

# Annual Report 2022



**Wilkins Public School  
P&C Association**



# Table of Contents

Introduction . . . . . Page 2

Office Bearers . . . . . Page 3

P&C Activities . . . . . Page 4

Awards & Announcements . . . . . Page 5

Resources for the School . . . . . Page 6

New Sponsorship . . . . . Page 7

Events . . . . . Page 8-13

Thanking Wilkins Teacher & Staff. . . . . Page 14

Communication . . . . . Page 15

Lunch Club . . . . . Page 16

Treasurers Report . . . . . Page 17-18

Wilkins Green Report . . . . . Page 19–22

Inclusion Committee . . . . . Page 23-24

Wilkins Assoc for the Visual Arts Report . . . . . Page 25

Wilkins Music Association Report . . . . . Page 25

Solar Project Report . . . . . Page 26

Wilkins Uniform Shop Report . . . . . Page 27

Conclusion . . . . . Page 28-29



Fair Day 2022  
Michael West, Lucy Taylor, Darcy Byrne, Mat Howard, Kelda, Jo Haylen and her children

# Introduction

15 November 2022

This report summarises the Wilkins Public School Parents and Citizens' Association (P&C) activities in the 2022 school year. It outlines the P&C's achievements in fundraising, new developments, activities of sub-committees and ways in which the P&C has built relationships in the community and supported the schools' teachers and executive.

## The Role of the P&C

The role of the P&C is to assist the school in delivering the best possible educational experience for the students.

The *Education Act 1990* state that P&C Associations are established to:

- Promote the interest of the school by bringing parents, citizens, student, and teaching staff into close co-operation.
- Assist in providing facilities and equipment for the school and promoting the recreation and welfare of the students at school.
- Encourage parent and community participation in curriculum and other education issues in schools.
- Report, when requested by the Minister, on the material requirements of the school and advice on the subject of maintenance of the school, alterations and additions to school facilities and the selection of new sites.
- Assist and co-operate with teaching staff at public functions associated with the school.
- Be responsible for the election of parent representatives to any school council constituted at the school in consultation with the Principal of the school, and
- Assist in other matters in which the Minister may seek the co-operation of the Association.

All P&C members are volunteers. Any parent, carer, teacher or interested community member is welcome to join for a one-off annual fee of \$2.



Watching the stage performance at Fair Day 2022



# Office Bearers 2022

Positions	
President	Kelda Richards
Vice President	Sheridan Percival
Vice President	Michael Kuligowski
Treasurer	Aleksandra Jordeska
Deputy Treasurer	Open
Assistant Treasurer	Christalla Dedousis
Secretaries	Kate McBean & Cheryl Garcel
Auditor	Matt Paull
Social Media Co-ordinator	Rachel Ayre
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator	Trang Dao
Wilkins Green Co-ordinator	Tracy Graham
Wilkins Association for Visual Arts (WAVA)	Susan Chen
Wilkins Music Association (WMA)	Open
Lunch Club Co-ordinator	Michelle Steel
Inclusion Committee Co-ordinator	Jennifer Williamson



L-R Michael, Sheridan, Tracy, Kelda, Kate

# P&C Activities

2022 started off with a bit of hesitation as COVID was still around. But as everything slowly got better, and things started to get back to normal we started planning our events again.

Wilkins P&C is very fortunate to have a strongly supported school community and many parents and carers who have assisted in running and supporting P&C events during the year. The activities we were able to run in 2022 include:

- Running the uniform shop including ordering and stocking plus providing low cost, good quality uniforms to the school community. The uniform shop is open for half an hour on Tuesday afternoons and Friday mornings.
- Moderating the Wilkins P&C Facebook page and running Facebook groups for each year to provide forums for informal questions and social events.
- Running the Wilkins Green Community Garden through managing our Garden Coordinator, contributing through working bees.
- Supported the Breakfast Club with the Lunch Club subcommittee and the P&C providing fruit and vegetables in partnership with Mayfair Fresh.
- Commencing a new Inclusion subcommittee helping families with neurodiverse children.
- Parents and carers being on many school panels for the assistant principal, Principal, APCI, OOSHC and many more
- Built relationships with the wider Inner West Schools Community through participation in the Inner West P&Cs Facebook group and lending our equipment to other local public schools. The popcorn was a very popular item that we lent out.
- Building new relationships with other school's P&C executives through the Amalgamated P&C's General Support (NSW) Facebook page.

Other activities that we were a part of and would like to acknowledge are:

- The P&C supplied cupcakes and frozen fruit tubes to all the students for the schools 40<sup>th</sup> birthday party on 8 September. The theme was 1980's and everyone looked fantastic!
- This year we organised new merchandise to celebrate our school and community. This was sold at our 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Fair and was a hit! We still have some left if you feel like you missed out.
- The P&C wrote a letter to Education Minister Sarah Mitchell regarding the finance changes she had made at the school and how it affected the P&C.
- Local member Jo Haylen acknowledged Wilkins Public School P&C during her community recognition statement in NSW Parliament on Tuesday 11 October 2022.

