

PTFA Chair Report

Annual AGM

Thursday 30th September 2023

Welcome everyone, thank you for coming to this AGM.

Our PFTA aims to encourage good relations between staff, parents and others associated with the school, and to enrich our children's school experience.

Objectives

The objectives of the PTFA are to organise fundraising events and activities and make these as much fun as possible, to involve as many people as we can, and to access funding and grants on behalf of the school where applicable.

As parents, grandparents, carers, teachers and friends of the children of the school, we are all automatically members of the PFTA.

This year, we are pleased to say that there has been an increase in new active membership which in turn has allowed us to run lots of events this year.

Committee

Our last official AGM was in September 2019. Since then, members have left as their children moved on from school, jobs took more time and personal circumstances changed. And of course Covid happened. We currently do not have an elected committee, although have a keen group who have unofficially managed all aspects of the PTFA on a day to day basis throughout 2023.

Chair – Louise Scanlon

Treasurer – Jess Dawson

General Committee Member – Jo Austin

General Committee Member – Polly Harris

General Committee Member – Nicola Oakley

We are however, always looking for input and ideas from members new and old who are also willing to help implement them, and in so doing, support our school. If you do have any suggestions, these can be made at PTFA meetings, by email, or by finding us in the playground.

The AGM is the PTFA's only formal meeting of the year, and in particular covers committee elections, and the treasurer's annual financial report. For the PTFA to continue the role of Chair and Treasurer must be filled, it is advisable to also have a Secretary but it is possible for this role to be appointed later.

Before we commence these formalities, I would like to take few moments to extend some thank-yous.

- Firstly, thank you to the members of the committee who somehow manage to pull everything together despite full time jobs and children amongst their many other commitments.
- Thank you to Mrs Loxam for working as our school liaison. While she only teaches two days a week, she always goes out of her way to help.
- We would like to of course thank Mrs Vernon. We are grateful for her continued support.
- We have also received many generous donations from local businesses, who have all been individually thanked.

It goes without saying that without all the PTFA helpers, who generously bake, run stalls, lend equipment, sponsor, donate and contribute, there would be no PTFA events.

A summary of last year's events

December

- With a limited committee, we ran a hamper raffle and made a profit of £730.

May

- After previous successes, we hosted a Curry & Bingo night. There's a fabulous team of parents who cook for the evening, a cash bar was a roaring success and everyone enjoyed the bingo. The evening raised £1049.

June

- A couple of dedicated helpers ran a refreshments stall at sports day, and brought in £111

July

- For the first time since 2018, we ran a summer fair. Despite the weather and the nerves, we smashed it and raised almost £1600.
- Throughout July we sold ice lollies on a Friday, along with cakes, which raised £188.

August

- During August, 43 volunteers gave over 300 hours of their time to clean, tidy and spruce up the playground and library. They jet washed, cleaned, moved rubbish, mended, rebuilt and painted. I had feedback from various Heald Green residents – "...school front looks ace" and "...looks really fresh and tidy".

Jess will run through the full treasurer's report shortly, but I'd like to mention that because of these fundraising efforts and volunteering days, we've been able to provide financial support for enrichments along with a better environment for all our children.

Work in progress

- We have purchased a SumUp machine which has proved very popular. Mr Marshall has been working to enable this to connect to school IT, which would further enhance the facility.
- Through SumUp, we have also built a PTFA shop to facilitate sales of fair tokens, disco tickets etc. Again, this has proved popular and eases pressure on the school office.

Future plans

Elf-ridges opens for business on December 7th, and the committee has supported school as much as their time allows for the Christmas Fair on December 8th.

Due to previous successes, we plan to run another bingo night but to change up the food option, 'Bangers & Bingo' has been proposed. The current volunteer committee proposed holding key events every other year, to manage time/personal commitments, however an increased membership may facilitate more.