

PARK MEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL PTFA CHAIRS REPORT 2017-18

Thank you to everyone for coming to the AGM and welcome to all the new parents and carers joining us at the school.

In last year's Chair report I mentioned that the majority of the fundraising efforts were down to a few key PTFA members doing most of the hard work and we were aiming to change that for 2017-18. Well 2017-18 has been a record breaking year for us with a huge increase in total funds raised compared with the previous year. I've been trying to reflect on what has made the difference this year in terms of bringing in the extra funds at our main events and I have to say I think it comes down to teamwork. Ultimately, more people have been involved and more people means more fundraising power! So thank you to all who stepped up and answered our calls to help and got involved last year. Whether you helped out in a big way or small, every half hour counts. I never thought we would raise enough to buy a minibus for the school in one year of fundraising but we did it! I'm very grateful to all our volunteers and parents/carers that I can end my tenure as Chair on such a high note.

I would personally like to individually thank many of you who have been involved over the past school year, so a big thank you to:

- Kat Ridley, outgoing treasurer, for her endless support and wisdom throughout the year. Keeping on top of all the finances even after starting back at work 4 days a week and despite the best efforts of the banks to sabotage us by closing down.
- Jacky Faithful, outgoing secretary, who is always there helping out on top of a busy work life balance.
- Mhairi Coles and Barbara Stevens and their fair subcommittees who put together two record breaking fairs for us. Amazing work.
- Carla Stevens who did another excellent job running the cake raffle for us throughout the year raising more than the previous year.
- All the parents, staff and friends who put the pantomime together last year raising a large amount of money and a lot of smiles from the audiences.
- Lisa Quinlan and her team for running Presents for Parents.
- Rachel Watts who has done an amazing job producing all the fantastic posters you've seen for all our events over the past year.
- Andrew Garrod for his help printing our materials for us.
- Claire Vince, Lucie Korousova and Sara Burge for organising our groovy 60's dine and disco.
- Emily Brash and Sarah Vague who have run our refreshments for visitors to school.
- Alasdair Robson for supporting our fundraising events and organising Phil the Bag.
- All the wonderful class reps who have helped us put on all our big events, the fairs, the tuck shops and presents for parents. A big part of what we raise is down to your help and we couldn't do it without your support.
- Vicky Hedger and Gail Gascoyne in the office who go out of their way to try and help us get messages out to parents, organise schedules and timings, collect in money and requests and generally help with the day to day PTFA stuff.

A huge thank you to all of you! It's down to the hard work of so many that we were able to raise so much.

I have enjoyed my time as Chairperson of the PTFA immensely. It hasn't always been easy and there have been many challenges along the way but it has been so rewarding to see so many children and their families enjoying the many different events and activities that we have organised over the last three years. Not to mention how lovely it is to see the trim trail and minibus being used and enjoyed by the school. In fact, if it weren't for a change in my personal circumstances and my new job I'd probably still be standing again. However, it's time for someone new to take the helm and inject some new ideas and inspiration into the PTFA. I can only hope that you support her or him as much as you have supported me and that the new Chairperson enjoys it as much as I have over the years.

Thank you everyone! Loving your work!
Louise Auty
Chairperson 2017/18