

PTA Chairs Report 2021

Welcome to the PTA AGM for the 2020/2021 year and thank you all for your attendance this evening.

In view of the current Covid-19 restrictions we are holding this AGM via Zoom rather than our normal face to face meeting. We have already held regular PTA meetings successfully in this way.

The 2020/2021 year has been another challenging one, not only for us as individuals, but also in our communities with the ongoing pandemic. We have adjusted the way in which we fundraise so that we can maintain our funds to some degree. The Treasurer's report provided by Jackie will outline all of this in detail. We now need to start planning and preparing for future events as restrictions are removed and discussing how best to use the funds that have been raised.

Unfortunately, the events we would normally hold have been unable to go ahead. However, we have been able to hold a number of non-uniform days, utilise our textile recycling banks, supporters have bought Your School Lottery tickets and we even managed a pre-loved uniform and plant sale.

We are always looking to try new events and ideas. With this in mind, we held a pre-loved uniform and plant sale and two well received Break the Rules days. The sale was well supported and we are considering when and how other sales can be held.

The textile recycling banks have been very successful and well supported with fortnightly collections by Bags of Help. The Your School Lottery, which was started in November 2020, has maintained good ticket sales and we recently even had a winner of the £25,000 national jackpot! They have helped us to maintain a steady flow of funds.

The Pre-loved Uniform Exchange page on Facebook enabled parents to connect and swap or exchange outgrown or needed uniform. The PTA was also able to sell items we had in stock and thank you to Charlie for taking this on.

A couple of positives for this year were being able to fund the Year 6 trip to Crealy and the Inflatables Day in July. It was lovely to see and hear that the children enjoyed these.

We welcome feedback regarding our fundraising events and are always looking to implement suggestions from within the PTA, parents and children.

I would like to thank our many fantastic volunteers for the time they give to help us run our events. It is appreciated and without them we would not be able to raise vital funds for resources across the school and to support our children's education. Any time that you can give to a stall or task makes a difference.

The core PTA committee is made up of a small group of committed parents. Each year as the current Year 6 children move on to the next stage of their education, we inevitably lose some experienced members and volunteers. It is important that we are able to pass on knowledge to each new committee, whilst supporting them as they get established. We will be discussing role changes as part of this evening's agenda and I would encourage any of you to consider now and in the future, the opportunity to be an active member of the PTA. Without new members the PTA will not continue, and I believe this would be to the detriment of our school. It is also a great way to meet other families at our school and staff. We can show our children that we all have a social responsibility to our community.

As my youngest son will be leaving Hazeldown next year I am stepping down as Chair at this AGM but will remain on the PTA and continue to support it. I would like to thank all the past and current committees for your support and friendship. It's been fun! I have reflected on the contribution our family has made over the last 8 years and hope we leave our school community more enriched for the future. We have all enjoyed the experience of organising and attending various events over the years, seen lots of new resources added and made many friends along the way.

The PTA continues to make sure its accessibility and communications are usable and engaging whilst raising our profile. You can get in contact with us via the school's website where our pages are regularly updated, check out our Facebook page and Instagram account or email us.

Thank you for listening and I will now handover to our Treasurer, Jackie, for her report on our financial year.

Ellen Palmer
Chair
03.11.2021