

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### 1. **What is the role of the Parents' Association (PA)?**

The PA assists with Fund-raising and Friend-raising within the School and runs events which build the school community as well as raising funds to improve the facilities for our daughters.

### 2. **What happens to the PA donation?**

PA donations are transferred from the school to the general PA account in the first half of the year. Whilst the accumulated donation is not allocated to specific, pre-assigned capital projects or major expenditures, the PA aims to keep a float in its account to allow for operational expenses. This accumulated donation can be applied towards significant purchases such as equipment, school buildings or facilities.

### 3. **Who are members of the PA?**

All parents and guardians of CGGS students are members of the PA.

### 4. **Can I attend the PA meetings without being a Committee member?**

Yes, you can attend meetings if you wish. Contact the secretary of the PA to receive an agenda for the meeting.

### 5. **How can I express an interest in being a member of the PA Committee?**

You can contact the Secretary of PA through our website [pa@camgirls.vic.edu.au](mailto:pa@camgirls.vic.edu.au) or through the Director of Development at the school [tpeters@camgirls.vic.edu.au](mailto:tpeters@camgirls.vic.edu.au) and ask for an invitation to the next Committee meeting. The Secretary will send you an agenda, upcoming meeting details and minutes of the previous meeting. Upon attending the meeting you can then decide whether you want to join the Committee. If you do, ask the Secretary for a nomination form - you must be a parent or guardian of a girl who is currently studying at CGGS to be nominated. Complete this form and the Committee will consider your nomination at their next meeting. We are always keen to increase the level of involvement from all parents, but remember you don't have to join the Committee to help! Just keep an eye on news of PA activities in the school's weekly Bulletin.

### 6. **Is the PA involved in the teaching side of the school?**

No, the PA is not involved in the teaching at CGGS. If you believe there is an opportunity for PA to support the school in this area, the PA encourages you to contact the school administration directly. Your suggestion may then be referred back to PA if it is something that PA can support in any way.

### 7. **What type of activities is the PA involved in?**

The two key elements to PA's activities are always Fund-raising and Friend-raising. In other words, finding enjoyable ways to raise funds to support the school while at the same time strengthening the network of parents, students and staff at CGGS. Thus, we

- ♣ host events, such as trivia nights and welcome drinks;

- ♣ support events in conjunction with other groups, such as Open Day, Carols at Camberwell, etc;
- ♣ provide financial support and volunteers for school-nominated events, such as an Astronomy Evening, Open Day, etc; and
- ♣ assist special interest groups, such as the recently formed Friends of Sport.

Finally, the funds raised through these events and the annual PA donations are deployed on both short and long-term projects. Short-term projects include providing IT equipment upgrades, e.g. for LOTE classes, the notice board at senior school, leadership course for school captains, cameras for Science Department, etc, whereas long-term projects would include nominated parts of the CGGS development plans. For example, a \$30K donation was made towards the refurbishment of the art studios in 2009, which has allowed this renovation to be completed to a higher standard than otherwise possible.

#### **8. How does the PA's role differ from the other parent groups?**

There is some overlapping in roles between the PA, Auxiliary and Class Reps. For example, both the PA and Auxiliary have held barbecues, while the PA and Class Reps held community events. However, the three groups are distinct.

The first and largest difference is that the activities which the PA supports occur outside school hours and therefore PA is the most suitable group for any working parent to become involved with the school.

Secondly, PA aims to engage the whole school community, rather than a specific year level. Indeed, we are actively working to strengthen the connection between junior and senior school campuses now that they are adjacent to each other.

Lastly, we provide support for specific interest groups such as Friends of Sport or Music, and host entertainment evenings or extra-curricular activities that extend across years, such as an Astronomy Night for Science.

If your questions are not answered above, please submit your question to the Secretary of PA via email [principal-pa@camgirls.vic.edu.au](mailto:principal-pa@camgirls.vic.edu.au)