



TANWORTHIN ARDEN C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

Chairs Report 19/2/2024-18/2/2025

Committee Members:

Chair Georgina Thompson

Treasurer Sarah Hoadley

Secretary Gemma Turvey

PTA formed 19/2/2024

We set up the new PTA in February 2024 to raise funds for the school and to improve the community feel between parents, school and our local community.

Our original committee was Georgina (Chair), Sarah (Treasurer) and Jemma Hickey (Secretary). In Oct 2024 Jemma stood down and Gemma Turvey was elected as our new secretary. None of us had any previous experience in roles within a PTA and the school had been without one for several years. It has been lots of hard work, learning along the way and many challenging times (particularly with volunteer numbers) but on reflection we have achieved in our first year what we set out to. We have raised funds for our new library space, which was installed in January. We have arranged events that have brought the community together (Christmas fete) and have built parent and school relationships.

We're extremely proud of what we've achieved in our first year and the events we've provided, raising a total of £16909.67. Although not all profit as we had lots of outgoings in our first year.

We're looking forward to another year of fundraising and fun events planned in the remainder of this academic year.

Our aims for our first year were:

To raise money to fund the library space and new school books.

To create fun memories for the children.

To bridge the gap between school, parents and the local community.

Committee:

Georgina Thompson- Chair

Sarah Hoadley- Treasurer

Gemma Turvey- Secretary

Volunteers:

We have a PTA WhatsApp group for event volunteers which we are always looking to add to, our aim is to expand our committee and add to our event volunteer numbers too.

Appointments

Gemma Turvey joined us in October 2024 and has been a great addition to the team, seamlessly transitioning from Jemma Hickeys and taking on lots of responsibility. Thank you for all of your help.

Recruitment

We are looking for more volunteers to help out at our events. This can include grandparents and friends too. We are a small team that are down to earth and just want to raise funds to enhance the education of our children, we aim for any volunteering to be enjoyable and fun for those taking part and it's a great opportunity to see how the school works and see your children in their school setting too.

Interested parties can drop us an email to get involved. Pta3311@welearn365.com

Volunteers

We are very grateful to our group of volunteers who help out at events, and those that regularly put their names forward for all events, we couldn't do it without you!

We're a sociable bunch who are always happy to see new faces so we'd love more parents to get involved. We'll be working on this next year.

Events

This past year we've had many events, mainly organised with little notice whilst setting up in our first year. We've learnt quickly what works and doesn't, what makes money and what just provides experiences for our children.

Our biggest success was the Christmas Market. We worked with the Church and created a community event raising lots of money in the process. Despite obstacles along the way, and even on the day, we delivered a great event and even got lucky with the weather (until set down!) This is an event we hope to successfully continue to deliver and grow in the coming years.

We had fun with our Bamford Bar sales and make shift chocolate factory, we hope this brought joy and something different to the playground!

We were also proud of our sponsored bounce event that brought lots of fun to the school day as well as raising lots of money for the Library!

Events that brought community spirit but didn't raise much were the Easter trail and Guy Fawks Trail.

Events that are quick money earners without much outlay and volunteering needs are Treat Fridays- these work well and are something we'll continue to offer.

Events that we don't think have been worth it are uniform sales- unfortunately effort is required with very little money to be made. Suggestions of turning this into an online shop were good although this isn't something the PTA can currently take on with the time it'd take up to make it successful.

Cash for clothes was good and although did not raise as much as we thought, it was very little effort and with better timing and more advertising could work well in future

Our disco was something that was very costly and required volunteers but made very little profit, we will look at offering this but in another way to increase profit for future events as it's an event that brings joy to the children.

Mothers/Fathers/Christmas Shop is always a popular event and works well with children bringing in gifts and then purchasing them back. We often fall short for Male gifts and this is something we need to be prepared for for Father's Day. We usually have lots of volunteers for these events. We need to begin collecting gifts early to ensure we have enough.