## WILKINS PUBLIC SCHOOL

**Ms JO HAYLEN (Summer Hill) (21:03):** I congratulate the Wilkins Public School community in Marrickville on recently celebrating the school's fortieth anniversary in style at the Wilkins Fortieth Birthday Fair. On a sunny Saturday the school grounds were transformed into a pop-up carnival and amusement park. Students, families and locals enjoyed a huge variety of delicious local food, including street food offerings and the best cake stall I have ever seen. There was lots of local live music for everyone to enjoy. I thank the educators at Wilkins for their tireless efforts over the past four decades, and I also thank Kelda Richards, the Wilkins P&C president, along with the other dedicated P&C organisers for putting on this fantastic community event. I thank all the hardworking volunteers who made this wonderful day possible and who brought everyone together in our community, celebrating such a great local public school. I congratulate Wilkins Public School on serving our community for 40 years.

# Awards & Announcements

## Volunteer of The Year

A call out for nominees for volunteer of the year was made in September. The nominees were Sheridan Percival, Katrina Byrne, Tracy Graham, Kate Marinovich and Kelda Richards.

The winner, voted at the September P&C Meeting, was Tracy Graham, the Wilkins Green Coordinator.

Thank you to all the nominees for their ongoing work and commitment to the P&C.

We submitted Tracy for the Volunteer of the Year with the P&C Federation, but unfortunately due to the high number of nominations she was not a finalist this year.

Tracy was also nominated by Inner West Council for NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards.

Go Tracy!



## P&C Association of The Year

This year the P&C Federation had a new award for P&C Association of the Year. Kelda submitted our wonderful P&C Association and found out soon after we were finalists!

We sent a team of 5 exec members: Kelda, Katrina, Sheridan, Michael, and Aleksandra to the awards night dinner on 29 October.

We were one of 5 finalists for the night. Unfortunately, we didn't take out the top prize, but we did get a certificate, a bouquet of flowers and a \$300 voucher to purchase a new banner.

We had a great night, and it was a wonderful way to finish the year on a high.



L-R Michael, Katrina, Sheridan, Aleksandra, Kelda



# Resources for the School

Our P&C continues to make an enormous contribution to the school through the work of our volunteer parents and carers and financially through fundraising.

The main fundraising this year went towards the large COLA (covered Outdoor Learning Area) that will be installed on the asphalt in the quadrangle. This will be a valuable resource for the school on hot days, rainy days, for after school activities as well as during P&C events where we can set up BBQ's, fair day, and other events under the COLA.

The painting of the last two toilet blocks happened at the beginning of the year

The P&C funded new decodable home readers for grades K-2 in the amount of \$5,000.

## Wet Areas Upgrade

Due to the delay in the upgrade of the old preschool block, the kindergarten students didn't move to their new area until Term 4.

The wet area upgrade is still ongoing and will hopefully finish in early 2023.

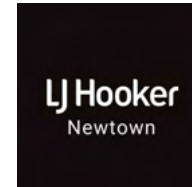
## Small COLA's Installed

It was great to see the 2 small COLA's (Covered Outdoor Learning Area) installed in Term 2 this year. This was funded from the walkathon in 2021.

They are a great addition to the school and will be very useful for outdoor learning. We look forward to seeing how this area changes over the next few years.



# New Sponsorship



## George Milionis – LJ Hooker Newtown Group

This year George Milionis came onboard to sponsor P&C events during the year.

He covered the costs of the federal election BBQ in May which meant all income was profit, and he again sponsored the BBQ at the Birthday Fair.

He also stayed around to cook the sausages at the election BBQ which alleviated the pressure on volunteers for the day. He helped out wherever he could which was wonderful.

At the Birthday Fair George was everywhere, he helped with judging the winner of the photo competition, handed out the medals to the winners on stage with Jo Haylen, and got splashed at Sponge Bob Wet Pants!

It is great to have George involved with the school and we look forward to seeing what we can work on together next year.

If you want to know what's happening in the current real estate market, need an appraisal, or just want real estate advice, please contact George on: 0404 084 575 or email: [georgem@ljhookernewtown.com.au](mailto:georgem@ljhookernewtown.com.au)





# Events

Wilkins P&C has a strong tradition of running amazing events, bringing members of our school community and the wider Marrickville community together.

This year was about bringing the community together again after 2 years of minimal events. The events for 2022 included the following, run by the parent listed:

## Kindy Tea & Tissues – Coordinated by Katrina Byrne

The year one parents once again hosted Tea and Tissues for the new Kindergarten parents on their child's first day of school over two days.

Thank you to Natalie for organising. A big thank you to all the year one parents who helped out on the morning.

## Welcome afternoon Tea for Kindy families, hosted by Year 1 families – Coordinated by Katrina Byrne

The Kindy Afternoon tea was held on Friday 11 March.

We purchased finger food like mini quiche and mini sausage rolls as well as a vegetarian options. We also had a cake stall that was very popular, we used the popcorn machine that sold out and the usual drink stall.

Thank you to Katrina for organising the year one parents to volunteer on the day and baking the delicious items for the cake stall.



## Walkathon – Coordinated by Kelda & Sheridan

We were able to hold our Walkathon, and what a great event it was. Raising over \$18,000!

We got to use the stamps again this year to stamp children's hands to count the laps. Thank you to all the volunteers that kept the children moving and dancing around the track, handed out fresh fruit!

The children from Globe Pre School were also involved in the Walkathon this year. First round they were high fiving the younger students as they walked past the new preschool. And after lunch they joined the older students and did their own lap of the course and enjoyed the fruit that was available. It was wonderful to see them participate.



Thank you to Kirrily for coordinating the online donation site once again. Special mention to Ross who oversaw the set up and pack up of the course.



## International Family Day Movie Night

International Family Day was 15 May 2022.

