

St Ann's Special School

A division of Catholic Special Schools Inc.

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Allan Dooley
 Director
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*Received with
 attachments from
 Sr Loreto, 30/1/02.
 ASD*

Copy to Tony Fuller ✓

Dear Allan

Please find revised list of names of students who may have been involved with BP. The last name, [REDACTED], was found in Paul Morrissy's notes. He spent many hours looking through 4 bags of papers in his shed and in doing so found notes of 2 conversations with Claude. I have also told Paul that if by chance an ex parent from St Ann's ever asks him about the problem, he is to refer them to [REDACTED]. Paul's daughter is involved in a range of activities for people with disabilities.

I mentioned [REDACTED]' name to Martin & [REDACTED] today and they both agreed that while they hadn't thought of him before, he would have certainly been a possibility. They believe that he was [REDACTED] but went under the name of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] & [REDACTED] still live at the [REDACTED] address.

Just a couple of comments re Paul's notes:

He still can't remember discussing the matter with Claude, but as his wife said he was under a lot of stress and was working till 10pm most nights at that time. However he does take notes on everything!

After I first heard of these allegations early this year, I have often wondered why Claude didn't tell me, as we used to talk about lots of things. I couldn't believe it when I saw the note that "Staff & Sr Loreto knew". I have absolutely wracked my brains since then to try and remember anything. The only recollection I have is that late one night many years ago Claude rang me. He was quite upset and it was a brief conversation. I honestly have no idea of what it was about and unlike Paul I didn't take notes. As the story about BP unfolds, I have never had the slightest recollection that any of it was familiar. If he made reference to a **staff member** being a possible pedophile, I'm sure I would have remembered. Who knows?!!

I suspect that Martin would query the note that he "sat in on all meetings with Claude", but I will leave you to follow that one up if you so decide. Martin isn't aware of the comment in the notes taken by Paul.

REDACTED as mentioned in Paul's notes, would have been P & F President then. She is now an ESO and was present when you & the Bishop spoke to staff. When we were sorting out which staff wanted to speak with Jane, RE told me personally that she didn't need to chat with her. She was quite angry then that the matter had surfaced again.

According to Martin Aartsen's employment record's here, he took over as acting principal for Term 4 1991 beginning 3/10/91. I am **absolutely** positive that I never discussed the matter with Martin, and he used to check things with me whenever he was acting principal. If I knew about BP, surely I would have spoken about it with Martin, as support for him.

I am also enclosing several sick leave certificates for BP which I found in the sick leave book last Friday. Unfortunately his starting date is not indicated on the page, unlike records for other staff. I will check through all school Board minutes when I get time, but need to get some from St Pat's, as St Ann's records are incomplete for a couple of years. I was hoping that they would show details about his employment. The meeting on 17th April does contain a reference which Paul Morrissy found. I can't work out details of when Brian was casual or permanent. Claude may know.

After the meeting with the Bishop in Dec, when there was some reference about Dale West knowing, I asked David Prince if he could remember if this matter was ever raised at School Board or Board of Governors meeting. He was adamant that this did not occur. David does not know of any of the developments re the case or of the meeting with the Bishop and I'm very conscious of confidentiality about it.

The enclosed staff list for 1991 was given to Board members but doesn't mention any bus drivers, perhaps because they were all casual employees.

The Board Minutes 20 Nov, Pg 3 point 7, refers to a workshop training session. REDACTED had said earlier this year that she and Claude had done Mandatory Notification Training and she verified that today. Claude & REDACTED then ran a lengthy training session for other staff here afterwards. She said it was very thorough and can certainly remember it. Paul's notes in red biro, which he has circled, reiterates that the staff were trained in Mandatory Reporting.

At that time both Claude & I only gave a verbal report to the Board and the secretary then worked out what to include in the minutes. This explains why the reference to this training session is a bit convoluted. We now give a written report to the Board secretary.

I haven't yet typed up the list for Jane of 9 staff who were mentioned in sick leave book from 1986 - 91, but there isn't a file on them at school. There were also 10 time books for people, presumably for casual staff, who didn't have a file. Some were only employed for a short period. A number of these were bus drivers, and I know from experience that there is often a high turn over of drivers. I will type these lists when I get time, but I want to first check that all my figures are correct .

I have been thinking about my renewal leave which is planned for Term 2 of this year. It would certainly be beneficial for me to take leave, but I am also trying to balance my needs against those of the school community. Not knowing when this is all going to "blow up", makes planning quite difficult. I can't help but feel that at the critical time it

would be really beneficial to have continuity of principal here. I also know that I will find it really hard to be away from school for any length of time if things are really tough here. That would then defeat the purpose of renewal leave if I am still focusing so much on St Ann's.

Perhaps as a compromise, I wonder whether you would be open to the suggestion that maybe I took some leave next term, perhaps in 2 blocks of a couple of weeks, and then depending on how the other problem evolves I could take the remainder of leave in one block next year. I believe that it would be really hard for an acting principal to come in "brand new" given the complexities of this problem and the school generally. Maybe the Bishop would be more willing to allow Martin to take on the role of acting principal for short periods this year, even though he is not a Catholic. We also wouldn't need as much notice to get a replacement teacher for Martin if it was only for a few weeks. I haven't mentioned any of this to Martin. Just a suggestion!

School went well today with lots of new faces and excitement generally. It's great to see the students again and staff are in good form.

Thanks for your ongoing support. I hope things are going OK for you. I sure don't envy your job!

Kind regards

Loreto

Loreto

PS The courier man has arrived early and I haven't had time to check this – hope it makes sense!

I did have a conversation with Jane today re my renewal leave.