

# Hillsmeade Primary School Council

## President's Report 2016

It has been a busy year for Hillsmeade characterised by a number of significant events.

**Strategic Review and Plan:** We completed our strategic review of the last 4 years and set our targets for the next 4 years. The headline summary for the review was that there has been some significant improvement in student outcomes in the last couple of years because of the specific data-driven interventions put in place by the leadership team, and the restructuring and refocussing of the operating model (grade leaders and joint planning, professional learning, etc.). Overall a very positive result, and we set some ambitious goals for the next four years to build on these results.

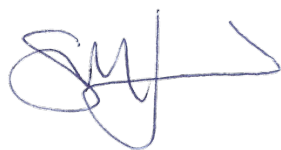
**Change in Leadership:** Deborah took an acting position as a SEIL for term 4 2016 and then a permanent SEIL role at the start of 2017. Jodie did an outstanding job as Acting Principal during that time, and the school community was delighted to see her successfully apply for the substantive Principal position. Jodie is enormously popular and respected within the school community – staff, parents & students – and we expect her to continue to lead the school to further strengths.

**Building & Grounds:** The school has physically transformed significantly in the last 12 months. We started the year by officially launching the new school oval, which has been fantastic for physical education this year. This year we've seen a number of grounds improvements including shade sails over the year 2/3 playground and clean-up and improvement of the gardens. New air-conditioning and a PA system has made the gym a much more functional space – assemblies are now much cooler and louder!

The ELC continues to perform strongly under Shiona's leadership. Kids transitioning from the ELC into Hillsmeade Prep do so with less stress and better performance than kids coming from other sources, demonstrating the value of the tight integration of the ELC and the main school.

The Fundraising Committee used 2016 as an opportunity to revitalise the standard set of events, and we saw a few new activities that were well-received by the community. Specifically the new car boot sale was a popular addition, and the new-format Christmas Carols (complete with bouncy castles) was a terrific evening. We look forward to the results of the HFC's hard work in 2017.

The School Council and parent community would like to thank Jodie and her extended team for the dedication they exhibit towards educating our children. It is encouraging to see Jodie and her LT willing to take a critical look at where things are going well and where things need improvement, and to continually drive towards getting better results for our children. It has been rewarding working together in 2016, and I look forward to continuing the hard work in 2017.



Stewart Johnson

Hillsmeade Primary School Council President 2016