

CATHEDRAL PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA
Annual General Meeting
Monday 4 March 2019
CHAIR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2018-19



Once again, the PTA has had a brilliant year of fundraising. The Treasurer's report will provide a detailed breakdown, but to briefly summarise: this year we have managed to raise a fantastic £12,240!

Highlights from 2018-19 include:

- Our annual Easter Egg hunt which was generously supported by Sainsbury's Hippodrome, who supplied 240 chocolate eggs for each of the children;
- Our fantastic Summer Fun Day and Raffle which is always such great fun and brings all our families together for a day in the sun.
- Summer play dates for our new reception and current pupils – a wonderful way to get to know other families at the school and to meet new friends.
- All our Christmas events: the Christmas Tree sale, Christmas Raffle Christmas Cards, and our chaotic but much enjoyed Christmas Fayre.

Special thanks to all the wonderful volunteer parents and carers who donate their time, energy and assistance in making these events happen – we are very lucky to have such an engaged and supportive community.

Thanks also goes to our business supporters; who either sponsored or purchased advertising space, donated prizes, provided us with use of equipment and/or services to enable maximum profit from putting on these events and activities.

In addition to the highlighted activities, the PTA have provided refreshments at the new starter induction evening, sports days and with the support and wonderful co-ordination of the Class Reps, we have hosted around 25 ice lolly Friday's and around 14 Cake Sales during the course of the year. Thank you!

Our primary fundraising objective over the last few years has been to raise funds to support the cost of the new play equipment in College Square. We understand that, subject to no further planning delays, the playground works will commence in the Summer holidays this year. We have everything crossed that it all goes as planned – the children are certainly eager for its arrival!

Whilst much of the year is spent fundraising, the PTA have also supported the cost of various activities during the year enjoyed by the children, including: Forest School minibus hire, the Book Week author and workshops; the living eggs; new Forest School overalls; and Christmas book gifts.

We have also purchased a green bin and registered the PTA/School as a teracycle collector. This means we now collect empty biscuit and crisp wrappers which we are able to send off for recycling in return for a donation to the school. This is such a great way to help reduce the amount of waste going to landfill whilst also raising money for the school.

The PTA fully support the school's ambitions to become 'greener' and we have pledged to phase out our existing stock of single use cups and other supplies, so far as we can, and to make every effort to recycle waste produced at events we put on. You will have no doubt seen small changes already, such as the numerous recycling bins that we arranged for the Summer Fun Day and the children being asked to bring their own bottles for Sports Day in lieu of single use bottles of water. In

conjunction with the Green Team, we hope to be able to implement more green initiatives over the next 12 months.

Over the coming months, in addition to the usual events and activities that the PTA put on for the children and new starters, we plan to have a Quiz Night for parents and carers and a school disco in October for the children. We hope you will be able to join us for the Quiz night, for an evening of general knowledge and socialising. Everyone is sincerely welcomed.

I am an extremely luck Chair. I am surrounded by people who genuinely care and want to be involved in the PTA. The support the Committee has received in the last 12 months from parents, carers, teachers and businesses, to put on the various activities and events has been amazing and whilst at times it's stressful and oh, so tiring(!), your engagement makes it all worthwhile. Our class reps are such a fantastic group – cake and ice lolly Friday's are run with such military precision and co-ordination and yes, sometimes I know you all want to quit, but genuinely from the bottom of my heart, I can't thank each of you enough for all that you do. Elaine, Lisa, Laura, Troy, Lucy, Jessica, Rebecca, Tara, Cathy and Denise; You bring so many smiles to the children on a weekly basis not just because of the weekly sugar rush but because they can see you being part of the PTA and being involved in their school life. Without you we would be lost. So, thank you.

In addition to the Class Reps, I would like to thank the Committee members for all that they do. Vice Chairs – Al and Karen Norman – for their energy, level headedness, amazing persuasiveness of supermarkets and awesome design skills; our Treasurer, Mary Hodges who collects, counts and banks money weekly after every cake and lolly Friday and event, doing the books, reports and keeping us compliant with the Charity Commission and tax man! Cherene Whitfield for her fabulous minuting, agendas, diary skills and all round great secretary, who kindly agreed to extend her role when Fardossa Abdillahi had to suddenly step down from the joint role late last year for personal reasons. Thank you all for your loyalty, support, wisdom and efforts. We make a great team.

Finally, I would also like to express thanks to all the staff, parents, carers and families who have supported and participated in our events so generously and enthusiastically – without your participation, there is no PTA. I look forward to the next 12 months and am determined to see College Square transformed come what may!

Thank you.

Vanessa Searle.
4 March 2019