School plays are popular for volunteers and raise money for little effort. We should make use of the opportunity for parents to be in one place to advertise and upcoming events.

Your School Lottery

We took over our School Lottery this year and it's something we need to look at pushing more this year. To date we have raised £150.47. We've seen a member of our community win a cash prize every single week and each month there's a fantastic prize up for grabs, as well as a jackpot. The more tickets we sell the more money goes to our school. We will add this to the newsletter to advertise this opportunity for anybody that hasn't heard about it.

Asda Rewards

We are part of the initiative that the more you spend, the more school raises, to date we have earned £134.93. We aim to continue to raise this way and to add this incentive to the newsletter at the start of the new school year (between Sept-Nov).

Fundraising Priorities

We have fundraised for a new library space and new school books which we achieved in January 2025. We purchased the Reception class bears in Sept 2024. We also provided each class teacher £25 Amazon voucher to spend in their classroom in December 2024 and have just purchased some cookery equipment in February 2025. With our remaining funds we will set aside money for the coach for the Year 6 residential and look to refurbish the old IT room into an Art and design studio.

The Library Books is on a subscription which we will aim to fund each year if finances allow.

New initiatives

Our next fundraising suggestions have included Art & DT room (old ICT room) including flooring, a sink, racking/storage and furniture. Other suggestions were a new Astro Turf, and an outdoor classroom (if an outdoor classroom is chosen a suggestion of a time capsule to be buried beneath it was suggested). Other suggestions included water fountains, forest school equipment and cookery equipment (Now purchased).

With school discussions we have ruled out water fountains as subscriptions are too high and maintenance is essential and costly. We have been told each classroom has running water that is safe to drink so children do not need to refill bottles in the toilet.

We also decided the Astro Turf is not a priority compared to the other suggestions.

Our aim will be to provide forest school essentials and begin the Art & DT room as these are lower costs before beginning another big fundraising target for the outdoor classroom.

This will be confirmed and decided at the AGM (24/2/25).

Thank you's

The PTA is run by volunteers and couldn't exist without lots of support. This year has been a great success and I'd personally like to thank every single person that has helped, whether volunteering your time, spreading the word or donating.

I'd like to thank Sarah Hoadley (Treasurer) who has gone above and beyond her role and organised so much of our events, who has begged just about every local business for donations and who goes regularly to multiple shops to find the best deals for our PTA events! Thank you!

Another big thank you to Gemma Turvey who stepped into her role as Secretary in October and in her first week had the task of applying for road closures, alcohol licenses amongst many other things! Thank you for your hard work, Temu buying skills and organisation! You've brought so much to the committee already.

Special thank you to Jemma Hickey who started us off in February as secretary, created our logo and templates for our maps and visuals for our Gin bottles and her technology skills, even creating a QR code! Thank you.

Thank you to our regular volunteers, especially Sue who has volunteered to almost all events, and thank you to Dani, Hannah, Anna, Serena, Victoria, Jude who also regularly volunteer and to all of you that have at some point this year helped us, it is hugely appreciated! Thank you to each of you for bringing fun and enjoyment to our events!

And special thank you to our only PTA dad, Matt! Thank you for all of your help, from cutting up heart stickers, to health and safety risk assessments!

It wouldn't be right to finish the report without giving a huge thanks to Mrs Bamford who always listens to our ideas, reigns us back in and gives knowledge on what will work and how often we are asking parents to donate! And for dressing up as Willy Wonka and an Oompa-Loompa for our Bamford Chocolate Factory bar sales.

And a very special thank you to Sarah Jane, who helps us to communicate everything to parents, and who prints everything out for us and coordinates our crazy ideas from donations to prizes!

We'll be holding our AGM (Annual General Meeting) 24/2/25, where we'll be discussing our first year, what we plan for the year ahead and voting in our committee. We hope you can join and add to our committee numbers. Everyone is welcome to attend and if you'd like to nominate yourself for a role, please email us at pta3311@welearn365.com

Georgina Thompson

Chair

Tanworth in Arden PTA

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