

Dolphinholme CE Primary School PTFA AGM

Chair's Report

6 November 2022

This report covers fundraising, expenditure and other activities between October 2021 – October 2022.

Events (in chronological order!)

Before the October half-term we held a cake sale which raised £143.10. Thanks to all the bakers and buyers!

On 11 November 2021, Rosie Prest kindly organised and hosted a Fizz and Fashion event at Foxholes in aid of both the 1991 Committee which support St Mark's Church and the PTFA. This raised £600 for each charity. Thank you to Rosie and all who supported that.

We organised the popular Christmas cards, designed by the children with the amazing support of staff and Mr Cronshaw, this raised £133.05.

We also held the Christmas Bauble Raffle, with some great prizes donated, and this raised £416.

We reinstated the Bunny Drive at the end of the Spring Term. This fun (and noisy!) family evening raised £173.05 through entrance tickets and sale of refreshments.

The main fundraising event of the year, was of course, Mrs Cross's Skydive! This was an incredibly brave act by Mrs Cross, generously supported by Sky Dive Northwest and kindly organised by Natasha Richardson. We were able to screen the event live at the Village Field Day, which was huge fun and so exciting for all the children (and grown-ups) to watch! Mrs Cross raised an absolutely amazing £5,527!

We sold refreshments at Sports Day which raised £43. This money was spent directly on refreshments for the Hello Goodbye Disco and meant that we were, as has been traditional, able to offer this event without charge for the children. This event concluded a successful academic year for the PTFA in 21/22.

Other Income Streams

A number of parents have worked hard to establish different income streams for the PTFA. The **Dolphinholme Party Kit**, organised by Debbie Torr, is a great collection of reusable party crockery, cutlery and extras such as bunting and tablecloths, available to hire for £5 and has raised over £100 since it was set up 3 years ago.

Two online sources of income, **easyfundraising** (in which retailers and other businesses donate a percentage of transaction values to a nominated charity) and a similar scheme, **Amazon Smile**, rely on parents signing up and shopping through these sites/apps to raise regular sums of money for the school. Easyfundraising has raised over £764.08 since the account was set up some years ago. *We would like to remind and encourage parents to sign up for this.*

Outgoings 21/22

We made our annual contribution to the classroom floats at £10 per pupil, a total of £1070.

The PTFA also paid for the children to attend a pantomime at the Dukes Theatre Lancaster at a cost of £1,020.50. Unfortunately this event was cancelled, but the older children attended a different play at the Dukes, called Stan, in 2022.

We spent £93.60 on laundry bags for the annual Isle of Man trip to reduce the quantity of lost socks and time spent by teachers re uniting children with their belongings! These will be re-used each year.

Summary

Last year saw a successful return to fundraising events for the PTFA, and we are grateful for all the support given, especially by Mrs Cross who really went above and beyond by leaping out of a plane for us, and all the staff and so many parents and friends. The bank balance at the end of October stands at over £9,400 which is a really healthy total.

The first half of this term has been very quiet, as I have struggle to find time to devote to the PTFA, for which I apologise! Communication to new and existing parents has dropped off and we need to consider how we can address this.

I think that the questions we discussed at last year's AGM remain relevant:

The PTFA exists to enrich and support the excellent education that school provides to our children. This is primarily done through the classroom floats and through supporting trips by paying for coaches. Every parent is a member of the PTFA.

To provide this support, we need to raise money. We can do this in a number of different ways. Events, subscriptions, supporting online income streams (easyfundraising). **Do parents have fundraising preferences? Are some more effective than others? How can we get more parents signed up to easyfundraising?**

The PTFA also exists as a social and support network for parents and to provide fun times and happy memories for our children.

As we are now able to do more, what sort of events do parents and children want? Big events or a regular rhythm of smaller events? What support are parents able to commit to providing? How do we rally and organise volunteers? Class representatives have worked well this year, so would be good to continue this structure next year.

I think the questions around level of support parents are able to commit remain particularly pressing.

I am hoping to step down as Chair at this point, having carried out the role for 3 years. I have really enjoyed it and remain a committed supporter of the PTFA, but feel it is a good time, with my increased personal commitments and as a number of posts on the Committee change, to hand over to someone who can bring fresh enthusiasm and energy to the role.

Sarah Rose

PTFA Chair on behalf of the Committee