



HONOURING THE COMMITMENT OF GAYE 'BRIGGSY' BRIGGS

As we continue to honour the long-serving members of our All Saints community, it is impossible to overlook the contributions of Gaye Briggs, or as she is fondly known, "Briggsy." Gaye's journey with All Saints Catholic Primary School spans more than two decades, during which she has worn many hats and left an indelible mark on our school. Today, we look back at her incredible journey, celebrating the milestones and memories that have shaped her time with us.

When her 1st child started at All Saints in 1996, Briggsy began her journey as a volunteer, in classrooms, the Parents & Friends (P&F) Association, and 4 years on the School Board (2 as Chairperson). In 2000 she enjoyed one of 2 volunteer positions supporting Leadership. She supported the Principal one day a week, performing administrative and OHS&W tasks, and in 2001 she was supporting Reception classes as an ESO. In 2004, she won the position of Front Office Receptionist.

Throughout her tenure, Briggsy has held several key positions and reflecting on her time as the Front Office Receptionist, she shared, *"Four days a week, I was doing Receptionist, Enrolments, & ICT at the school."* As the presence of technology grew, she later became the ICT Coordinator and, after completing her ICT studies, was appointed as the Network Administrator.

When Briggsy first began at All Saints, the Leadership team included Bruno Viecei, Tina Adamo, and Anne Weygood. She remembers the camaraderie in the office, which was always busy, and full of life. She fondly recalls the welcoming atmosphere of All Saints, where parents, staff, and students all played a part in creating a warm and inclusive environment.

When asked what her fondest memories of All Saints were, she said, *"Being part of a growing new school! From the early days of developing the logo and vision statement to face painting at the school fete. Playing in the Staff/Parents Thanksgiving Liturgy band was also incredibly enjoyable."*

She also has happy memories of "watching my 3 children grow and learn here, due to a fantastic team of teachers and leadership."



Reflecting on the changes over the years, Briggsy noted the Seaford area changes, "The growth of the whole area really. Grand Boulevard stopped where the roundabout now is, and you couldn't drive any further north—it was a dirt road at that end." She also reminisced about the school's early days with technology, sharing, "We had one computer in the library and one in the front office. The Principal, Deputy, and RE all had one, but that was all for staff. We now have over 600 users, 1:1 computing for most of the school and shared devices for the rest."

One of Briggsy's favourite memories is of Principal Bruno Viecele dressing up as Strega Nonna (grandma witch) from the book by Tomie dePaola for the Book Week parade, complete with stockings! She also fondly remembers, "The administration staff came as the seven dwarves to Book Week one year. It was such a laugh!" We asked Briggsy what are some interesting facts today's students wouldn't know about All Saints Catholic Primary School? All Saints has had soccer teams since 1998 – that's 26 years! The Tjilbruke Mosaic has been completely done twice, both times with students working on it supported by local artists.

Briggsy gives thanks for the previous dedicated parent communities and staff that have supported All Saints as it has grown. "The P&F was always a massive part of the school," she recalls, "meeting and having coffee in the office across the hall from the old Principal's office!" We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to Briggsy for her unwavering dedication and hard work over the years. Her commitment to the All Saints community, her adaptability in taking on various roles, and her genuine care for the students and staff have made a lasting impact on our school. Thank you, Briggsy, for being an integral part of our journey!