We planned a fun movie night to be held on the oval. Due to all the rain that we had, the oval was too wet, and we were not able to hold the event this year. There was a discussion about having it in the hall, but we felt it was too small due to the ongoing risks of COVID.

Hopefully we will be able to hold a Family Day event next year and bring everyone together again.



## Federal Election BBQ - Kelda

The Federal election was held on Saturday 21 May. We had our wonderful sausage sizzle with a selection of regular, gourmet and vegan sausages which sold out by 1pm. Of course, we had our ever-popular cake stall that was filled with delicious treats baked by so many school families. Thank you to TASK for looking after the popcorn sales! Alongside the food we ran an auction with donations from local breweries, distilleries, and bars. Jo Haylen MP popped by and sampled our treats too!

Thank you to George Milonis from LJ Hooker Newtown Group for sponsoring the BBQ expenses which meant the income for the day was all profit!



## Wilkins 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Fair - Kelda & Katrina

On Sunday, 11 September, we were able to hold our fantastic 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Fair. What a day it was! The sun was shining, and people were smiling.

We had over 30 stalls, 10 rides on the oval, delicious food stalls, and a stage where Lucy T was in her element being the emcee for the day! There were so many fantastic performances showcasing not only what we do at Wilkins but also what other local businesses do in our community.



Side show alley was a huge hit once again! So many fun games and amazing prizes were won. It looks like it was a fun stall to work on too!



This year we asked for many donations from school families to try and reduce waste and re-use items that we may not be using at home. Joanne G ran the second-hand clothing stall with a strict donation policy, she curated the best clothing stall we have seen at a fair!





Thank you to all the families that donated plants, unwanted new gifts, alcohol, lemons, and so much more. These unwanted items are now in new homes being enjoyed.



Another fun stall was the Sponge Bob Wet Pants stall! This stall replaced the regular dunking machine to much joy. Did you get a change to throw a sponge at one of our teachers, principal, or community members? There was so much excitement at the stall!



So many amazing stalls. We had lots of new ideas and new ways to make the day work smarter not harder.



None of this could have happened without the following volunteers:

Creative Design: Sam	Social Media: Caroline
MC & Photo Comp: Lucy	Electrical & OHS: Ian
Stage & Audio: Jonathon & Matt	Set Up & Pack down: Ross
Kindergarten: Bridget	Year 1: Kate & Nektaria
Year 2: Michelle, Angela & Victoria	Year 3: Amanda
Year 4: Kirrily, Catrina & Kelda	Year 5: Sam, Jo, & Joanne K
Year 6: Hannah & Elaine	Preloved Clothing: Joanne-Marie
Wilkins Green: Tracy	The inclusion Committee: Sarah & Jennifer

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard in the lead up, on the day and afterwards. It was a huge success, and it was so wonderful to have our community back together again.

Special mention to Kate M who seemed to have a never ending shed of wonder! Anything we needed Kate had or could get.

Thank you to all the businesses that donated prizes to the raffle and auction!

Thank you to the sponsors and supporters on the day: LJ Hooker Newtown Group, Little Ballers, Future Swim St Peters, Office Works Lewisham, Bunnings Alexandria, Trophy Land, and Hearthe.



We would like to thank Michael West for starting the day with Welcome to Country, MP Jo Haylen for judging the photo competition and giving out the medals alongside George Milionis who sponsored the BBQ and participated in sponge bob, Mayor Darcy Byrne, and Clr Mat Howard for being able to attend on the day.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese was scheduled to come to the fair. Due to the passing of the queen 3 days prior to the event he was unable to attend.

We can't thank Katrina & Kelda enough for all the work they put into the planning of the day. There were a lot of early mornings and late nights to make sure that the day went off without any issues. Can you believe that both of them hadn't run a fair before! Simply Amazing!

We can't wait for 2024! See you at the Fair!

### **Halloween Disco 2022 - Catriona & Sheridan**

We were able to hold our Halloween disco on Friday 28 October after the last 2 years disco's were cancelled.

It was split into 2 groups K-3 and 4-6. We had DJ Tiny Dancer playing the tunes. The year 6 parents and carers went out of their way to make the most spectacular Stranger Things themed disco. Huge thank you to Joanne G and Eric B for the decorations!

There were snacks and drinks that children could purchase, and every child received a lolly bag on departure. The older children were able to pre order pizza too!

All profits are going to the year 6 end of year activities.



### **Twilight Markets 2022 - Katrina**

The twilight market was not able to be run in 2021. We are currently planning the 2022 Twilight Market.

We look forward to another successful event for 2022. With the addition of selling Christmas trees that can be collected at the market.



# Thanking Wilkins Teachers & Staff

## End of Term 1

The teachers made it through another difficult term 1 with covid still looming and extra measures were in place to make sure the children were safe.

The P&C helped decorate the teachers' lounge for a farewell afternoon celebration for Mr Robert Smith and we also gave a box of sweet treats to get through their last day of term. We can't thank the teachers enough for what they do for our children.



## International Teachers Day 28 October 2022

A discussion was had at a P&C meeting to see how we could celebrate our wonderful teachers on International Teachers Day 2022.

It was decided that we would allocate \$500 for a grazing table for the teachers to snack on during the day.

Thank you to our supporter, Panetta Mercato in Marrickville Metro for helping in coordinating the wonderful food on the day.

Families were also asked to encourage their children to write a letter or draw a picture for their teacher for the day.



# Treasurer's Report

The Wilkins Public School P&C Association annual financial report is prepared for the period starting 1 October 2021 until 30 September 2022.

