

## Phil & Jim's PTA Open Meeting 4 November 2015

### Minutes

**Attendees:** Lara Stokes, Jen Ingham, Emma Dadson, Lisa Guppy, Irene Conway, Liz Dale, Shelley Joyce, Karen May, Joy Holgate, Ruth Dorso, Christina Hadj, Becky Chamberlain, Mel de Freitas, Cecile Girardin, Ros Owen

#### 1. Welcome and apologies

Lara and Jen welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked so many people for making an effort to come along.

**Apologies:** Tania Wilson, Sophie Heard

#### 2. Review Action Points from previous meetings

Jen gave a quick summary of the AGM.

*Classlist Trial* – this is continuing. Best usage is in lower grades as expected and not as popular in Years 4, 5 and 6.

**Action:** *Emma to post list of class reps.*

*Singapore Maths* – Last year paid for MyMaths and Numicon. Now using Singapore Maths compared to Abacus, which was previous system. The system is made up of a text book, individual work book for each child and teacher text. Believe to be a more comprehensive system. **Action:** *School to confirm cost to PTA and Committee will confirm amount of contribution.*

*Footsteps/Cycle Proficiency* – Footsteps programme in the process of being booked. Will be 1/2 hour presentation.

Cycle proficiency – only for older years. We can only ask for voluntary contribution. Suggestion: Club? Virtual road safety? **Action:** *Consider further and undertake further research.*

#### 3. Disco update

Sadly, the disco has been a struggle to organise and based on ticket sales, we do not have a lot of interest. Also one of event organisers now unable to attend. Original idea of ceilidh and to have a social event. Discussed various options and response from parents:

- Cancellation is difficult
- Some parents felt the event was more for parents in EYU, Year 1
- Bonfire night might be competition?
- Some people not like dressing up
- People respond better if is fundraising although previously feedback has been that PTA has too much emphasis on fundraising.

**Action:** *With regret, decided to cancel disco. However, will look at alternate event perhaps ceilidh in Spring.*

#### 4. South Africa School Uniforms

International evening raised funds for school. Idea was to fund borehole.

Irene and Ros visited school and discussed options regarding borehole. Negotiated with Municipality and agreement reached that water can be piped to school, therefore borehole not required. As alternative decided to purchase selection of new uniforms – shoes, shirts, trousers and tunics. Many children either do not have uniforms or they are very old and well-worn. PTA agreed to spend on uniforms rather than borehole. Parents were very grateful and pleased and asked Irene and Ros to pass on their sincere thanks.

School in Africa is Year 5 to Year 8 (Middle School). The School has no special needs provision, all children taught in same class. Irene and Ros confirmed that there was a lot we can do that can make a big difference. Another option is for an internet connection. This might mean that we could skype with children. It would also be good to have Phil & Jim's children involved. We could also use skype or internet to organise CPD for teachers in Africa eg video teacher presentations and send via internet and also video children if parents agree. Would PTA be interested in contributing to cost for internet?

Another possible fundraising idea relates to teacher visits. One teacher will come to visit Phil & Jims once the British Council funding is finalised. We could look at raising funds to pay for a second teacher. It is very beneficial to have 2 teachers visiting.

There is a container going to school in April. It is organised with Borien Education Foundation and OCC. Furniture and books are sent. PTA will look to make a concerted effort for donations to be strategic eg maybe have working bee to ensure computers sent are in working order.

**Action: School to advise of funds required for internet, approx. £2,000. PTA keen to fund.** Maybe look to donate some of fundraising from Quiz Night? Other ideas to have children involved eg sponsorship – give up screen time for a week and get sponsors?

## 5. Calendar

Calendar is completed. Just needs some additional dates. Extra inset days: 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept and 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2016. Normal term dates. Sports Day? Aristotle Cup? **Action: Jen/Lara to contact Sarah and see if she can finalise date with St Aloysius.** Sponsors have covered printing costs plus a bit extra. Aim to print by Friday and should have delivery in a couple of weeks. Will do pre-order form again and require helpers at gate.

## 6. Christmas Cards

Cards all sent to printers. £2,084 banked. Should be back next week.

## 7. Christmas Bazaar & Santa's Grotto

Date is Friday 11 December. Will require helpers for day of Bazaar and also to sort the day before. Discussed having Santa's Grotto again. Only issue is Santa in Spain. May do following week? Action: School to look at best date. No reason we can't have separate events.

Book people suggestions required. **Action: Parents to look at books**

**available especially from The Book People and recommend collections.**  
Aim is less than £1 per book. Collections are best.

#### **8. Committees and volunteers for events Terms 3-6**

Various staple events: Quiz Night, Mother's Day Breakfast, Nearly New Sale, Summer Fete, Aristotle Cup

Should we also hold Auction?? Raises lots of money. However, need someone to lead it. **Action: PTA to consider options of someone to run Promises Auction.**

Tea Towels? Tamara Thomas is keen to organise. At some point need children to draw picture and then can make tea towels. Will be mini fundraiser. Maybe for year end? Best option is to have a tea towel per year group.

#### **9. AOB**

Photos – general comments:

- not as good as previous providers;
- not as many options for purchase eg mugs were very popular last year and not available this year;
- some of the poses were a bit “fake”;
- costs for photos on CD also very expensive. For 2 children, if want to purchase CD's, you have to purchase 3 CD's (one of each individual photos and one with joint photos), amounting to total cost of £75. The photographer had confirmed that this was the cost and covered their improvements and professional treatment of the photos.

School was grateful for feedback.

Bollards – issue was raised regarding the bollards to the school. We appreciate bollards need to be there but the signage regarding the bollards particularly on exiting the school is not very clear eg cars do not seem to realise that when the bollard goes down, only one car can go through and then the bollard comes up and the second car must wait for the bollard to retract again. School confirmed that they have no influence or power regarding the bollards. This is something that needs to be raised with the Council.