2015 was another tremendous year of fundraising by the P&F which provided much financial assistance to our school. I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped with these events, it is great to see so many people will to give both their time and talents and their efforts are greatly appreciated. Again thanks goes to Sonia Stenhouse who created our Event Planner that allows us to keep track of our events and volunteers throughout the year.

The P&F concurred to focus efforts this year on four main fundraisers; Grape Pick, Japanese Exchange Students, Dardanup Art Spectacular and Bull and Barrel. Unfortunately due to circumstances beyond our control the Grape Pick was not able to go ahead as planned.

March saw 23 exchange students from Japan stay with families within the Dardanup area. Whilst here they were able to admire what a beautiful part of Western Australia we live in and visit many local tourist attractions. My hosting these students the P&F made $3350. Thank you to Mel Birrell for coordinating the student exchange as well as the host families who gave their time to show what Dardanup had to offer.

The P&F once again helped out at the Dardanup Art Spectacular. We must acknowledge Tammy Clift for her wonderful coordinating of the catering for this event and thank all the parents who cooked and supplied the plates of food. From these efforts we were able to raise $1493.

Term two saw the completion of the Early Childhood Playground. This project started late in 2014 and was partly funded by the P&F. The final product is AMAZING. The children love their new play space and it is great to see them able to explore, learn and play in such an incredible environment.

The P&F held a disco for the students in Term 3. It was a great turn out and from all the smiling faces and great dance moves on display, it showed that everyone had fun. Thank you to Ebony Harris and Camille Dunstan for coordinating the disco and to the other parents that helped out on the night and in turn generated $1312.

The Bull & Barrel festival is always a main fundraiser for both our P&F and also the Dardanup Community. This year our P&F ran the parking for the Festival. A big thank you to all the volunteers that braved the heat, some even doing more than one shift to ensure it ran smoothly throughout the day. We also ran a ‘dunking machine’ to raise extra revenue. This was a great success with many students and community members loving the opportunity to ‘dunk’ our staff members in the spirit of fun! Big thank you to the staff who volunteered to do this! From both these activities the P&F were able to make $3200. This is a fantastic effort and we thank everyone that helped.

The school canteen, open only once a week and ran solely by parent volunteers, once again generated a great profit for the school. Overall $4346 for the year was raised. A big thank you to Julie Pelusey for all the hours she puts in behind the scenes as canteen manager, ensuring menus and recipes are readily available and coordinating the group of volunteers so that the canteen is always staffed. Thank you also to the leaders whom ‘run’ the canteen as well as count and shop for orders; Clare Clements, Denise Rodwell, Jasmine White, Helen Castafaro, Tina Telini-Mazza, Louise Brookes & Danni Barbera. Thanks must also be extended to all other volunteer as well as the families that order of a regular basis in order for the canteen to be successful.
Briony Page and Jenelle Comisso ran the Uniform shop on behalf of the P&F. 2015 saw the introduction of a ‘Junior Tracksuit’ for the Pre-Primary compulsory uniform, and also for Kindergarten children (non-compulsory). Offering the junior tracksuit has resolved any prior problems with the sizing of the standard winter sports uniform being too big and bulky for the younger primary aged children. The P&F was advised that our uniform stockists, Permapleat, would be putting up prices of nearly ALL our uniform garments in 2016. Briony and Jenelle ensured the school community was aware of this fact early on in Term 4, so families could opt to purchase uniforms for 2016 before the price rise came into effect.

Our AGM Meeting held on the 24th November and was attended by many in our school community. After hearing from the President, Anthony Congdon, that the ‘P&F Voluntary Levy’ that is attached to the school fees was only paid by 80% of families it was questioned should the Levy be made compulsory or raised to generate more funds. A discussion about this was held but when it came to a vote the majority opted to keep the Levy amount as it is at $125.00.

The combined efforts of the P&F in 2015 allowed us to purchase iPads, Reading Eggs (app), Mathletics (app), books, games and sporting equipment for the school. We were also able to continue supporting the completion of the Early Childhood Playground and assist financially with the Year 5 and 6 school camps.