

P.T.F.A.
GENERAL MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY 20th OCTOBER 2015, 7pm, SCHOOL HALL

1. Attended:

Parents - Michelle May, Daryl Elfield, Julie Halpin, Sabine Davis, Christin Cockerton, Vivian Constantino Poulos, Jo Rawlinson, Tara Ives, Kirsty third, Ed Lipton, Stewart Fox Mills, Lee Henshaw, Claire Henshaw, Hilary Stainsby, David Hemmings, Grace Graham, Esteban Botero, Jaqui Heywood, Vanessa Linehan, Hugh Naylor, Lilla Hurst, Marcella Caricasole, Madlyn Ray Jones, Vicki Curry, Nora White (apologies to those I may have missed off .. not everyone signed the 'register')

Staff - Rachael Tucker, Verity Carter, Chloe Adler, Peter O'Garr

2. Treasurer's Report - Hugh gave update on where we are with the money - what we had, what was already promised and what it was assumed would be raised this year

Money to spend: £8,288 cash left in account including jumble sale money (£3400) + additional fund raising for this year (hoped to be in the region of £11,500)=£19,900

Update on committed spend:

Coaching Jackets have been purchased and printed - came to £100

Little Architects - starting in Dec with Y5 then rolling out with other years (but not Y6 due to discussions with class teachers and decision that this year there wasn't time)

SingALong Band for reception - has started already with the classes and is very much enjoyed

Book corner improvements are happening - Chloe has implemented and there is a competition between classes for best corner

Philosophy for Children - Mike and Peter and going for training after half term, this will benefit all children across the school

3. Upcoming PTFA events:

27/11/15 - Quiz Night (Alie & Janey arranging)

12/12/15 - Caribbean Christmas Fair (Grace and Catherine leading committee)

Dec 2015 - Christmas cards made by the kids (Karen arranging)

March 2016 - Race Night - Passed (Daryl to present - adult only social function - people pay to attend then bet on the night too, cash bar, food on sale, in advance you can get local businesses to sponsor races, get people to pay to have horses named after them. Race runs as a tote and half the tote goes to the winner and half to the school

Pencilled FRIDAY 15th APRIL as a provisional date

Jumble sale - Julie asked whether there would be one in the spring term, there has usually just be one per year but maybe someone would want to arrange another

Other fund raising suggestions were kids disco / film night

02/07/16 - Summer Fair (organiser needed)

4. Bids for PTFA funding:

Y6 Leavers book - Sabine Davis (Y6 parent) - cost is for the £924.00
photoshoots and printing that go into making the year book free for all Y6 students

Sabine & Julie presented and explained about the Y6 leavers book and handed round a copy of last years book As the printing is the main cost of this if any parents have links to printing companies and could maybe get a reduced rate that would be great.

Purchase of new DSR reading materials - Salwa Ghanem (Y1 £2,400.00

teacher) Daily Supported Reading Coordinator and PE coordinator) - funding towards purchasing new DSR materials for the reception, Y1 and Y2 children. In the 7 years Salwa has been at the school new materials have not been purchased for DSR

Discussion about this was whether it should be funded by the school as a core subject or if the PFTA should pay, Salwa was not there to answer questions and there was some confusion about about the figures from the bid so debate was curtailed

Workshop with author/illustrator David Lucas - Michael Buck (Y2 class teacher) £ 350.00
an amazing wow day for the children in Y2 as part of their learning about the next they are going to be working from, allows the kids to develop their artistic skills and understand the process of creation of books and being an author/illustrator

It was suggested that this could be included as part of the World Book Day project bid and that David Lucas could come into Michaels class for that

Resources for Talk For Writing & Storytelling £1,000.00
- Rachel Tucker (Head teacher/Lead Learner) - Resources to implement the Talk for Writing and Storytelling across the school EY - Y6 to improve every child's spoken language, enhance their vocabulary and improve their narrative writing.

