



The Friends of St Thomas More **AGM**

Wednesday 30th January 2019

Present: Ebony Taylor, Kirti Mistry-McLaughlin, Rachael Ellis, Hayley Birrell, Natasha Kearney, Mahala Nemauro, Charlotte Crosse, Charlotte Cummins, Anita Bakowski, Oonagh Gooding, Joanna Rennie, Beata Hughes, Aneta Goodman, Tina D'Souza

Apologies: Jeanette Holland, Eilis Brotherton, Samina Randall

Chair Report:

Ebony welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. She started by proposing that we change the date of the AGM to fall in line with the school year and new Chairs taking over (should a Chair leave the school at the end of the school year). So from now on the AGM will take place in September. Her report as follows:

Since the last AGM there have been a number of changes to the committee with the departure of the Chair Julie Cummins and Vice Treasurer Gill Jacobs.

Margaret Carroll will also be stepping down as Vice Chair but continuing to provide support to the Friends. We would like to thank them all for their contribution and support to the school.

Since July 2018 Kirti and Ebony have been co-chairing the committee until this AGM when the Co-Chairs will be formally voted in. This meeting will also need to vote in a new Vice Chair & vice treasurer.

In that time we have also welcomed a new head teacher Charlotte Crosse to the school, who has been working closely with the Friends to ensure all events are a success for the children and we have begun to tackle a number of projects which are important to the school community such as the playground and the issue of road safety.

The office, teaching staff, kitchen staff and Leon continue to play an important role in supporting the Friends and Key events; we would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for all their continued support and help.

Events held during 2017

- **Halloween Disco** - this was a successful event, well attended and the first time the event was a drop and go and involved teachers. Thank you to the teachers for their help. The feedback from the children was positive.
- **Welcome Event** – this was an event mainly attended by new parents, this was a successful event giving new parents an opportunity to meet other families within the community.
- **Calendars** – This is always a very successful event and raised a significant amount of money. Please see financial report.
- **Christmas cards** - This is always a very successful event and raised a significant amount of money. Please see financial report.
- **Christmas dinner** – This is always a lovely event for the children and well enjoyed, this year we bought crackers instead of making them, which received some negative feedback from the children as they didn't like the toys!
- **Quarterly draw** – Please see financial report



- **Frozen Friday-** We enjoyed a very hot summer and Frozen Friday was very popular and enjoyed by the children. Please see financial report for profits.

The Friends achievements

Playground

The Friends have provided financial assistance towards funding the new equipment in the playground.

The Friends are currently working with Mrs Crosse to look at purchasing play items for the playground. This was following feedback from some of the children that there were not enough items such as skipping ropes to go round. Purchases will include skipping ropes, hula hoops and other play equipment. The Friends have also purchased some new signs for the playground – look out for these in the future!

Road safety

The Friends are currently working closely with the school to continue to improve road safety around the school. We have had the implementation of the safety bollards and we are currently liaising with the Council to ensure that the issue of safe crossing and speed is addressed.

Future events

To spend the money raised by the Birthday Calendar and Christmas Cards on a treat for the whole school, with teachers, teaching assistants and office staff being invited. Our first treat was a trip will be to the Peepul Centre to see Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs on the last day of term. It was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone and we hope to repeat the same next year.

Future projects

- Road Safety- to continue to tackle this issue with the Council.
- Playground – to continue to support the school to develop the school playground.
- Continue with regular events such as the book fair, second hand uniform stall, promotion of the quarterly draw, easyfundraising
- May fayre

We would like to thank all members of the Friends who continue to provide their time and support to ensure that the children continue to be able to benefit from events organised and money raised.

Aims & Objectives

The aim of The Friends of St Thomas More School is to support the school community and enrich the children's experience both academically and socially.

We would like to use the above as a 'mission statement' and establish some objectives to work towards. Proposed objectives include using the Christmas Card/Calendar to provide an annual Christmas Panto trip, to continue working with the school to improve the playground and its facilities and to continue assisting the school in its quest to improve road safety around the school.



