

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2019 – WBHS PTA

AGM 17th February 2020

I am delighted to present to you a report of the activities of the Westlake Boys' High School PTA for 2019 which was a fun and successful year.

The PTA has three main functions: to provide help where required at school events, to act as a social forum for parents and caregivers of the school, and to raise funds to help enhance facilities at the school.

Supporting Westlake

The PTA is always happy to provide help at school events and we did so on many occasions during the year. First on the calendar was the "Welcome to Westlake" evening in February, at which families whose boys have recently started at the school have a chance to find out more about how things work the Westlake way. This is a great forum for parents to come and talk to us about joining the PTA. Later that month we also assisted the events team at the Lantern Festival morning tea for our Chinese community.

In May the PTA organised and ran a "Meet the Prefects" evening, where the senior prefects spoke to an audience of interested students and parents about their personal journey at Westlake. Afterwards we had a Q&A session followed by an informal mix and mingle. This was a great opportunity for current students to meet the senior prefects and chat to them one on one.

During the five Parent/Teacher Evenings in April and June we served teas and coffees to parents who had a wait between appointments.

In August we assisted at the New Parents Open Evening and the next day again helped at the very popular and busy annual Grandparents Day, serving endless cups of tea and coffee.

Our PTA run Staff/Teachers morning tea in October was again a successful and highly anticipated event. This year the event theme was "Mexican" and I'd like to again acknowledge Susie Turner for taking the theme and running with it – her enthusiasm and skill in decorating was much appreciated. The parent community were fantastic in providing gifts and refreshments to make this event a success.

Our final official duty for event assistance was to help set up the auditorium for the Year 13 Graduation Dinner at the end of November.

Social Events

The PTA enjoyed three fun evenings during the year. Once again, we had a meal out at Mexico in Takapuna, this is our third year in a row at the same restaurant and as always was a great night. During the winter we enjoyed a few games of ten pin bowling – lots of fun and a fair bit of competitiveness! Our final social event of the year was a BYO BBQ at Robyn's place near Kumeu where partners and children were also welcome to attend. A highly enjoyable evening to round off the year.

Fundraising – PTA Second-Hand Uniform Shop

The PTA second hand uniform shop had an extremely successful year in 2019, raising funds for the school and providing a much-needed service for our community.

Under the leadership of Robyn Dean, the shop increased its income enabling a substantial amount to be given back to the school for the benefit of various initiatives. Several improvements to the shop's operations have taken place this year, including the introducing of EFTPOS, tracking sales in Excel, increased opening hours including weekend sale days and the ability to register online to sell items and other general processes. This would not have happened without the many hours given by Robyn Dean and our many shop volunteers.

In 2019 the PTA were proud to contribute to the Christchurch appeal and provided sponsorship of the Mother Son Breakfast. We were able to support an initiative to enable a healthier canteen and a sizeable donation has been set aside for the school to purchase a much-needed new minivan. Towards the end of the year, we sponsored the staff 's annual movie night and also contributed to the inaugural Westlake Giving Day.

PTA Executive Committee

To streamline our committee meetings, this year the President, Secretary, Treasurer and Second-Hand uniform shop manager met prior to each meeting to plan and prioritise our activities and set the agenda.

Acknowledgements/Thank you's

Finally, none of the PTA's activities would be possible without the volunteer input of our committee. In particular, I'd like to thank Vivien McAvoy who put her hand up and volunteered to be Secretary, to Mridula Rajan for being our Treasurer and to Robyn Dean for running the second-hand uniform shop. To all of our committee - I'd like to personally thank each of you for your time, contribution and enthusiasm to the Westlake PTA, I have genuinely enjoyed getting to know you and working with you.

Fiona Scanlen

WBHS PTA President 2019