



**SS Philip & James' Primary School
Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
Registered Charity No. 1121283**

**PTA Chair Report
Academic Year 2015-2016**

For two years now, we have had the privilege of Co-Chairing the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) here at Phil & Jim. During this time our PTA has raised a lot of money to enhance the education of the children at Phil & Jim, and we could not be more proud of all that we have accomplished. "We," is all of us: each and every parent and teacher here at the school who has contributed in some way to make our community as strong as it is! Our successes are due to the continuing support of the school and so many generous, dedicated, hardworking parents who consistently volunteer their time, efforts, and talents to our events.

Our PTA exists to provide the families of Phil & Jim with fun and interactive social activities that strengthen the relationship between home and school, and build a sense of community amongst all our families. We use these events to fundraise for programs, facilities and activities at Phil & Jim.

Every parent and teacher at Phil & Jim is a member of the PTA. The PTA Committee currently consists of five trustee members, selected by vote at the Annual General Meeting in September 2015.

Co-Chairs: Jen Ingham and Lara Stokes

Secretary: Lisa Guppy

Treasurer: Tania Wilson

Class Rep Coordinator: Emma Dadson

Project Coordinator: Becky Chamberlain

Our aim is to have a fundraiser or social event each half term (or close to it!). In 2015/2016, we raised more than £16,000 to benefit the students at Phil & Jim! These events include the following:

- In the beginning of the year, we publish and sell an annual **calendar** with pictures of all the students and staff at the school. We printed 400 calendars and sold out!
- For the holidays, we celebrate with several different programs. 1) an option for children and parents to **design their own Christmas/Holiday cards**, with a profit going to the PTA. 2) Our **Annual Christmas Bazaar**, where the children are able to bring in a small amount of money (£2) to buy gifts for their friends and families. 3) a visit to the school from **Father Christmas**, who sees all children in Key Stage 1 and **delivers a book to each child** at the school.
- At the end of January, parents gather for the **Annual Quiz Night**, a chance to have a nice meal, a few drinks, and some friendly competition amongst other parents. This even always sells out and is quite a popular night out!
- This year, we hosted a **Ceilidh** for parents to have a night out and socialise in a different environment. The band was fabulous and everyone who attended had a ball!
- Our **Mother's Day Breakfast** is a wonderful opportunity to shower the hardworking mums of Phil & Jim with gifts and treats, and a chance for the whole family to come to school early and enjoy breakfast amongst friends.
- In May we offer parents and other members of the community a chance to spring clean and recycle earning money for themselves and our PTA at our **Annual Nearly New Sale!**
- The biggest and most lucrative event of the year, our **Summer Fete** is a fun day out for the whole family, counting on every family to participate to run stalls, make food, and provide grand entertainment for the community.
- Our final event of the year, the **Aristotle Cup**, is a day filled with football and a celebration of sport and friendly competition between our friends at St. Aloysius. This year the Cup expanded to include Wolvercote, Cutteslowe and St Barnabas primary schools as well and was an absolute hit!

In addition to our Annual/Semi-Annual events, we raised money for the school through our partnerships such as the Amazon and Easy Fundraising donation programs, as well as through sponsorship from local businesses. Our (almost) weekly cake sales held by each year group generate several thousand pounds each year, the proceeds going directly to the teachers for use in their classrooms.

In our second year as Co-chairs, our main priority was to provide an opportunity for parents to meet and socialise with one another, to see and speak to teachers outside the classrooms, and to give the children a chance to show their musical, artistic, and athletic talents. We listened to feedback from parents after the events we organised in our first year, and made changes to make them more accessible to everyone. For example, we considerably lowered the costs at the Mother's Day Breakfast, in order to shift the primary focus from fundraising to socialising and celebrating with each other.

With the help of all the parents who donated time and money, the Phil & Jim PTA was able to grant the school money for the following in 2015/2016:

- Playground markings
- £200 to each classroom & the library
- £25 of supplies for each classroom
- Maths workbooks
- A "Santa" gift (book) for each child in the school
- Bookshelves
- Outdoor Table Tennis tables and supplies
- Annual Life Bus and Residential contributions
- Development of "The Mound"

None of these things would be possible without the support of such an amazing community. We are fortunate to have many businesses and sponsors who donate food, drink, money and supplies to our school. Yet at the heart of that community is every parent at Phil & Jim, the teachers who help us organise and get ready for our events, the staff members who come early and stay late to help set and clear up, and most of all the children who bring their creativity and passion to school every day, giving us reasons to do what we do in order to help the school supply them with the tools to achieve greatness.

Thank you to each and every person who has given their time and talents to help us reach our goals. Each year we have wonderful parent volunteers to act as Class Representatives, and they all deserve our gratitude for all that they do! Yet we would like to specifically thank the following PTA members for their contributions in 2015/2016:

Lisa Guppy, Emma Dadson, Becky Chamberlain, Tania Wilson, Ruth Dorso, Jen Watkiss, Sarah Griffiths, David Griffiths, Joy Weideman, Sid Dixon, Delia Secker-Walker, Gemma Langle, Genevieve Atkinson, Mel de Freitas, Colin Wilson, James Droop, Al Myers, Andrew Phillips, and Camille Hallo.

With thanks to the staff: Irene Conway, Rosalind Owen, Ann-Marie Wortley, Matthew Hudson, Antony Matthews, Karen May, Becky Churchill and Sarah Heppell.

We had a fantastic year and are looking forward to all that is ahead.

With gratitude,

Jen Ingham and Lara Stokes
Phil & Jim PTA Co-Chairs