

St Ann's Special School

A division of Catholic Special Schools Inc.

Phone: 8296 8777
 Fax: 8298 2772
 Email: stannssp@senet.com.au

37 Finnis St
 Marion SA 5043

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Dear Jane

Firstly I just want to say how sensitively and professionally you handled the interview last night with [REDACTED]. You have the beautiful gift of being able to instil confidence in people and were so caring and compassionate. I have every confidence in you but I'm conscious that all of this must take its toll on you and so just wanted to say how terrific you were and are!

Just a couple of follow up reflections/ bits of info which may help.

Names of current staff who were at St Ann's in 91

[REDACTED] (Tchr of Junior class. Commenced 1981. Said openly at staff meeting on Tues that he believed nothing ever happened at school)

Martin Aartsen Commenced 9/84

[REDACTED] Commenced 86

[REDACTED] Commenced 91. (Art tchr) Hopefully [REDACTED] will phone one of the contact people very soon to share some info. I gave her a bit of a "nudge" today to do so.

[REDACTED] ESO Commenced 86.

[REDACTED] ESO Commenced 88. Currently on LSL

[REDACTED] ESO Commenced 86. Has spoken with me and hasn't got info to share other than now Brian offered to take her own child who is not disabled away fishing and the child (10 yrs) commented that BP gave him the creeps or words to that effect.

[REDACTED] Parent at that time but now an ESO. She is also adamant that nothing ever happened at school and her boy was not involved. She did see Brian just after he finished here and phoned Claude but he advised her that there was insufficient evidence for the police to act on.

Regarding the missing file – I can't say this in front of Claude, and I don't know if Allan has told you or not, but apart from BP's file, his time books are not here also. Time books for all staff are kept in the one central place, not in principal's office. Some go back for years eg mid 80's. While we are not sure of his starting date as bus driver, he

was employed for 87 – 91 and so would have gone through several time books. Other staff files go back for 20 years or so.

I'm really happy to go off and do other things around school when Claude comes tomorrow.. I will be guided by what you think would be the most helpful. You & Claude can look thru **any** filing cabinets etc.

I purposely haven't said anything about the woodwork shed or bus runs with any staff, but you may want to sound Martin out on that one. A name REDAC mentioned last night was REDACTED He left here in Dec 2000 and may be over seas now, I'm not sure. He should know it at that time it was only the older students who were involved in woodwork. He worked with the older students and also did woodwork. Being that much younger, I query whether or not LB would have done any woodwork. By the way LB's date of birth is RED 77. I don't think I gave you that before.

The Deb Ball that REDAC referred to when talking about the photos was held in Sept 91.

Hope this may be of some help. I'm glad that REDACTED is willing to chat with you. Take care and thanks again for your continued support.

Loreto

PS On a lighter note we have had a tummy bug doing the rounds today which was interesting. Staff were following one girl round the school with a bucket as she was vomiting. She sat in the front office for a while and as she started dry retching again she calmly walked into my office and sat in my chair. Nothing like making yourself feel at home for when you are going to vomit!