

Minutes: Whittingham PTA and Friends

Wednesday 3rd October 2018

Present: Belinda Athey (BA – Headteacher) Louise Hodgson (LH-Chair), Emma Manners (EM – Treasurer), Tina Wynne (TW- Secretary), Sue Parker (SP), Elizabeth Knox (EK), Coco Oates (CO), Rebecca Wilson (RW), Sophie Cussins (SC), Gemma Woods (GW), Sally Headley (SH), Emma Havelin (EH), Stephanie Golder (SG), Mark Golder (MG)

Apologies to those present and whose names I haven't listed if I have missed anyone! Thank you to everyone who came, it was a great turn out :-)

PTA Committee to stay as it is currently for this year.

Chairman Louise Hodgson

Vice Chairman Sophia Chinn

Treasurer Emma Manners

Secretary Tina Wynne

Apologies: Sophia Chinn (SC – Vice Chair), Alice Landale

Minutes of last meeting: Agreed correct

Treasurers Report: Current Balance £2,770.10 – PTA to continue funding transport for swimming/gymnastics and school trips. BA highlighted our school library and how great it is especially after it's makeover and instead of trying to raise money for the library bus mentioned earlier in the year (this may happen at a later date in the future), we are going to concentrate on raising funds for the Daily Mile all weather path and other outdoor facilities.

The Daily Mile has been such a brilliant start to the pupil's day, not only has it helped them feel energised in the morning, as well as keeping the pupils fit for other sports, it has been great for their concentration and has been beneficial to all the pupils involved.

On top of the all weather path we are looking at improving the Forest School further by building an outdoor building/shed. Planning permission is not needed for the path or shed so it would be a case of sourcing the materials and continued help and support from parents/friends, which is always hugely appreciated.

The opening ceremony will take place once the path has been completed. BA also mentioned looking into a possible grant for installation of different styles of art to be exhibited around the school. There will be more focus on building, further scope and interest to music and arts across the school next year. As the school is increasing in pupils, the storage and cloakroom areas will need to be assessed to make more room.

Fundraising Ideas:

Colour/Mud/Fancy Dress Family Run – SC had come up with the idea of family run, possibly a colour run similar to the Obstacle Colour Run that tours around the UK, however after much discussion, it was decided with health and safety in mind, a fancy dress family run would be safer and no disclaimers would need to be signed. This is still up for discussion and further details to be confirmed, but possibly a Spring or Summer event.

Pop Up Shop – We have had a pop-up shop in Alnwick in the past, which has been a great way to pass and sell unwanted clothes, toys, furniture and usually a great fundraiser for the school. We do need help from parents to facilitate this and we would look to work on a Rota style basis. EM to speak with Julia Dods and Nicola Wood and check availability with the shop. Possibly Spring next year, date tbc.

Easter Egg Hunt – The PTA have organised Easter Egg Hunts in the past which we haven't had for a couple of years, but these can be a great family morning and a fun way to earn all those yummy Easter eggs. In the past parents have helped with baking and making tray bakes to sell. Might also be an idea to see if we can have face painting and other activities going on. Rachel Wood has very kindly offered to host the event at her home. Thank you! Help will be requested nearer the time and date tbc.

Bingo & Auction Night – Bingo Nights have been a great success in the past and we have had successful nights both in Glanton and Whittingham village halls. So this year we are not only going to have a family Bingo night, but also extend the evening to those who would like to stay a little longer, or those who can't make the Bingo to come afterwards to the Auction.

This will be taking place in Whittingham Hall and will start at 5pm. Fish & Chips from the van at 7pm. People can continue the evening with the auction, which will be held straight afterwards at 8pm. A film night for the children was mentioned, which would be great fun for the kids to bring film snacks and a cuddly toy, even change into their pj's/onesies while the Auction is going on. This will be held in school.

This would be in the lead up to Christmas, so any raffle prizes/donations would be hugely appreciated and maybe instead of Easter eggs which we have had in the past, chocolate stockings etc. could be an idea, or Christmas calendars/decorations etc. ... fizz/wine obviously welcome!

There will be a paid bar, which we haven't done before, as it's always been byo, we are going to obtain a license, however a condition of the license means you will not be allowed to byo on this occasion. Suggested date is Friday 23rd November, EM to check with Maureen re hall availability. LH to speak to Geoff re ordering plenty of fish and chips!! :-)

For the Auction, we will need to ask for around 10 Lots – we don't want it too big, but any donations would be welcome, such as bags of coal/logs/pet portraits/Hampers etc. If you or if you know of anyone who might wish to donate, please get in touch with the school office. We hopefully have an auctioneer too, Tom Oates woo hoo!

Any Other Business

BA – in the past the pupils have had a Christmas treat, this year we are hoping to take them to a pantomime, however this is dependent on cost and location. EM mentioned Tyneside are cheaper and Theatre Royal in Berwick also an option. EK said that NTC do a good local production, however might be quite expensive. BA to look into it further.

We will be looking to run the Kids Christmas Shop, which the pupils love to do! This is where the pupils bring in donations and they wrap the gifts up and label them to give to family members and friends as Christmas gifts. They name and choose who they are going to buy for on a form handed out to parents beforehand. Children 50p and Adults are £1. They usually wear a festive/Christmas jumper too. EM to ask if Gayle and Steph are happy to continue with this.

Meeting closed at 6.15pm

Next meeting Monday 12th November at 1.30pm in School.