**St Mary’s Primary School PTA Meeting**

**Friday 17TH January 2025**

**Attendance**

Amy Walker (AW) - Chair

Becky Hall (BC)

Rajni Harbais RH)

Tori Salmon (TS)

Jen Benton (JB)

Emma Thurman (ET)

Vicky Bradley (VB)

Sarah Jones (SJ)

Annmari Seresinhe (AS)

Rob Collis (RC)

Caroline Bannister (CB)

Lucy Cooper (LC)

Claire Clarke (CC)

Ms D. Davis (DD)

**Apologies**

Tina Jones (TJ)

**Welcome**

As Chair, AW welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for making time to attend. Apologies had been received from TJ.

**Minutes of the AGM to be approved**

The minutes of the AGM held on 22nd Nov. 2024 were approved without any amendments .

**Treasurers Report**

BH provided the updated Treasurer’s report.

The main difference to note was the 59 club, but there haven’t been any other changes since the previous meeting to date.

**Chair’s Report (AW)**

* The PTA has managed to secure a shed free of charge thanks to Kirsty Allen, which will be installed in the next few weeks.
* The trim trail company is due to come to the school this week to see what can be used from the current trail and what needs replacing. AW has asked for them to provide some photos so that the options can be discussed by the committee.
* **Year 6 leavers**

AW explained that there are 20 children leaving the school this year in Year 6.

The total budget for the leavers will be £700.

In previous years, the PTA has funded the leaver’s hoodies, but with such a large group of children this is not viable this year as hoodies alone would cost almost £400. RC suggested that most primary schools have parent contribution to the hoodies and there was agreement around the room. CC explained that irrespective of the amount of hoodies, there is always a set up charge, so the cost should hopefully not be too dramatic an increase. CC is going to provide the committee with a quote from her husband’s company for comparison with other companies as regards cost and spec.

DD asked how parents would pay for the hoodies and CC said they would be able to pay via a link.

BH said that we need to decide what we would like to do with the leavers this year, and that it is important to ensure it is fair with previous year groups. LC suggested that going forward, there are going to be larger year groups so whatever is decided now may set a precedent.

AW asked if we would prefer the leavers event to be a family day or something different, with the idea of a family day as a separate event. The meeting discussed different options. CB said that the leavers previously had a leavers disco, but not all children want a disco.

RC said that in previous years, the family day has welcomed everyone for the first hour or so and then after a certain time, the event was exclusively for the children in Year 6 and their parents. This gives exclusivity for Year 6 and also less responsibility and is an option for this year. In this scenario, siblings could perhaps stay but all other children would leave after an hour (DD).

CC suggested that the committee needs to decide on the leavers event, and if the Year 6 children want a separate trip or event then perhaps this could be funded by the Year 6 parents. The PTA (unfortunately) cannot fund everything.

There was agreement that a whole school event is nice, but AW stated that there are things that we can do differently, with lessons learnt from last year. For example, more parental supervision is required, especially for the bouncy castles. DD reminded everyone that from 3:30 pm, all children are the responsibility of their parents anyway. This will be addressed ahead of the leaver’s family event.

Food was also discussed. AW mentioned the possibility of a BBQ rather than Mcdonalds. This way, everyone could have food and it could be free of charge for Year 6 children. Year 6 would still have an exclusive table to eat at and this would potentially claw back some money and also be a nice change. Takeaways are another option for Year 6 children.

CC asked what the Year 6 leaving gift would be, either a hoodie or a trip funded by PTA. LC suggested a trip would be ideal as it would be year 6’s ‘own event’ away from the school. AW confirmed that any money left in the budget for the leavers after the leaver’s event can of course be used towards hoodies or a trip.

The final decision was that the leaver’s family inflatable event will go ahead.

ACTIONS

* CC to provide the committee with a quote for leaver’s hoodies
* AW to get further quotes for leaver’s hoodies
* AW and the committee to look at food options for family event

AW and DD to discuss budgets once quotes have been received.

* **Friendship Disco – Monday 10th February**

AW confirmed that a friendship disco has been booked in straight after school at 3:15pm. Staggered start times worked well last time, but there were complaints about the timings so this time we will trial one timing for all.

AW mentioned the idea of a ‘diddi disco’ for Class 1, possibly on a different day or within the school day. DD suggested that after school would be better, so AW said the disco could perhaps be for Reception children onwards, but that this was to be confirmed by the committee.

Cooked food isn’t proving to be very popular, so there won’t be cooked food this time and just a tuck shop instead. Because of this, the disco will be cheaper at £3.

The PTA will provide the music and AW mentioned that the PTA are looking to buy some disco lights now that there is going to be a shed for storage.

* **Upcoming events:**

**Easter Bingo** – DD confirmed the date of Friday 4th April.

**Special persons day** – DD confirmed the date of Monday 10th March.

AW provided the following ideas:

- Afternoon tea 

- Craft session  

- Ceramics painting

The committee will get some quotes and then a decision can be made.

CC asked if anyone could come in place of parents, for example grandparents. RH also asked how many adults would be permitted per children/family. AW confirmed there will be one adult per family as 100 is the max. capacity with the stage being up. AW said the event will likely run 3:15 – 5:15 pm, however this does depend on the event.

**AOB**

* RC suggested a bulk uniform order as a fundraiser, where one uniform order is placed to save delivery costs. The current delivery cost is £10, so if we did one order and charged £5 delivery each, parents would save money and the PTA would raise some money. AW agreed that this is a great idea and is going to look into this.
* CC asked if the Big Breakfast is going ahead this year. AW confirmed that it isn’t, as it is a lot of work and as it is a weekend event, volunteers are very limited. AW mentioned Colton village is already running a summer fete and the PTA are going to be involved – this is yet TBC.
* DD said after discussion with Mr Wynn, we will be using non-uniform days to raise money for the Year 6 leavers/family fun day. There will be a ‘wear your favourite colour’ day for Multicultural day. BH suggested a non-uniform day in exchange for chocolate for the Easter bingo. DD confirmed that this will be on Monday 31st March.

**Chairs closing comments**

AW thanked everyone again for attending the meeting.