Treasurers Report:

Hayley's Treasurer's report is below, her comments as follows:

- The main point to note is that whilst we still raise a fantastic amount of money our biggest fundraisers – the May Fayre and the Christmas Cards/Birthday Calendar – have suffered a gradual decline over the past few years.
- Events such as Frozen Friday continued to be successful and Julie's squishie sale was a great success.
- Quarterly draw down - need to market this and give it a real push. Many people have left and their places have not been filled.

Friends of St Thomas More			
Treasurers Report			
AGM November 2018			
Proceeds from the activities for the year October 2017 to end September 2018			
		<i>Event</i>	<i>Profit</i>
Autumn event		Bingo	£409.34
Autumn disco		Halloween Disco	£325.96
Fundraiser		Christmas Cards	£1,408.50
		Christmas Calendars	£2,460.00
Spring Event		Book Sale	£52.00
Summer Event		Squishies	£210.00
Fundraiser		May Fayre	£3,880.00
Throughout		Frozen Fridays	£308.00
Throughout		Second Hand Uniform	£153.00
Fundraiser	All year	Quarterly draw*	£890.00
			£10,096.80
*Quarterly Draw			
No of people in the draw this year for each quarter was;			
Autumn 30, Winter 30 Spring 30, Summer 30			
Therefore we received a total of £1810			
Prize money paid out was £920			
Profit is £890			



Sundry income from activities for the year October 2017 to end September 2018	
Christmas play refreshments	£140.21
Bank interest earned	£3.87
Easy fundraising	£1,341.67
School play refreshments	£141.11
<i>Total income from Fundraising + sundry</i>	
£11,723.66	

Events / items funded by friends for the year October 2017 to end September 2018		
Description		
Annual expenditure		
General	Insurance	£399.29
General	Licensing	£81.04
Annual donations		
F2	Gingerbread Man	£13.50
All Classes	Donation towards Bibles, House outings, etc..	£1,000.00
All Classes	Donation for indoor play toys or new books	£900.00
All Classes	Christmas crackers / Christmas lunch	£157.22
Donations		
F2	Classroom Supplies	£1,213.00
Sports	Netball Trip	£200.00
Music	Music Trip	£308.00
Year 6	Trip For Leavers	£200.00
F2	Reading Books	£439.96
All	Incubator	£250.00
All	Royal Wedding Keyrings	£280.00
KS2	Dictionaries/Thesaurus	£1,000.00
KS1	House Trip Prize	£416.00
		£6,858.01



Committee: Committee members were voted on as follows:

- ❖ **CHAIR** Julie Cummins stepped down in July 2018. **Ebony Taylor & Kirti Mistry-McLaughlin** have been co-chairing since then. To make their position official they were proposed by Rachael Ellis and seconded by Hayley Birrell and accepted their roles to continue as Co-Chairs.
- ❖ **VICE CHAIR** Margaret Carroll is stepping down. **Beata Hughes** was proposed by Ebony Taylor and seconded by Rachael Ellis and accepted the role of Vice Chair
- ❖ **TREASURER** Hayley Birrell will remain as Treasurer
- ❖ **VICE TREASURER** Gill Jacobs stepped down in 2018. **Natasha Kearney** has covered this position since then. To make the position official Natasha was proposed by Hayley Birrell and seconded by Rachael Ellis and accepted her role to continue as Vice Treasurer
- ❖ **SECRETARY** Rachael Ellis will remain as Secretary
- ❖ **TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE** Charlotte Cummins will remain as the Teacher Representative
- ❖ **GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBER** Mahala Nemauro will remain as General Committee member.
- ❖ **QUARTERLY DRAW** Jeanette Holland has stepped down from her role involved with the Quarterly Draw but **Joanna Rennie** will remain as Quarterly Draw coordinator.

Head Teacher:

Charlotte Crosse said a huge thank you for everything that The Friends do for the school and that everything is very much appreciated.