

Fountains Primary School PTA

Chair's Report

Fountains Primary School Parent and Teacher Association, Friends, is a charity which is run by a committee elected each year at the Annual General Meeting. The committee currently consists of: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. We have a long history of successful fundraising for our school. Every year parents and teachers generously give their time and money in order to boost the school's funding and, in turn, provide extra facilities and resources for the children who attend the school both now and those who will in the future.

The money raised by the PTA has been used in a variety of ways, in the last 12 months it has been spent on:

- Playground equipment and storage
- Forest School equipment
- Book Tokens
- An Interactive Whiteboard in Class 4
- Subsidising some of the cost of Arts Week (June 2017)
- A class set of a novel
- Class 1's new Outdoor Area
- Resources for the science area and science lessons
- Resources to aid our children's maths work
- Year 6 Leavers' Trip to Lightwater Valley
- Subsidising trips each term for each class
- Christmas gifts and crackers
- Easter eggs
- An interactive whiteboard in the hall (this was agreed and fundraised for in the previous year but the cheque was signed this year. So it has been included in this year's accounts).

Total school expenditure £14486.19

As the treasurer report shows we had a very successful year of fundraising. In the 2017/18 year we managed to raise over £15,000, a figure which many schools would see as an aspirational number and one which we do not take for granted. The income from the events in 2017/18 was higher than the previous year and the total expenses for the events were less, resulting in even more funds to spend. The successful fundraising is, of course, a partnership with the parents, the school, and the Head, Mrs Butler, who willingly supported our antics and who produced a wish list of items which the PTA aimed to fund, on the school's behalf. Similarly to last year, times are tough and families continue to cut back their spending and money is as tight as ever, but the dedication of the PTA members has not wavered, and parents have continued to dig deep for a cause which means a great deal to them.

PTA events this year

- Christmas Fair – The school was decorated for Christmas with nowhere left without a touch of festive cheer. The children in Class 4 created and ran their own stalls, which were a huge success. The hall was filled with stalls and activities and the cafe ran out of Class 2 ensuring everyone was well fed and watered. This year's Fair was a great success making £1043.85 profit, we also raised £309 from selling Christmas cards. Can we raise even more money this year?
- Valentine's Cake Sale- The cake sale made £136 profit, thank you to everyone who donated cakes, buns and biscuits and those who bought them.
- 10K and Fun Run - The 10k was once again our biggest fundraiser of the year. Many thanks to everyone involved especially Mark Reed for organising the event. There was great feedback from the runners. Mark

will do one more year as race director (2019) and will then hand it over. The event seems to get bigger each year with this year having something for everyone to enjoy. This year the event raised £10,734.23 profit

- Summer Hog Roast – The weather held out, despite a iffy looking forecast, and the field was filled with families chatting and children playing. We were kept entertained by the schools' Dance Crew and a fantastic showcase of pupils past and present on the drums.
- We also raised £131.35 using the easy fundraising website and app. This is something we need to try to encourage more people to use.

Future Events

Discussion about future events such as the Christmas Fair and the 10K are already underway and the events look set to be a success again. The first PTA parent event of this academic year a 'Welcome coffee morning' ran on the first morning of the school year, straight after drop off, giving parents a chance to meet the PTA and talk to other parents, there was a good turnout.

Membership

Like a lot of voluntary organisations the PTA has struggled at points over the years with membership. The members we have, have given up a lot of time and effort to make sure that events go ahead. I'm glad to report that the PTA was able to fill the 4 key roles, but attendance at meetings was low throughout the year, often the same few parents. Organising events for the PTA is enjoyable and the rewards are amazing. Watching the children enjoying the Christmas Fair, Fun Run, Summer Hog Roast and seeing what a difference the items we have funded makes to the school, brings a kind of satisfaction that can only come from knowing you have made a difference to many children. For these reasons, I wish to express my heartfelt appreciation to both our amazing committee, and those parents who have assisted with the planning of our calendar of events, and I would strongly encourage new parents to come along and see what we do. In order to try to encourage more people to get involved in the PTA new parents received a welcome pack and all existing parents have received a letter about the AGM and will receive a letter encouraging them to attend meetings and to get involved. If anyone has any other ways we could boost support please let us know.

Thanks

Irrespective of whether they are standing again or not, I would like to pay special thanks to my very supportive team Vice Chair Camilla Charlton, Secretary Katie Harrison, Treasurer Jess Jarman and also to Mark Reed and the 10K committee for once again organising a very successful fundraiser. I hope that even more people will consider being nominated for these posts for either this year or in years to come. The more people we have to help, the more the work load can be shared.

Lynsey Rogers

PTA Chair.