

PTA Meeting Minutes – 23rd Nov 22

Present – Lea-Anne Potter, Robert Gordon, Stacey Loudon, Mia Arnold, Sam Cavan, Rachel Martin, Kellie Harper, Rachel Irving, Laura Earl, Kazuyo Ruddick, Mrs Dalglish

Apologies – Laura Richardson, Anna Lindsay, Mrs Turney

Officers and trustees – No changes

Treasurers report -

£190 has been raised from Halloween Disco, £290 from Xmas Fayre.

37 numbers for club 100 have been sold.

There is also £20 due to go out for the gambling license for the next year (needed for raffles, club 100 etc)

Last Couple of Months, events and feedback-

Bingo Night went very well and was very well attended. £300+ was raised and feedback from those who attended was very positive, both kids and adults enjoyed it. Parents have requested another one and we will look to repeat this next year.

Halloween Disco raised £190, again feedback was good and kids who attended had a great time. It was noted that more money could have been raised but there was high expenditure for the event (drinks and decorations) however the drinks that were not sold have been saved and will be used at further events (keeping expenditure down) and the decorations will save for future parties.

Tea/Coffee Sale at Harvest Festival went well., although no-one brought re-usable cups and so if we do again, we will need to make sure we have enough disposable ones. If we are to do this again – we need to advertise that we are selling drinks as some people thought they were free.

Xmas Fayre went well raising £290 from table sales, raffle and refreshments, however, there was not much attendance from Parents. It was noted that it was short notice (3 weeks) and people had plans. There was good support from the residents of the village, but as not much money was spent on stalls, it would be difficult to do again with same sellers.

Xmas Panto

Mrs Dalglish advised they could not book the panto for Newcastle this year and although there is availability for Carlisle, she advised there is no space in the diary now to fit it in. They have looked for dates after Christmas, but Newcastle is full, and Carlisle are not showing then. It was raised that parents may not want the kids to go to Carlisle as they go as a family. It was also pointed out that Newcastle is cheaper than Carlisle.

A suggestion was made that the Panto would move to every other year as it was costly trip. On the years that the Panto trip will not happen, an alternative trip would be offered, for example to the cinema to watch a film.

A suggestion was made that the children would go to the Cinema in Jan 2023 instead of the Panto, for classes 2,3 &4. Class 1 could go to soft play as an alternative for them, as teachers feel a

panto/cinema trip would be too loud and overwhelming for them. Mrs Dalglish will talk to Vue Cinema about price and availability for a trip in January. Rachel Irving is going to contact Adventure World (Soft Play) to see if they would offer a package for class 1. Once we have costs for both trips, the PTA will agree how much we can fund towards it. Transport costs will also need to be considered.

Other suggestions were to have an online Pantomime, shown after school where kids can buy hot chocolate and snacks. This was decided to be parked for now, to see if we can arrange the trips instead as it was noted that parents may not have time to attend an evening event close to Christmas, however, we would like to come back to this in the new year to arrange for later in the year.

Xmas Presents

Rachel Martin is collecting 95 selection boxes from B&M in Carlisle on Thurs 24th Nov 22. Boxes are 89p with an additional 10% off = £76.10 total. Rachel will pay for these and claim back with Rob Gordon.

Suggestions for what monies are spent on

It was agreed by all that we need to tell parents what we are spending PTA money on as recently we have asked for a lot, in a short period of time. It was also suggested that we ask parents what they want. It was agreed that children from School Council will ask the children in school what they would like, Mrs Dalglish will ask teachers what they would like. A feedback letter is going to be sent to parents, a section of this will ask what parents would like to see money spent on. Other questions on this will ask what events parents would like to see and what they think works and doesn't work. Lea-Anne will create this and send to school for sending to parents.

Events and Ideas going forward

Hampers – We have not yet had any donations for the hampers. It was agreed we will put a cut of date on this as 9th Dec. Lea-Anne Potter and Stacey Loudon both offered to help make these. Laura Richardson also offered to help on this one. Lea-Anne will check if Laura is still happy to help. Mrs Dalglish has agreed that food donations can be sent into school with children (but they need to be clearly marked as for the hampers and not the reverse advent calendar), when there are a few items, Mrs Dalglish will let Lea-Anne know and Lea-Anne will see who on the PTA is available to collect from school so they don't sit mounting up. Stacey Loudon has offered to look at baskets to wrap the hampers. 3 hampers were agreed as there are 3 plays. Raffle tickets can be bought at both performances of each play, and the draw will take place after the evening play. We will need to allocate someone to help at each play, but this will be agreed once school have sent information on tickets and plays out to parents.