**Revenues** for the financial year totalled \$190,640 which is 54% higher than the revenue from the previous financial year which was expected given the Fair day income. The revenue consists of income from numerous fundraising activities, uniform shop sales and income from sales of produce from the Green.

**Operating expenses** for the year are total of \$147,483. The expenditure relates to fundraising expenditure and school donations.

The financial accounts show net profit for the year of \$43,157.

Funds at bank at the end of the year are total of \$237,459 available to fund activities and commitments.

The details of the revenue received during the financial year are laid out in the table below:

Wilkins Public P&C FY22 - Income	
Income Breakdown	Income (\$)
<i>Fundraising - Fair Day</i>	\$ 92,745.00
<i>Fundraising - Walkathon</i>	\$ 18,352.00
<i>Fundraising - Election BBQ</i>	\$ 9,800.00
<i>Fundraising - Year 6 End of Year</i>	\$ 8,374.00
<i>Entertainment book and Parent donations</i>	\$ 737.00
<i>Fundraising - kindy bbq</i>	\$ 607.00
<b>Total Fundraising income</b>	<b>\$ 130,615.00</b>
<b>Uniform Shop Sales</b>	<b>\$ 59,336.00</b>
<b>Wilkins Green Produce Sales</b>	<b>\$ 668.00</b>
<b>Wilkins Instrument Hire</b>	<b>\$ (200.00)</b>
<b>Membership income</b>	<b>\$ 104.00</b>
<b>Interest received</b>	<b>\$ 117.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 190,640.00</b>

**The operating expenses** for the year are detailed as per the table below, with major expenditure going towards:

- Funding support made to the school - \$61,715
- Uniform shop purchases - \$40,743
- Fundraising expenditure – 40,291

Wilkins Public P&C FY22 - Expenses	
Expenses Breakdown	Amount (\$)
<b>Funds paid to the school</b>	
<i>Ashdaya Cola and Sails</i>	\$ 24,381.00
<i>Year 6 End of Year activities</i>	\$ 5,179.00
<i>Wilkins Music Program</i>	\$ 5,420.00
<i>Home readers</i>	\$ 2,407.00
<i>Lunch Club</i>	\$ 520.00
<i>Wilkins Pantry</i>	\$ 945.00
<i>Autex quiet space lattice</i>	\$ 4,222.00
<i>Hand Dryers</i>	\$ 8,460.00
<i>Toilet painting</i>	\$ 3,220.00
<i>Eplatform audiobooks</i>	\$ 1,095.00
<i>Kindy welcome afternoon tea</i>	\$ 748.00
<i>Literacy decodables</i>	\$ 5,118.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 61,715.00</b>
<b>Uniform Shop Purchases</b>	<b>\$ 40,743.00</b>
<b>Insurance</b>	<b>\$ 1,780.00</b>
<b>Cost of fundraising activities</b>	<b>\$ 40,291.00</b>
<b>General expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,125.00</b>
<b>Misc expenses (subscriptions, bank charges, wilkins green)</b>	<b>\$ 1,829.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 147,483.00</b>



## Uniform shop

The uniform shop continued operations throughout FY2022 providing the school community with convenience for uniform purchases as well as contributing to P&C income. Total uniform sales were \$59,336 with the shop making a profit for the year of \$18,593. The uniform shop result including four trading quarters is shown in the table below.

### Profit and Loss

Wilkins Public School P&C Association

For the 3 months ended 30 September 2022

Cost Centres is Wilkins Uniform Shop.

Account	Oct-Dec 2021	Jan-Mar 2022	Apr-Jun 2022	Jul-Sep 2022
<b>Trading Income</b>				
Uniform Sales	17,154.85	20,070.92	18,800.15	3,310.07
<b>Total Trading Income</b>	<b>17,154.85</b>	<b>20,070.92</b>	<b>18,800.15</b>	<b>3,310.07</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>				
	<b>17,154.85</b>	<b>20,070.92</b>	<b>18,800.15</b>	<b>3,310.07</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Bank Fees	104.92	209.67	204.20	97.49
General Expenses	0.00	1,017.98	0.00	0.00
Subscriptions	51.51	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uniform Purchases	10,512.35	11,677.68	15,566.76	1,300.00
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>10,668.78</b>	<b>12,905.33</b>	<b>15,770.96</b>	<b>1,397.49</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>6,486.07</b>	<b>7,165.59</b>	<b>3,029.19</b>	<b>1,912.58</b>

## Available Funds for 2022/2023

Funds at bank at the end of the year are total of \$237,459 available to be allocated to school programmes and events as identified, prioritised, and approved.

The P&C Association has identified the COLA as a priority funding for the next financial year.

## Audited Annual Report

The annual accounts for Wilkins Public School P&C association are audited by Matthew Paul, Wilkins parent and Chartered Accountant. Copy of the audited report is attached. On behalf of the P&C association we would like to thank Matt for his work and performing this role.

I would like to thank the members of the P&C association for volunteering their time and supporting the school through another challenging year. I would especially like to thank Kelda Richards for her help and support, and to the assistant treasurer Christalla Dedousis for the money counting and banking.

Aleksandra Jordeska  
P&C Treasurer

## Grants

This year we applied for a few grants. The main ones being for the large COLA which is our main fundraising goal again this year.

Kelda and Belinda have applied three times for a \$200,000 grant from The Office of Responsible Gambling NSW for the COLA (Covered Outdoor Learning Area). So far, we haven't been successful with the first two applications, and we await the outcome of our latest application.

