

# NEW PRINCIPALS AROUND THE DIOCESE

## **Kate Quin** **St Mary's School, Swan Hill**



Kate grew up in rural NSW before heading to boarding school and completing her secondary education in Brisbane. After graduating from ACU Kate took up a position at St Mary's, Swan Hill where she spent ten years working in a variety of classroom and specialist positions. Kate then combined part-time teaching in local primary and secondary schools with running a successful franchise business with her husband, before taking up a position as Head of Migrant English at SuniTAFE, Swan Hill. Returning to St Mary's in 2009, Kate has held a number of roles including Curriculum Leader, Deputy Principal and more recently Co-Principal alongside Ginny Gook. Kate is passionate about providing an educational environment that enables students to view their future with hope, secure in the knowledge that they are lifelong learners and with the ability to realize their full potential. Kate's family, and her love of travel, cooking and reading take care of any of her spare time.

## **Catherine Grace** **Our Lady Help of Christians, Murtoa**



Catherine joins Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School at Murtoa as the newly appointed Principal. Catherine was born and raised on a farm in Aubrey, 14 kms west of Warracknabeal. She completed her initial tertiary studies in Ballarat to become a primary teacher. Cathy has continued her studies by successfully completing a Graduate Diploma in Graphic Communication in Education, a Graduate Diploma in Religious Education and a Masters in Education with a focus on Leadership and her Leadership Capabilities. Cathy's teaching career began in 1987 at Benalla West Primary school teaching Grade 5/6. Upon her marriage to Peter Grace, she moved to Melbourne and taught at Doveton North Primary school, teaching Grades 1/2. Cathy and Peter moved to Horsham in 1991 and soon after began teaching at Ss Michael & John's Catholic School in Horsham. Her teaching experience at SMJ included teaching every year level and then moving into the Deputy Principal role for over thirteen years. Cathy is very happy and excited about her new position of Principal at Our Lady Help of Christians in Murtoa.

## **Narelle Gallagher** **Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Merbein**



Narelle has been working in Catholic Education for 25 years, initially as a CRT, then in part-time and full-time positions. Narelle began teaching at St Paul's Primary School before moving on to Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Merbein, in 2008. While at OLSH Narelle has worked as REL for 7 years, Reading Recovery teacher for 4 years and as a release teacher and intervention teacher. In 2014 Narelle took on the Deputy Principal role and continued in this position until the end of 2017. As Principal Narelle would like to continue to be a part of growing the supportive, caring community that OLSH provides by encouraging teachers to recognise their own ability to become leaders and by building family and school relationships to provide greater educational outcomes for our students.

## **Chris Mitchell** **St Mary's School, Robinvale**



Chris joins St Mary's F-8 School Robinvale after 25 years working in the Diocese of Ballarat. This is Chris's first venture into principalship, having previously taught in Nhill, St Arnaud, Ballarat and Swan Hill. He has also had two stints working with the Catholic Education Office, initially as a Mathematics Curriculum Advisor and then later on, as a Learning and Teaching Education Officer. The majority of his teaching career has been spent in the northern parts of the diocese where the sun rarely fails to shine. After a long stint with CEOB he is really looking forward to spending time in one school, where he can put into practice all the learning's that have contributed to his journey as an educator so far.

## **Ginny Gook** **St Mary's School, Swan Hill**



Ginny began her teaching career in 1978 at St Mary's School Swan Hill after relocating from Kyneton with her husband Bernie. In her forty years at this wonderful school she has been a classroom teacher, Special Education and Wellbeing Leader and Deputy Principal for fourteen years and currently Co-Principal alongside Kate Quin. Ginny feels privileged to be part of a leadership team that is passionate and committed to providing the best learning environment for all children and cultivating strong relationships and partnerships with the St Mary's community. One of her favourite parts of the school day is spending time in the playground and chatting with the children. In her spare time Ginny loves going to the footy and barracking for the Blues and spending time with her three adorable grandchildren.

