

Pta Agm Tuesday 26th September

Attendees list: (Apologies made for Paul Davis)

Anna Thoyts	Helena Cannon	Mr Paddington
Bradley& Amanda Basket	Matthew Venner	Mr Carere
Hilary Harmsworth	Rebecca Ross	Liz Atherton
Irene Gough	Natasha Moore	Melanie Somers
Joanne Hopley	Solveig Leonard	Nicola Forgione
Lizzie Lamb	Jane Epps	Lynsey Barnes
Sharon Lea	Michelle Fribbens	Kirsteen Balkwill
Linsey Salter	Matt Neffy	Lynsey Lyle
Denise Brander	David Sharpe	Louise Harman
Cynthia Langworthy	Helen Baylis	Helena Russell
Cheryl Cartwright	Carina Mcentire	Julie Durston
Kim Griffiths	Jo Rowe	
Jennifer Wade	Ellie Parker	
	Pam Manfo-Marc	

Mr Paddington welcomed everyone by stressing the importance of the PTA and the ability to recruit specialist teachers with the help of the funds donated. He congratulated the team on another wonderful year.

The PTA team introduced the presentation by reminding us we are ALL part of the PTA. Parents, teachers and children all contribute to the success we have.

Mr Carere talked about the expenditure last year. Interactive Smart boards are essential. Two were purchased last year. The school are looking to replace more next year. Some are up to 15 years old. The school has participated in inter school quizzes and competitions. We have supported specific sports coaching in cricket, rugby, dance and athletics. For a small school we do very well in sports competitions. We have competed against much bigger schools in Bromley and London. We have invested and supported the IT systems in place and this is an area where we continuously need to replace and upgrade.

Ellie Parker discussed the financial position. The key highlight here was the total money raised is up on the year. Monthly donations, match funding and gift aid are the easiest win, as there are no costs associated with them, its pure profit. There is need to continue with these donations and push for more, whatever people can manage will make a difference. The PTA events are a huge success and these all have costs attributed to them therefore much more work needed to make them profitable. Some individual events did very well in comparison to last year. Two of the big three are heavily reliant on **weather** - PITP & Bonfire. We had a lucky year but cannot always guarantee this, meaning donations again are a more secure way of fundraising. The summer ball, Film nights, school uniform.... All did very well this year (refer to presentation for figures).

Pam Manfo-Marc talked about the success of bonfire night. Big thank you to Phil again. This event is weather dependent so the need to pre-sell tickets is vital. We ran out of glow sticks (only to be found later in the PTA cupboard) so better buying/organising for this year. The guy competition worked well.

Jo Rowe talked about the success of the Summer Ball and a great job the team did. Sharon, Lizzie and Irene managed to pull off a fabulous fundraising event with 105 attendees. The venue is booked for next year and is being renovated so should be another fabulous event with a capacity of 120. It was mentioned that maybe a band isn't needed due to expense. The raffle tickets were sold at sports day and auction prizes were mentioned before the day.

Party in the pit was another big success. Heavily reliant on good weather, we had a lucky year. We changed the layout slightly to push the stalls closer together, so we didn't have big empty spaces. Some stalls did exceedingly well. Highlights: the Bar, Jolly Jam Jars and Lego cards. Although some of the smaller stalls do not make a huge amount of money, collectively they are important and the kids really enjoy them. We used some yr5/6 helpers for the new games and tattoos which worked really well. There is opportunity for more food choice options and stalls for adults to spend their money on (external, self- managed where we take a % of sale). Circus skills workshop doesn't make any money (a loss) but does offer something different, plus more pre-sales required. Power supply is an issue which needs resolving.

Carina McEntire talked about Donations being essential and a big thank you to those that do. We had a good year (refer to slides for detail). It was mentioned how the state schools are struggling with funding across the board. The shortfall is approx. £140 per child, per year. Gift aid we are working through the last two years retrospectively. If you haven't yet signed up, please do.