Rachel presented this and explained it was something she wanted to launch across the whole school and the money was for the core 30 books and associated props

Additional new books for the library - Chloe Alder (SLT English subject lead) £5,000.00
- to continue to develop the school library, to build on range of high quality texts available for all the children to borrow and take home

Chloe explained that now that the books are being lent out from the library new ones are needed and the school wanted them to be new books. Parents had suggested taking the good quality books from the jumble sale to use in the library and there was talk about the fact that a library is actually about re-using books, sharing them and they don't need to be and indeed can't always be 'new' for each child that borrows them, but the school were keen to have them new

Authors/illustrators to run workshops on World Book Day £2,500.00
- Chloe Alder (AH English subject lead) - for each class to have their own workshops on WBD (3rd March 2016) to inspire and motivate all the children from EY - Y6.
Authors usually cost £250 for a half day and £450 for a full day.

Chloe presented again and spoke about wanting to do a cross school project for World Book Day (which occurs in early March) where the children will study a book and then the author/illustrator will come in and spend time in the class with them. There was talk about also asking around the school community to see if there were parents who were or had contacts to authors.

Purchasing educational software and licences for new hardware £5,000.00
- Rebecca Day (school business manager) - The school has invested a huge amount of resources to upgrade the ITC equipment for all children, they need to install the software to fully utilise the ITC equipment - Mathletics £2478, VPP £2000, Touch Typing £700

No-one was able to present this - it was thought that this was for an annual renewal for the licences. Peter mentioned that the tech assistants may be able to find the Touch Typing software for free

Climbing equipment for Reception & Nursery - Jessica Mendelssohn (EYFS coordinator) £4,000.00
- The water tray in nursery has broken so needs replacing. Community Play Things make clever climbing structures that can be re-configured and used in many different ways, they also make a water tray. Water play

and climbing are statutory requirements in Early Years and help build children's confidence physically, develop their fine and gross motor skills and in particular helps strengthen their hands. Full play frame - £2,360, Water tray and experimental equipment £1,170 (plus Vat and delivery costs)

Peter presented for Jess, saying the water tray had broken in nursery and needed replacing and that Community Play Things, who make the water tray, also have climbing equipment that can be put together in many different ways, inside and outside, and can be added to. Climbing and water play are both integral to early years learning and this equipment is not something that would come under Project Playground

Project Playground - Project Playground Team £20,000.00
The audit occurred over the summer and all is going great guns for this exciting enterprise to enhance the outside play area of the school. This project is a huge undertaking for the whole school and although it is hard to know how much it is going to cost it's thought to be in the region of £50,000. The plan is to look into match funding for what the school raises so to meet the bill the ask is for £20,000 to add to the £5k that was pledged at the last meeting.

Nicola & Peter presented - talking about the audit, how the playground had fared and how it could progress. Children from the school council will be going out to visit good play areas to get ideas, this will happen in Spring. Asking for the money now means that it can be match funded and progress can be made rather than raising the money then spending 6 months getting match funding. Lots of parents offered ideas, comments, suggestions and there was also offers of consultancy/design/fund finding. Ed Lipton and Lilla Hurst both offered specific help towards the project. There was a lot of interest and debate around the playground and hopefully it will take on a life of its own and will galvanise new parents to be interested and involved in raising money (via the PTFA) for this.

Votes were taken on all the items on the list, it was never going to be a perfect science, but it was decided to focus on the most popular items. The bids got the following votes:-

Y6 Leavers book - 27*
New DRS materials - 7
David Lucas visit - 0
Writing Story Telling - 21*
Additional Library Books - 18*
World Book Day workshops - 27*
Software licences - 1
Nursery Equipment - 15*
Project Playground - 19*

Top 6 were chosen (*), there was much debate about how much money each one should have but finally it was decided to stick with what had originally been asked for and give the remainder towards the playground, this meant the following ...

Y6 book - £924
Writing Story Telling - £1k
Library books - £5k
World Book Day - £2.5k
Nursery Pay - £4k
Project Playground - £7.5k

5. PTFA roles need filling - the following roles are available:- chair/co-chair/secretary/
bake for books coordinator (all will become trustees)

Co-Chairs - Adam Roland and Andy Spence
Secretary - Julia Gibbs
New trustee - Alice Williams who will also oversee Bake For Books
Staff PTFA trustee - Chloe Adler

To those trustees stepping down there was a big thanks - Vanessa Linehan for chairing, Jaqui Heywood for being secretary, Clare Henshaw (who was also a previous chair), Julie Halpin (who was the previous secretary) and Kirsty Third. Big thank you also to Hugh Naylor who is remaining as treasurer.

The next PTFA meeting will take place in February