We also applied for a grant through Jo Haylens office for \$5,000 to give the library a refresh. We will hear if we are successful in December 2022.

# Communication

Communication continues to be an area of focus for the P&C. P&C news, updates and announcements are produced weekly and included in the Wilkins Weekly – meaning that families can obtain all school related information in one document. The P&C also shares information through Sentral and the P&C Facebook page.

## Wilkins Social Media Report

The purpose of the Wilkins Public School (WPS) P&C page is to communicate and amplify P&C, WPS and community messages. We aim to create a welcoming, friendly, and supportive environment that promotes inclusivity, diversity and encourages chat and communication. We do this through posting information that is relevant to parents and carers plus we also regularly respond to private messages.

The Wilkins Public School P&C page is followed by 990 people, which has continued to increase (up from 919 last year). The page reaches approximately 1,400 people per month and has reached approximately 10,400 people over the past year. Reach on the page is overall up due to events such as Fair Day and the WPS P&C Nomination for a P&C Federation award.

In terms of specific posts, the average number of people a post reaches is approximately 300 people. The highest post over the last year reached 1,799 people with the most viewed material being topical information or news e.g. the P&C Federation award nomination and event, the election day BBQ, Fair Day, transition to renewable energy and the Halloween disco. Post reach is driven by engagement with the content – comments, shares, and likes.

There is a small and dedicated team of volunteer moderators who manage the WPS P&C page who without them this would not happen. An enormous thank-you to our moderators this year - Alice Ferguson, Naomi Burns, Lynne Chen, Danielle Smit, Sheridan Percival, Angela Tsao and Rachel Ayre. Rachel Ayre is the Social Media Coordinator. We are currently in need of new moderators to join our small team, given a few people are stepping down for next year, so if you are interested, please contact us by private messaging the Wilkins Public P&C page or emailing [wilkinspnc.socialmedia@gmail.com](mailto:wilkinspnc.socialmedia@gmail.com).

Rachel Ayre  
Social Media Co-ordinator

During the lead up to the birthday fair, it was decided that we would start an Instagram page. Thanks to Caroline for setting it up and updating posts on both the Instagram page and the fair day Facebook page.





# Wilkins Lunch Club Report

The Wilkins Lunch Club provides an essential service to the Wilkins Public School Community in providing a fresh fruit and vegetable box for the students at school, every week. Volunteers from our school community facilitate this every week, picking it up from Mayfair Fresh and delivering to the school office each Monday morning.

Enormous thanks to all our lunch club volunteers who have helped with deliveries this year: Anne-Claire, Roxana, Alice & Owen, Duncan, Bronwyn, Carolina, Maree, Jo, John, Brett, Clare, Jennifer, Kate, Charmaine, Emma, Naomi, Katie.

Kate, Emma, Bronwyn, and Maree will be moving on from our Wilkins community next year and therefore we will be adding new volunteers to the roster.

Michelle Steel is the coordinator for lunch club and will continue into 2023.

A massive thanks for the team at Mayfair Fresh, our local, independent grocer who supplies these boxes weekly. Located at 302 Stanmore Rd, Petersham, John, Jess, and the Mayfair Fresh team put together the freshest seasonal fruit and vegetable boxes for our Wilkins kids and always so willing to support our community.

John and Jess sold Mayfair Fresh in late October and we look forward to working with the new owners.

Michelle Steel  
Lunch Club Co-ordinator



# Wilkins Green

## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The Wilkins Green Committee remains committed to the provision of an outdoor classroom with nature-based learning opportunities, for the benefit of Wilkins students and the local community. **Volunteer parents and community members** continue to care for the land in the heart of the Inner West.

### The Environmental Education Program

The program continues to run with each student enjoying 1 hour per week for 7 weeks on a Monday. Joanne Smythe passionately delivered the education program with the support of a parent volunteer Tracy Graham. We were very excited to have Mary Bell join the team when Joanne went on long service leave in Term 3. Stage 3 had classes in Term 1, Stage 2 in Term 2, Stage 1 in Term 3, and Kindy classes in Term 4. The teacher was paid by school entitlement.



Classes participated in planting supporting both the Landcare and junior Landcare project.





**Guardians of the Green** after school program has not been able to proceed in 2022 with the current insurance policy requirements. Educators are now required to have a community use agreement with the school and their own public liability insurance. We endeavour to find suitable educators to run this valuable program.

**Art in the Green** classes are no longer available in the Green. We welcome these opportunities if you or anyone is interested in running programs in the garden.

**TASK** after school care has not been involved with caring for Wilkins Green.

**Globe Pre-School** maintain their garden beds and feed the chickens two mornings a week.



**Community members** - continue to care for the **Chickens** and **Compost** their scraps from home during the week and on weekends, including a thriving **Bushcare** group. New baby Chickens - We adopted 4 teenage chicks. They joined the flock in Wilkins Green and are thriving. The eggs are sold to families and the money used for plants, tools, and materials. **The Compost Collective – Wilkins Waste Warriors** The composting program at Wilkins continues with a number of families collecting their food waste and delivering it to bins set up at the signpost at Wilkins Green.

#### **Compost from cafe**

Volunteer parents continue to collect food scraps from Bespoke and Grind Cafe. This alone has diverted or 2170kg or of food waste from landfill this year. This does not include the compost produced by the Compost Collective.