Christmas Light Switch On – 5th Dec 2:45pm – PTA have agreed to serve Hot Chocolate. Mrs Dalglish will check if we are able to use the school kitchen to prepare the drinks on the hob and serve in the hall. If we are unable to do this, we will serve tea & coffee instead, using the tea flask that Rachel Martin advised, will always be available for us to use. Drinks to be served before the switch on and can be taken into the church. PTA members will direct people to the hall for drinks, then to the church for the carols. Stacey Loudon has offered to go and purchase the milk, cream and marshmallows needed.

Tea Towel Sale – Lea-Anne has prepared the towels and sent off today for printing. 200 have been ordered and price was agreed at £5 each or £12 for 3.

Hot Choc Cones, Reindeer Food and Sweet cones – Rachel Martin has offered to make these, but only on pre order. All 3 for £5 but if individuals are requested, they can be sold for £2 each.

Lea-Anne Potter will create an order form to send to parents, to include tea towel order, and cones. Deadline for orders is 15th Dec, Cones for collection from Rachel on Mon 19th/Tues 20th Dec. Tea Towels can be given to children when they are delivered. Lea-Anne Potter is happy to sort the tea towels out to send home with children when they arrive.

Pre-Loved Christmas Jumper Sale – Was suggested. Mrs Dagleish advised they have tried to do this when we did the Air Ambulance collection at the beginning of half term , but no one donated. Laura Earl Suggested we ask for donations of jumpers after Xmas, when they have been used and we store them until the following Xmas, and then sell after school one day – from the yard, or in the hall. This was agreed.

Colour Run – Anna Lindsay expressed an interest in the colour run that is organised for May 2023. Members agreed this would be a great event and would ask that Anna could please bring the information to the next meeting so we can make plans.

PTA members being visible in yard – it was suggested that we try and make more effort as a PTA to be visible in the yard, and at the Class 1 door. Some new parents do not know who we are, and we agreed if we are selling something- or are asking parents to give us something, we can add onto the social pages, and groups, a photo of who we are, and where we will be. For example, at the picnic desk in yard at 3.20pm - or at the red gates.

Google Calendar and Emails from PTA

It was requested that we investigate creating a google calendar, where all events can be accessed by parents with all school events on, not just PTA. This would make it easier for parents to look at what is upcoming. PTA feel generally that dates get missed on weekly email. Mrs Dagleish will talk to IT to see if they can assist in setting this up.

It was suggested that a separate email is sent for PTA. Mrs Dagleish will ask if IT can set up a PTA email address and so we can send emails direct to parents from the PTA, (we may need help from Mrs Woods on this for sending to parents). Laura Earl Suggested having a competition for the kids to design a logo that would be used for the PTA, all agreed this was a good idea and we will launch this on the first week back in January. Winner will be picked by the PTA and used on all correspondence.

Instagram

Parents have expressed interest in an Instagram page, to mirror what is posted on Facebook as not all parents have the platform. Lea-Anne will check to see if she can set this up as she is unaware of what email address was used for the Facebook page.

AOB

Rachel Martin would like to arrange a community day where helpers would volunteer their time over a weekend. There is quite a bit of digging out to do, some veg planters to be removed and preparation to do to the ground ahead of the spring. The willow hide is being removed this weekend. Mrs Dagleish will talk to Mrs Woods to see if she can check the Risk Assessments to ensure we would be covered for having people on the premises. If we are okay, we will look to

arrange a date in Jan to do this. Longer term it was suggested that we could raise money for the garden (but not exclusively). There could be a tree inside school showing the progress of the amount needed. It was agreed we would look at helping with this, and some events could be exclusively for money for that, but making sure parents know we will still look at funding other things and not just this.

Date of Next meeting – Tues 10th Jan 3.30pm