Easyfundraising is a big earner now too with 138 participants. Request - Please don't forget to use it when starting your Xmas shopping!

Match funding – has been really plugged this year. Example given that if you run a stall for PITP, employers can match the amount raised. Please do ask your companies if they will match fund. David Sharpe highlighted that it took just a few minutes and a phone call to set it up. Thanks to others that have been able to raise funds this way. You can even have more than one company match fund for the same event. Information will be consolidated and available on the website.

We are investigating a new online PTA booking system to enable us to book events, print tickets, nominate volunteers etc. Please respond to the survey monkey that will be sent out. This will enable the PTA to run more efficiently and for the Treasurer to have better and easier access to live information. Parish school (Aquinas trust) use it and are very happy with it. PTA are very keen to role this out but we need to hear parents views.

Jo Rowe thanked everyone for their efforts this year and made a special point of thanking the previous team of last year too. Karen, Michelle, Katherine and Marisa.

In summary - The events that worked well last year are those that had a dedicated team working on them e.g film night, Summer Ball & Mothers day. The idea to roll this out for other events will mean the Chair/Co/Secretary roles can oversee the events and plan ahead better by looking at the bigger picture and new event ideas. Running all of these events as a small team is becoming increasingly difficult as everyone has less time than ever. Therefore we have created smaller committees for each event. People struggle to give up their time on a regular basis so this allows an opportunity for one off contributions as well. With the support of the main PTA the individual committees can focus on the delivery of the events and can ensure they are planned and executed well. They can also focus specifically on that one event to maximise the opportunity.

The vacancies were read out. Lyndsey nominated herself for the KS1 Xmas party – thank you! Solveig nominated herself for the Summer Ball- thank you! Natasha Moore and Rebecca Ross nominated themselves to co-ordinate PITP- thank you. This leaves the main Chair/Vice/Treasurer & Secretary roles available. ParentMail to be sent.

It was asked for clarification on school uniform for girls. Pinafores & jumpers versus cardigans. Mr Paddington said he has reverted to the original uniform after feedback. Girls are allowed pinafores and cardigans however, to look smarter the cardigans must be buttoned up. Kim mentioned a new supplier likely to start providing soon.

It was clarified that the Main PTA Chairs/Vice etc. would liaise with the school. The committees would liaise with the main PTA team.

It was mentioned that the treasurer would work much better as a shared role to share the workload. It is also possible that the committees support this role with managing the finances for each event.

It was asked if these were roles that could be done with full time jobs? It was highlighted that the current team has members that work 5 days a week. It was mentioned that within the whole team it benefits to have some members at the school during parts of the week.

It was mentioned that last year (2016) the Chair role was split 3 ways which worked really well. It meant that someone was generally always available and the class reps roles supported this.

Helen Baylis mentioned that joining the team is invaluable way to get to know parents in school. You can always call on people for help. She got to know the entire school (more or less) very quickly.

Mr Paddington thanked again the school staff, all parents and the PTA.

Jo Rowe reminded us to all thank Kevin whom without his help we could not deliver these fundraising events. Mr Paddington mentioned a thank you to Eddie who returns for Fireworks still.

Mr Paddington went on to AOB and introduced Michelle Fribbens (Aquinas advisory committee)

In summary the school have plans for a project build on the current site. Plans hopefully agreed end of this week for opening Sept 2018. It will create one large classroom for outside of the classroom lessons. The teachers do a great job currently with the space confinements. This will enable art and science lessons to be done in a designated classroom. The location will be upstairs where the current stock/staff room and office is located.

Therefore money donations are needed more than ever to help support the funding of this. Aquinas will part support it financially and we are looking to the Chislehurst society for potential support. The trustees of the commons and the society are involved in the plans and are keen to be involved in the aesthetics of the building. £40-50k from PTA fund may be required to support this. Aquinas is pushing to get this going asap. Plans are due on Thursday then on to public consultation.

Mr Paddington **closed the meeting** by saying the school is in a very good place.