**Wilkins Green does not buy compost. We make our own!!!**



#### **Wilkins Bushcare Group**

Our dedicated Bushcare team led by Angie Contini and Tony Moody continues to gather on Saturday mornings fortnightly. They help with the Landcare projects ongoing care and have helped with the Junior Landcare and National tree day.

**Produce sales** have not been reinstated as most parents do not go on site. Volunteers bought the eggs and produce, and we also sold it to the local cafe Bespoke and Grind. **TOTAL - \$667 for eggs and produce sales.**

**EVENTS**

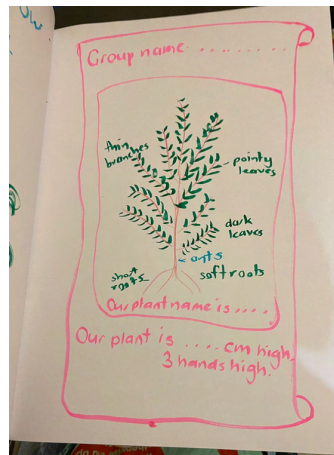
**Working bees** were held when possible, on the last Sunday of the month from 2.30pm – 5.30pm. We had a slow start to the year with wet weather.



**Fair Day** Wilkins Green sold jam, plants and produce at the 40th Fair Day celebration.



**Winter fire & stew gathering**  
Great success on the 28th of July with stew and damper with a performance from Yunion drumming.



**PROJECTS**

**Junior Landcare Project**  
Big thanks to the Bushcare volunteer group, Year 1 & year 2 Parents Andrew, Sienna, Mark, and Mel who helped the Year 1 and 2 kids plant 100 new native sensory seedlings outside the year 6 block and near the new umbrellas. \$975 on stakes, fencing, soil, and plants.



**National Tree Day** planting event was held in July with a fire & stew celebration. Inner West Council delivered 10 large Banksia plants which the Bushcare group planted in the McRae Street carpark.



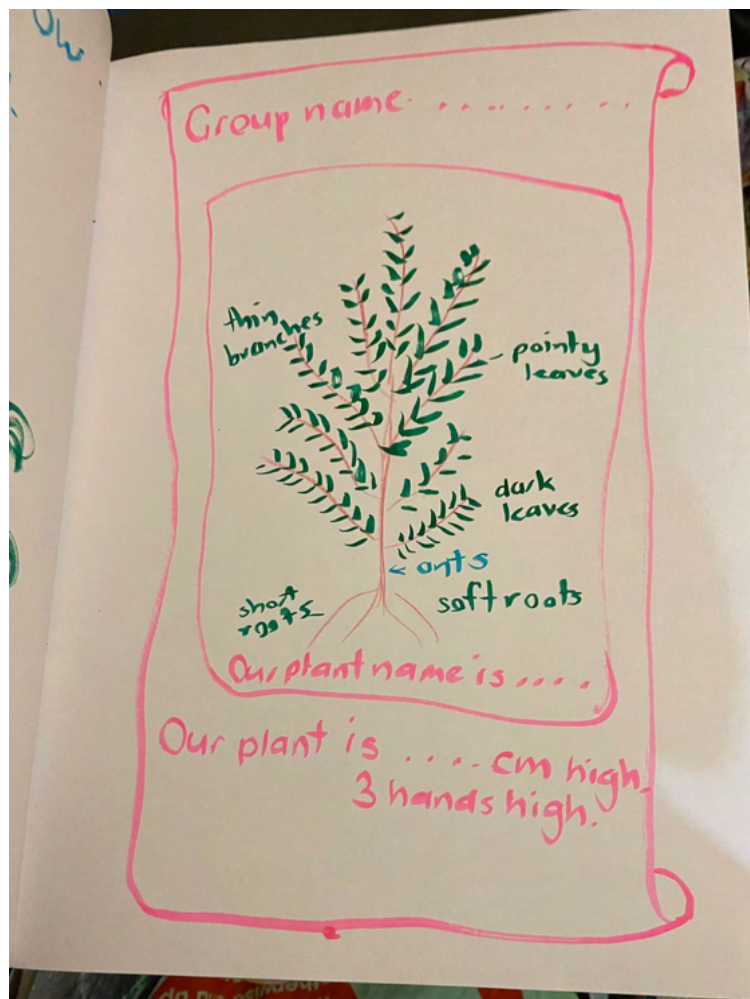
**CURRENT COMMITTEE:**

Tracy Graham, Chloe Wyatt, Emma Toohey, Edwina McDonald, Siobhan Drury, Alice Ferguson.

Follow us on facebook and Instagram for more news

<https://www.facebook.com/wilkinsgreenmarrickville/>

[https://www.instagram.com/our\\_wilkins\\_green/](https://www.instagram.com/our_wilkins_green/)



# Wilkins Inclusion Committee

## March 2022: Inclusion Committee was established

The newest subcommittee of the P&C, the Inclusion Committee was established on 15 March 2022. With the initial focus on students who have disabilities and/or who are neurodiverse - that have diverse ways of thinking, learning, processing, and behaving.

## April 2022: Facebook Community Launched

The private Facebook group 'WilkinsPS Inclusion Committee' was created. The group currently has 32 members and 101 posts from parents in the community.

## May 2022: Key Objectives Established

The five key objectives were defined - Connection, Support, Collaboration, Acceptance and Fundraising.

## June 2022: Charter Document

Our Charter was created and published on our Facebook page.

