



## **Busbridge Junior School Friends AGM Minutes**

**21/09/2021**

### **PRESENT**

Richard Catchpole	Head
Rachel Barker	Deputy Head
Sarah Speirs	Co Chair and 5L parent
Jackie Ahrens	Co Chair and 5L parent
Steve Muir	Outgoing Treasurer and former Y6 parent
Katherine Carter	Secretary and 5S parent
Karen Beamer	5S parent
Laura Buchanan	5S Rep
Rachel Roberts	Incoming Vice Chair, 4WT and 5L Rep
Ruth Grose	6W Rep
Sarah Dubock	6W Rep
Wendi Lancaster	5L Rep
Steve Garnsey	3MB parent
Katharine Clifford	5S parent
Helen Warren	3BF Rep
Melanie Alexander	3MB Rep
Kath Lindsay	6E Rep
Richard Day	Incoming Treasurer, 3BF and BM parent
Vicky Tasker	5S Bonfire Rep

Luffa Khnom- Ramsden	4A Rep
Claire Siddell	4WT Bonfire Rep
Kelsey Mower	4WT Bonfire Rep

## **Treasurer's report**

\*See attached Annual Report and Accounts

In brief: The PTA started the 2020 academic year with £5,282 cash, raising £7,801 from fundraising events. Donations to the school of £5,624 were made (inc ITC suites and benches), and ended the academic year with £11,946 cash.

In spite of Covid, the only major impact on the PTA fundraising last academic year was the cancellation of Fireworks Night, which usually raises circa £4k profit.

## **PTA Resignations**

Lorraine Collins	Vice Chair
Steve Muir	Treasurer

## **New Committee Members voted in and seconded:**

Richard Day	Treasurer
Rachel Roberts	Co Vice Chair
Wendi Lancaster	Co Vice Chair

Sarah Speirs and Jackie Ahrens were voted in to continue as Co-Chairs and Katherine Carter was voted in to continue as Secretary.

## **Hardship Fund**

Richard explained that the hardship fund is in place to support families struggling to meet the cost for school trips, residential etc. The PTA usually donate £500 per year to the Hardship Fund, and the same sum has been confirmed for this academic year too.

## **Digital cameras**

Richard has requested a £400 donation from the PTA for digital cameras, which will allow one camera per year group. Due to safeguarding issues and potential

confusion teachers are unable to use their mobile phones for school photography, so the digital cameras will be extremely useful without creating any safeguarding concerns. The PTA have agreed to fund this, utilising the money raised last year through Easy Fundraising. More on Easy Fundraising to follow.

## **Book Donation**

The PTA have agreed to resume the £50 donation, per term, per class to spend on books.

## **MUGA (Multi Use Games Area)**

\*See attached slides

BJS has recently started a significant campaign to raise £95k to install a MUGA (all weather multi use surface area on the back field). The PTA will play a significant role in raising these funds, along with grants and donations.

Currently the field is not fit for purpose as a reliable and effective PE/Sports surface due to uneven surface and multiple divots: the grass is wearing away significantly and the soil is eroding. It is unusable in wet, icy or muddy conditions, and it is over-run with rabbits.

The area has been re-seeded with grass many times over many years, but it has not taken well and the condition of the field gets worse every passing week. To try to slow the erosion we have had to reduce physical activities on the field, which is clearly not what we want to do. As such, action has to be taken.

MUGA allows the field to be used, whenever you want, for whatever you want. Whilst it will be invaluable for sports it is vital for all parents and carers to know that it is not just about sports. The area will be useful for all kinds of school recreation and activities. In addition, with an all year all conditions field being accessible to the children, this dramatically reduces the density of bodies in the playground – when the density of the playground is reduced, there is a proven record of less accidents.

Ideally, a majority of the money will be raised by Easter 2022, so the works can proceed over the summer holidays.

If anyone knows anyone who has experience of writing applications for grants please get in touch. Experience in this area will have a huge impact on raising the money and was instrumental at the infant school in raising the funds for the Nest project.

It was clarified by Sarah, that whilst a lot of PTA efforts will be directed towards the MUGA, there will still be a strong PTA commitment to fund books, IT equipment, hardship fund, or any other matter that is important to the school community.

One of the parents suggested changing MUGA to a more attractive and accessible title. Richard is open to people emailing him and Rachel B with any good ideas.

## **Fireworks Night**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November is confirmed for Fireworks Night, with a capacity of 800 people for health and safety reasons, as well as other practical aspects.

It was discussed whether we could use the field to allow more space, but this becomes very difficult for both health and safety reasons, as well as the practical aspect of lots of muddy feet coming through the school building during the fireworks.

The following responsibilities have been allocated to each year group:

Year 3: Sweet treats

(Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November will be mufti in exchange for sweet treat donations)

Year 4: Security

Year 5: Barbecue

Year 6: Bar

Teachers and Year 6: Sell the glow toys

There was a suggestion of streaming the events for families in far off places to watch it, with a possible donation or small fee.

A clear up committee on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> will be arranged to ensure that all fireworks debris is collected from the farmer's fields.

## **Christmas Fair and Christmas Shopping**

The Christmas Fair will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 1200 - 1400

The Christmas Shopping (children only, during the school day) will be held on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Christmas Cards**

Rachel B and Y3 reps Melanie and Helen will liaise direct regarding this.

More information to follow.

## **Christmas Movie Night**

Y3 reps Melanie and Helen to organise a Christmas Movie Night.

More information to follow.

## **Christmas Town Event Advertising Boards**

Rachel R is looking for 15 people to take an advertising boards to be placed in their front gardens for the period between 27<sup>th</sup> October – 27<sup>th</sup> November. This will raise valuable funds for the PTA.

## **Bouncing for Fundraising!**

This is to be held on Friday January 28<sup>th</sup>

More information to follow.

## **Quiz Night**

Hannah, Isabella and Ben will look at holding the Quiz Night in February or March. More information to follow.

## **Casino Night**

Luffa suggested a casino night, having experience the success of them at a former school. The roulette tables and equipment (and croupier?) are hired in and the parents dress the hall, set up tables, drinks, ticketing etc

## **Class List**

85% of all parents and carers at the school are now signed up to Class List

This is becoming more and more useful for sharing and forwarding information.

All are encouraged to use it and get more signed up as it is GDPR compliant and reduces the need for multiple emails.

## **Easy Fundraising**

Rachel R gave an intro Easy fundraising, and will liaise with Richard re getting another message to the school community about this?

In light of last year's Easy Fundraising sum being used to buy the digital cameras, it is evident how much benefit the Fundraising tool is.

Kath suggested having the key points written on a poster that could be put up at the school events and parents eve etc so parents actually stop and read it.

## **Date of next PTA meeting**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm.