so thank you for all your hard work throughout the year.



*Dean Dannock, Chairperson, Parents & Friends*