## **Garth Kydd** **St James' School, Sebastopol**



Garth has been a member of the St James' Parish Community for the past five years. He commenced his childhood learning journey at St Aloysius Redan before moving to Lumen Christi Delacombe and finishing at St Patrick's College Ballarat. After completing his Bachelor of Education in Ballarat he began his teaching journey in Melbourne then jet setted to London for three years before returning to Melbourne. With the birth of his first two children a move back to Ballarat ensued and St James' called. Five years on and two more children later Garth's passion for innovative learning continues. He is guided by the words of Teresa of Avila, "Christ has no body but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours."

## **Cathy Whelan** **St Mary's School, Ararat**



Cathy has been an educator in the Diocese of Ballarat for thirty years. Her roles have included: Classroom teacher across all areas of the school, Religious Education Coordinator, Literacy Coordinator, Arts Coordinator, Middle School Coordinator and Deputy Principal. She is passionate about providing educational experiences that engage all students. Cathy enjoys working with students, staff and families to build relationships, that create positive outcomes for all.

## **Bill Hill** **St Mary's School, Ararat**



Bill was born in the UK and attended a Catholic College of Birmingham University before beginning his teaching career in an inner-city Catholic primary school in the West Midlands. He moved to Western Australia in 1995 and held teaching and leadership roles at St Benedict's School Applecross, Mater Christi Primary School, Yangebup and Queen of Apostles School, Riverton. In 2010 Bill was appointed to the position of Principal of St Columba's, Ballarat North. He left this role at the end of 2013 to spend more time with his family before returning to education at OLHC Wendouree as a teacher and REL. Bill is passionate about the development of contemporary educational philosophies where all children have the opportunity to succeed and become engaged in their learning. He is privileged to work with the staff and community at St Mary's as they work to build a school with a culture of high achievement and a clear Catholic identity.

We are also delighted to welcome:

- Joe Ewing (for his first year as solo principal) - St Pius X School Warrnambool West
  - Leigh Bradshaw (for her first year as solo principal) - Our Lady Help of Christians Wendouree
  - In a new partnership, Peter Fahey (continuing) along with Garth Kydd (commencing) as Co-Principals of St James' School Sebastopol
  - Shaun Mohr (2018 only) - St Columba's School Ballarat North
  - Tony Perkins (2018 only) - Emmaus Catholic Primary School Mount Clear
- ... and to Stephen Hill who is Acting Headmaster at St Patrick's College Ballarat whilst John Crowley is on leave in Term 1.

## NEW CEO STAFF IN THE DIOCESE

### Emma Rutherford



Emma Rutherford has taken leave from her position as Deputy Principal (Operations & Management and Curriculum) at Mildura's Sacred Heart Primary School to take up the role of Education Officer - Teaching and Learning for 2018. Emma brings a particular passion for curriculum development and effective pedagogy to the role and feels privileged to have the opportunity to work and learn alongside a number of schools in the Northern Zone.

### Samantha Meerbach



Samantha Meerbach has joined the CEO team for 2018 to assist schools with NCCD. Samantha taught in Colac, at Sacred Heart for many years before moving to St Augustine's in Maryborough. Her most current roles have included Inclusive Learning Leader (Special Ed) and Co-Deputy Principal leading Curriculum and Contemporary Learning. Samantha is most excited about the journey ahead so she can work with staff on the Consistent Collection of Data that drives decision making to improve student learning for students with disabilities.

Welcome also to Catholic Education Office Ballarat:

- Sandra Harvey - Assistant Director: System Improvement
- Mark Hogbin - Educational Consultant Central Zone (2018 school year)

### THANKS TO OUTGOING PRINCIPALS:

Mary Knight (St Mary's F-8 School Robinvale)

Greg Lane (St Mary's School Swan Hill)

Mary Frawley (St James School Sebastopol)

Peter McElgunn (St Pius X School Warrnambool West)

Gary Typuszak (Our Lady Help of Christians School Murtoa)

Brendan Maher (Emmaus Catholic Primary School Mt Clear)

Chris Brouwers (Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School Merbein)

Tom Hogan (St Mary's School Ararat)

Stephen Russell (Our Lady Help of Christians Wendouree)

Our prayers and good wishes are also with Kim Butler (St Columba's School Ballarat North) who is volunteering during 2018 in India and Timor-Leste.

Thanks to departing CEOB colleague Danielle Peters (most recently Education Officer: Social Justice), who left CEOB recently to take up a role with St Vincent De Paul.