## September 2022: 'Comfort Cave' Special Project

A quiet space called the Comfort Cave was created at the Wilkins Fair, for children who may become overwhelmed by the crowds, noise and activity of a large event. Over 150 children enjoyed the space, some visiting multiple times throughout the day. We received lots of positive feedback and calls for a permanent space. A sub-committee of parents drew on their lived experience of disability, to design and construct a very successful space.

## Building Stakeholder Partnerships

The Committee has built relationships with organisations, other school Inclusion Committee Coordinators, and local council contacts. We sourced and loaned resources for the Comfort Cave from Plumtree Children's Services, Inner West Council and Wilkins parents, for the Comfort Cave project.

## Investigating funding opportunities

The Committee has identified two opportunities to obtain funds for Inclusive programs and/or equipment at our school to date.





## Projects Underway

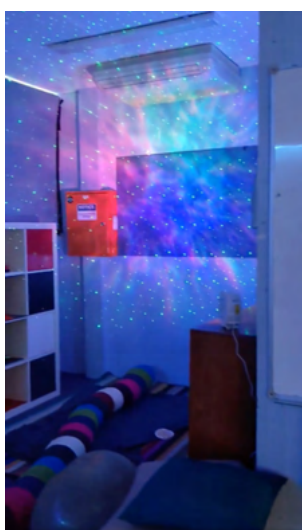
- Kindergarten parent information packs and presenting information at kindergarten orientation session/s.
- Working with library to resource new books with a range of inclusive and Neurodiverse topics.
- Partnering with the school Executive on the development of a permanent sensory space, inspired by the Comfort Cave. In addition, we are discussing a potential sensory playground space.
- Analysing and expanding the existing calendar of events that celebrate diversity, embeds acceptance, and encourages inclusive outcomes.
- Auslan lunchtime program
- Planning speaker events/workshops with external consultants and thought leaders. We are also conducting an audit of current Wilkins parents who have experience/expertise of Inclusion topics.
- Finalising a suite of resources for parents.

The Committee will seek representation and input from the broader school community to address an array of potential inclusion barriers for disadvantaged or at-risk students in 2023.

A huge thanks to a fabulous group of parents and carers, often already stretched, who make the time to get involved, attend meetings, put forward ideas, and support other parents/carers of children with disabilities, or who are neurodiverse. And a big thank you to the School Executives and hardworking teachers for their commitment to inclusion and student wellbeing and recognising the value of working in partnering with families.

We look forward to achieving great things in 2023.

Jennifer Williamson  
Inclusion Committee Coordinator  
inclusion.wilkins@gmail.com



# Wilkins Association of the Visual Arts (WAVA)

While the school gets back to normal after COVID, WAVA hasn't been able to get back into full swing yet.

We are looking forward to 2023 being the year it all comes back, and we bring more visual arts to the school.

Susan Chen  
WAVA Co-ordinator

# Wilkins Music Association (WMA)

Once again, it was a difficult start of the year for music.

But once restrictions were lifted the students were ready to perform!

It was wonderful that the students were able to perform at the Birthday Fair and in the upcoming Ensembles night being held on 17 November 2022.

Thank you to all our teachers, ensemble conductors, tutors, support staff and members of Wilkins community who facilitated opportunities for our students to be enriched in music this year.

## Thank you

We would like to thank all the parents/carers for encouraging their children to practice their instruments. We would like to thank students to remain persistent in practicing music.

If you would like to volunteer with the music association, please contact Mr Kurt Olofsson:  
[Kurt.A.Olofsson@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Kurt.A.Olofsson@det.nsw.edu.au)





# Solar Installation Project

The 43kW solar panel system was installed on the school hall in Term 4 2021, which will account for 19% of the school's electricity consumption. They were finally turned on this year and we had a celebration on 24 June. In attendance was Jo Haylen MP, Mayor Darcy Byrne, Cllr Mat Howard, and the solar team from Inner West Council.

The Inner West Council was invited to run a series of solar activation activities to celebrate and promote the new solar system at our school.

Mayor Darcy Byrne and Jo Haylen MP addressed a special solar assembly for stage 2-3 students led by the student leaders.

The year 5 students were then challenged to build and then race solar cars on racetracks assembled in the playground, whilst the year 4 students assembled SolarBuddy portable solar lights from kits donated by Council. The lights will replace harmful kerosene lamps used by children overseas who are experiencing energy poverty.



Thank you once again to the wonderful Solar team of Jess, Chloe, and Roxana who have been involved in the project since 2019.



# Wilkins Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is an important part of our school community – keeping costs low and providing high-quality, long-lasting uniforms and school bags to our students. The year has shown that the significant improvements previously made to the service has seen the shop continuously grow.

We have added a few new items in the uniform shop this year.

- We have a new backpack that looks smart.
- As the classroom doors were open for covid safe measures, students were getting cold in class. We brought in a new green hoodie that was very popular.
- And after many requests we have a new jersey short as well.

We also found that some students were out growing the sizes that we had in store. We now stock a small number of larger items that go up to an adult large size.

We continue to sell all our uniforms as non-gender specific. Students are encouraged to wear the uniform that they are comfortable in.

## Ordering Process

We are using Shopify to receive all online orders from Wilkins parents. This has improved the ease of online ordering and stock tracking. We would like to thank our parent volunteer Hanh for continuing to update the Shopify site and providing ongoing support using the system.

## Planning for Summer

Term 4 is one of our busiest terms with Kindergarten and OC orders coming in and planning for the start of the new school year. Our aim is to keep stock levels to a minimum while still being able to fulfil new orders.

