

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting.

In line with our constitution the purpose of this Charity is to advance the education of the pupils at Wheatfields Primary School by assisting in the provision of facilities and equipment for the School and the organisation of social and other events to promote good relationships between staff and families.

This report details the work of the Parent and Teachers Association for the period of September 2019 to July 2020.

This has been my first year as Chair of the PTA. Stepping into the role has been both daunting and pleasurable in equal measure. I have enjoyed working with a fantastic team of Trustees, Staff and Helpers who have given their time and energy so that the pupils, our children, have been provided with some of those 'little extras' in order that their experience of school is both productive and memorable.

Our year began very busily with the new trustees and helpers managing the Christmas season of events while still finding our feet. Thank you to everyone for your patience as we figured things out! Our regular meetings were well supported and the events were well organised, with help from parents and the school.

We considered the lessons we learnt from each event, and how they could be adopted moving forward. We, as a Committee, want to be sure we communicate well with all the families of children in Wheatfields Primary School. We made some improvements – for example, the introduction of a PAWS Facebook page has helped with quick updates, and the use of Google Forms to register online for events. We want every parent or Carer to:

- know about the events that we are organising, large and small
- know how we use the funds for equipment and activities for the school
- feel welcome to offer ideas to us
- feel welcome to come and help us

We will continue to improve, with these goals in mind.

The PTA has also worked to coordinate closely with the school. Thanks goes to Mrs Probert and Mrs Grey-Thomas, who have fostered the relationship between school staff and the PTA, helping to gather ideas, support and feedback for events. For example, the Christmas Fair's success thanks to all the teachers setting up and running class stalls and at the Disco providing supervision, first aid cover and face painting. We are on course to further improve this relationship into the 2020-2021 school year.

Unfortunately, the second half of this year presented us with extreme challenges that no one could have imagined. With the country in lockdown, school closed and various members of the committee facing devastating personal events, PAWS had a few very quiet months. Other events PAWS planned to hold, such as the sponsored event, the summer fair, frozen Friday's and another disco and the events we fund, such as Egyptian day, Viking day and the NHS Life Bus, were not able to go ahead.

The fundraising efforts from events and activities we were able to organise this year including the Christmas events, Bingo night and of course the fabulous, sell out Disco amounted to more than £6000! So again, thank you to everyone who helped, from the parents, to the school staff, and students.

This fundraising enabled the PTA to provide the School with 28 Kindle Fire devices to use in the accelerated reading programme as the main purchase for the year. I hope those of you with children in KS2 have heard about it; I know my son is really enjoying it! Mrs Thornton will speak in a few minutes about the next project we would like to fund.

This year we were able to provide the year 6 leavers with printed hooded sweatshirts rather than the usual t-shirts, as they had missed out on so many activities and events toward the end of their time at Wheatfields. These were very well received and I have seen them being worn around St Ives.

The primary function of the PTA is to raise funds, and our fundraising achievements will be detailed presently within the Treasurer's report. However, we also work to build the relationships between families and the School through the events and activities we hold. I am very grateful for the ongoing support and guidance provided by our head teacher, Mrs Thornton, and the administrative staff who deal with our many and varied queries with patience and understanding. Without their unwavering support the PTA would not function as we do.

Finally, a word of appreciation to everyone involved in the PTA events this year, your commitment and willingness to contribute has been incredible, your efforts ensures the PTA continues to strengthen. We look forward to 2020-21.