

FRIENDS OF BRILLIANT STAR



ANNUAL REPORT
2023 / 2024



A MESSAGE FROM KARLA

From the Chairman

Dear friends of FOBS,

As I look back over the year of 2023-2024, I am thrilled and proud of the work and assistance we have been given from our supporters, our board and village boards, teachers and coordinators on the ground in both Solomon Islands and in Papua New Guinea.

Our strategy for the past year was to implement the curriculum for the Pacific that would support children in their learning, that help educate the whole child using themes that are based on their reality and including the virtues program. We achieved this goal in both PRUTAN Brilliant Star School and MUYU Brilliant Star school for the first year.

This past year has seen a need to raise more funds to support Aragip village in the development of their classroom and to open the first kindergarten in the Daga region. Our boards are learning how to accompany the local community in developing the basic framework of early childhood education. This includes how to train teacher and assistants to raise the overall standard of leaning experience and outcomes in being able to train teachers in remote areas and to set a framework in place so that in the future we can assist more schools.

We are moving forward in learning how to accompany the local community in a way that highlights the community ownership of the project. The first steps have already been made: the local community has set up a school board and a constitution. At the last community and board meeting they decided to create teams that are in charge of different aspects of running the school, such as tools, curriculum and classroom resources, maintenance, beautification of the school grounds etc.

We are learning together to read their reality of this remote community and identify skilled individuals in the community need to develop to generate income that would in turn fund the school.

On a more personal note, from the Board, we have seen Siobhan Chapman step down from the Board and we wish to congratulate her on the birth of her beautiful baby girl.

We also congratulate Rhiannon Jones on the birth of her gorgeous twin girls. We welcomed Samira Gabriel to the board who will be assisting me in the music section of the program and Julie Dawia who is a retired teacher.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors and supporters their continued trust in Friends of Brilliant Star. We are so grateful as without you we could not do the work we do to improve the lives and future of these beautiful children.

Warm Regards,

KARLA VALLELY
FOUNDER AND CHAIRPERSON



BRILLIANT STAR PRUTAN

Brilliant Star School Malaita

The past year has seen ongoing development in our school in Malaita as they implement the new curriculum for kindergarten and preschool and train 2 assistances. This allows them to have an ongoing program and the resources to continue the two grades. Friends of Brilliant Star has supported PRUTAN for many years now and it is wonderful to see that they are now independent. We have also introduced jolly phonics to preschool



MUYU

Brilliant Star Kindergarten Aragip PNG

- It is with great excitement of the Board and the village that we worked together to open the kindergarten and preschool in Aragip village on the 13th of March 2024.

- FOBS has introduced a hygiene program. We have introduced Spa Taps so that the children are doing handwashing. They have also started teeth cleaning and washing their face every morning.



- The teachers have a curriculum to follow, and resources have been sent to support the program. We are working with the teacher's hand in hand to assist them.

- FOBS has purchased building materials and tools locally in PNG at the request of MUYU board, to fulfill the village needs so that the work can continue in the development of the classrooms and desks.

- The local people carry the materials and resources for 4 days to reach their village. They are extremely hard workers and keep the grounds clean and resources safe.



- The children and teachers have learnt a lot in the past year, and we are looking forward to working with into 2025 and beyond.

- Aragip village, although very remote would like to eventually become an Early Childhood Training Centre so they can then assist other near by villages in Daga to open kindergartens in their villages.

- FOBS has purchased the first hand turned sewing machine for a group of ladies to start a sewing project. Thank you again for your support Friends of Brilliant Star.

Regards Karla Vallely (Eyre)