## Thank you to our Wonderful Volunteers!

The uniform shop is open Tuesday 2.45 - 3.15pm and Friday 8.45 – 9.15am every week during school terms. We would like to thank: Trang, Kelda, Kate, Michelle, Katrina, Kirrily, Sheridan, and Ally for volunteering at the shop every week and keeping it fun at the same time. Special mention to Hanh for keeping the website up to date. We couldn't do it without you all!

If you would like to help in the uniform shop, please email:  
[wilkinsuniformshop@gmail.com](mailto:wilkinsuniformshop@gmail.com)

Trang Dao  
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator





# Conclusion

We started 2022 full of excitement of great expectations of a fun year ahead. With a slow start with COVID still looming over us, we ended the year on a high!

All P&C meetings continue to be held online. We held a total of 9 meetings this year including one special meeting. Every meeting met Quorum, and it is always nice to see new faces at meetings. Each meeting had around 20 – 30 attendees and if there was a special topic there was more!

I would like to encourage everyone to come along to a meeting or two. Despite differing opinions you may hear in a P&C meeting, I'd like to think that you will find a forum which is respectful of everyone's ideas and thoughts. Consultation between the parent body and the school is such an important part of the education of our children. The P&C meetings are a great way to hear what is happening within the school, to raise praise or concerns you may have and to find out if there may be something you can assist with.

A special thank you to Acting Principal Davida Thomas who continued to work with the P&C in 2022. The P&C looks forward to continuing open dialogue with the WPS executives and teaching staff. Ultimately the P&C and school staff are looking to assist and support the learning opportunities of all the children at Wilkins.

## Thank You to Departing Parents

A very big thank you to long standing P&C members who are leaving the school this year and who have generously donated their time and skills over the years. Following are the parents leaving who held an executive position on the P&C during their time at Wilkins:

- **Theona Bustos** – Secretary 2014–2015, Walkathon coordinator 2014, started the Twilight Markets in 2015, coordinated four Father's Day Breakfasts, and many fundraisers for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.
- **Melita Jazbec** – WMA Secretary 2014-2017, WMA Coordinator 2018–2021, WMA instrument hire 2019-2021. Coordinating Music Extravaganzas, The Big Assembly, Ensembles nights, and Winter recitals. As well as other performances such as Festivals of Instrumental Music, Festival of Choral Music, and Fairs.
- **Liz McKay** – WAVA coordinator 2018 – 2020 and assisting with WAVA for many years prior. Also coordinating the year 6 end of year mural for 2022.
- **Hugh Morrison** – Treasurer 2018 – 2019.
- **Sheridan Percival** – Secretary 2018-2019, Vice President 2020-2022, Coordinating the Walkathon 2021-2022, Coordinating the Halloween disco–2022, volunteering in the uniform shop 2022, and ran the Entertainment Book fundraising from 2018-2022.
- **Chloe Wyatt** – Wilkins Green Coordinator 2016-2019, obtained the grant for the compost toilet and helped with the installation project, operated 'Guardians of the Green' after-school club, set-up 'Art in the Green' after school art club, changed the environmental education program from an 'extra-activity' run by volunteers for some students, to being embedded in the school timetable for every student in the school with permanent staff commitment to teaching the program, started the Wilkins Green Facebook page and mailing list for newsletters, helped get a grant and set up the compost program,

Thank you to all departing parents and carers this year who have volunteered and contributed to our school community over the time you've been with us! It wouldn't be what it is now without you!

Thank you to the office staff: Belinda, Susan, Catriona, and Jackie. You have been amazing help for me and the P&C over the year. Thank you for putting up with my numerous questions and requests, accepting donations, giving out prizes, and answering so many questions about upcoming events.

I would like to personally thank each and every one of you who have helped this year, whether you turned a sausage or 200, baked a cake, helped at a stall, checked the sound/lights, found some fabulous donations, created a beautiful prop, helped in a classroom, in the Green, in the uniform shop, or simply attend some P&C meetings THANK YOU. Even an hour of your time makes a big difference in the scheme of things and your children notice your willingness to help others.

Thank you to the P&C executive team: Alexandra, Sheridan, Michael, Kate, Cheryl, Christalla, and Katrina! Thank you for all your help and advice and hours of work you have given throughout the year.

A special thanks to the subcommittee coordinators who continue to go above and beyond all to make the school experience better for everyone: Tracy, Rachel, Trang, Jennifer, Michelle, and Susan.

On a personal note, as it is my final year after 3 years as president and 1 year as vice president, I would like to thank everyone for the support throughout this time. It was definitely a rollercoaster being thrown into 2020 and holding my first and only meeting in the school library before covid hit. We have held every meeting since online.

From cancelling all events and selling toilet paper in 2020, to finally having the walkathon, and our wonderful Fair up and running again in 2022. It has been great to see families back on site and bringing our community feel back.

It has been such a pleasure to meet so many lovely families throughout my time as president. The best things I have heard during my time as president is people making new friends and families coming together at our events.

The changes that I am most proud of during my time on the P&C is the introduction of new green tops, making uniforms non gendered, implementing international family day, helping families in need during lockdown with the food pantry, and bringing the community spirit back to the school. I'm sure there is plenty more that I just can't think of now.

I will still be helping out with the P&C, there is more to do behind the scenes that I haven't been able to get to while being president. I know for sure that the P&C will go on and be just as wonderful with the next president.

See you around the school grounds!

*Kelda*

Kelda Richards, President  
Wilkins Public School P&C  
Association

