



Minutes for PTA Members Meeting: Friday 17 January 2020

9.00am St Catherine's School

In Attendance: Mrs McCormick (Teacher representative), Lorraine O'Hare (Chairing meeting today in Sarah's absence) Trisha McElroy (Co-Treasurer), Carrie Riches (Co-Treasurer), Antoinette Meskill (Co-Secretary), Vinnett Walsh, Amanda Zacharzewski, Jane Zacharzewski, Angela Doyle, Denise Bebbington, Hannah Manton, Luisa O'Hare, Natalie Hegney, Tracey McGonigle, Caroline Rodgers, Sarah Hancock.

1. Apologies:

Sarah Moister (Chair), Miss Chwastek (Headteacher), Anna Kerins (Co-Secretary) Claire Clay, Kate Mackenzie, Alannah Robinson.

2. Minutes of the last meeting to be approved (13 November 2019)

The minutes were approved.

3. Finance Update

The balance this morning was £9737.66.

Trish gave the school a cheque for £5000.

Current balance is therefore £4737.66.

The amount raised since September = £6613.81.

Trish noted that now Vinnett is no longer PTA Secretary, she is no longer a signatory. Instead Trish has notified the bank that Carrie (Co Treasurer) will be signatory.

4. Review of Recent Events

• **Family Christmas Party on Sunday 1 December 2019- raised £2409.80**

There was a great atmosphere, DJ Dom was brilliant, the craft stall was a hit, huge thank you to Jane and Amanda for manning the kitchen for the whole event and for making all the tasty treats. Chris and Ben were fantastic Santas, and thank you to everyone who helped with the organizing and on the day to make it a successful event.

Was noted that the games stall was so popular that next year we should buy more prizes as we ran out.

Jane said they could have sold more hot dogs, but given it was the first year we had sold them, they were unsure on how many to buy and did not want left overs.

Jane said the only complaint received was that the hot dogs priced at 70p were too cheap. 70p meant that a profit was made and they were affordable especially for larger families. A suggestion was offered that next year they are sold for either £1, or sold as 'a minimum donation of 70p'.

This year we raffled a smiggle calendar. There was a suggestion that next year we buy two or one that would appeal to both genders eg Lego calendar.

- **Mulled Wine and Hampers on Thursday 5 December 2019 - raised £1474.10**

The footfall was down on last year, but there was a lovely atmosphere as it wasn't too crowded. We didn't sell out but it worked well as it was an opportunity to sell the treats that were leftover from the Christmas party. Thank you for all the hamper donations and to the teachers for putting them together to make it such a success.

It was commented that it was a shame the school choir were not singing, but Mrs McCormick explained that the choir had too many other events over the same period.

5. Forthcoming events

- **Bag2School Collection - Tuesday 21 January 2020 (Sarah M)**

The bag drop off will be in the church porch before 9am.

It was suggested that a message is sent out to remind people what you can donate, and to remind people they can use other bags - does not have to be the one provided.

A further reminder will be sent the day before collection.

- **Movie Night - Friday 24 January 2020 (Vinnett)**

We have enough parent volunteers to help with the event. Mrs McCormick will speak to the teachers as we need teachers for dismissal.

137 tickets have been sold so far. Year 1-3 will be in the hall. Year 4 - 6 will be in the classrooms.

It was raised that dodgeball normally takes place in the school hall after school on Friday. Mrs McCormick will speak to the organisers and arrange an alternative venue/ area to hold dodgeball.

Discussed snacks and drinks - it was agreed that children will be asked to bring their water bottles, and the snacks provided will be brioche, popcorn and plain biscuits.

There was discussion about whether to purchase individual packets of popcorn. Environmentally and financially it is beneficial to buy in bulk and separate into smaller paper bags.

We need to ask some helpers to arrive early to help put the popcorn in paper bags.

Helpers are Vinnett, Claire, Trish, Rebecca, Michelle, Maria, Justine, Jude, Luisa, Catherine and Aine.

- **Break the Rules Day - Friday 14 February 2020 (Trish)**

Mrs McCormick confirmed the rules are:

- Wacky hair
- Football shirt
- Odd/ wacky socks
- Trainers
- Nail varnish

Children will pay 50p for each rule they break. Children can bring money in to school from Wednesday 12th to Friday 14th February 2020. Trish will be around to collect the money over the 3 days. There was a suggestion that 1 child from each class can be responsible for collating the money in their class.

- **World Book Day Costume Sale/ Swap - Friday 28 February 2020 (Jade)**

Luisa suggested inviting the lady who used to run the fancy dress shop on School Lane in - she has provided the outfits for many parents previously.

Suggested that this will be a swap event or a donation. Jade has offered to fix any outfits donated beforehand. Sarah H can help beforehand but not at the event. Luisa and Vinnett offered to help on the day.

- **Spring Ball - Saturday 7 March 2020 (Claire Clay)**

Tickets will go on sale the last week of January - £30 per ticket. Plan to sell 100 tickets, but maximum capacity is 120 - so can review nearer time. There has been lots of interest from parents already, due to last years event being such a success.

The venue and DJ are booked. Angela mentioned that a year 1 dad has offered to play in his band at the event.

Mrs McCormick is going to see if she can arrange a photography student to take photos like last year. She is also going to speak to the teachers about making a video to be shown at the event.

Claire has already sourced some prizes for the raffle:

- EDC PT & Gym Package
- £75 voucher - Image Splash
- 3 course meal at Gusto for 2
- £50 voucher - Nicola Wardle photographer
- 2 Savoy Cinema tickets
- 1 Free Day holiday club voucher and T shirt - School of Sport
- 2 x £10 vouchers for Bubbles' World of Play

We need some big prizes for the silent action, so far we have

- 2 hour family photo shoot and bespoke framed photos from the session worth £295 - Andrew Collier photography

Ideally we would like a minimum of 3 big prizes - if anyone knows anyone that might be able to donate a big prize, or one for the raffle please let Sarah M know. Mrs McCormick will ask Didsbury House Hotel.

6. Any other business

- School Disco - Friday 15 May 2020

DJ Dom isn't available. Trish has found another DJ. This will take place when the Spanish exchange children are visiting which was agreed as a good idea - especially by the Year 5 parents in attendance.

- Denise mentioned that the school no longer give Year Books to Year 6 school leavers. Everyone agreed they are lovely and it would be nice for the PTA to support the cost of these. Sarah H asked for an electronic copy of a previous one so she could get a quote for the cost of printing. Caroline offered to help especially with proof reading. Mrs McCormick said it was a big job to get the contents together, and it would require help from parents, but she would speak to Mis Simi (who has organized the Year book in previous years) and ask Miss Simi to speak to Denise.
- Denise said she had a Holy Communion dress that she was happy to pass on. Caroline is going to send a whatsapp message to the Year 3 parents.
- Natalie asked why we do not celebrate St Patrick's Day. Discussed how we have celebrated it in previous years, but this year we are celebrating St Georges day in April, and we already have a busy calendar of events. Previously we have held a celebration after school but the Irish Dancer parent has since left. Suggestion that the children dress in the colours of the flag.

7. Date of next meeting

Friday 28 February 2020

Next meeting FRIDAY 28 February 2020 9AM - Venue to be confirmed.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!