

## **Support your school! Purchase a Book Pack for 2023 from the Uniform Shop.**

The uniform shop is operated by your Freshie Parents and Citizen's committee. The P&C is made up of volunteers, mainly parents but also some teachers and community members who are interested in giving back to the school community. We operate 3 businesses: the tuckshop, to help provide school students and staff with nutritious and affordable meal options, the uniform shop, a convenient and affordable place to find uniforms and school supplies, and Outside School Hours Care, a vital service for working parents.

We are a not-for-profit organisation and work together with the school management to help enrich the experience for you and your children at Freshwater State School. All profits we make go back into the school and contribute in many ways.

- In 2021 the P&C financed the building of the Prep -Year 3 nature playground at a cost of approximately \$500,000.
- In the last 12 months we have contributed almost \$180,000 to the school including:
  - o around \$80,000 in OSHC refurbishments
  - o \$35,000 in contributions to the new undercover area
  - o \$5,500 to purchase 30 brand new computer chairs for the IT classrooms
  - o \$12,500 to subsidise the cost of school excursions for students

Our big priorities in the near future are to create a fabulous upper years play space, and to finance the urgent expansion of OSHC to allow us to expand our service to meet the current high demand.

By purchasing a book pack for 2023 from the uniform shop you will be investing in the improvement of your own school community and help us to achieve the above goals. We aim to keep prices as low as possible for parents without compromising on quality, and the convenience of ordering from us means not spending hours poring over supermarket shelves with extensive class booklists. Due to supply chain issues and inflation, the wholesale cost of many products have increased, and this is reflected in this years pricing.

### **A word about volunteering**

The P&C committee runs 3 businesses with around 30 paid employees and a gross annual turnover of around a million dollars. This allows us a fabulous opportunity to invest large sums of money back into our school that would not be possible if these businesses were outsourced to external providers interested only in profit.

The executive committee that manages these businesses consists entirely of volunteers, working parents, who work together with the P&C membership to manage the day-to-day operations, as well as organising fundraising events such as the Fete and colour explosion, to further our ability to contribute to the school.

The only way we can continue to operate is through volunteers – people joining up as members, attending meetings, volunteering to organise or assist at events, forming subcommittees. Volunteers have steadily declined over the years placing a higher burden on fewer people, a situation which is not sustainable in the longer term.

So, we need you! Please become a member of the P&C, come to some meetings, bring some new ideas for fundraising events, raise your hand to volunteer for events or in committees so that we can continue to give back to the school community and to our kids.