

PTA AGM 14th September 2017

It is time again to say another huge thank you to the PTA for the support they have given the school community. This year under Debbie Holbeche's leadership the committee has grown, with parents taking on other key roles and I feel sure that it will now go from strength to strength. We said goodbye to some year 6 parents, who had played an important part in the school's transition, and thanked them for their support. It is great to have a full primary school with 100+ pupils and we welcomed 15 children to reception in Sept.

PTA highlights this year have been the continuation of the School lottery by Anne Haughtey; this considerably reduces the cost to parents for school trips, whilst giving them the opportunity to win a half-termly prize. We also had a well supported Halloween disco, film nights, Christmas fayre, a fun Race night, followed by another successful summer fete.

This year funds raised have not only supported trips, our text message service and seasonal events but also gave our first year 6 cohort a great send off. You also helped us to purchase new guided reading books for Yr 2 and Yr 6 Sats, to match the government's higher expectations.

The PTA have now pledged some money to improve our forest school area and we have an additional grant from Tesco. We have a parent volunteer who is going to clear the area, so that we can assess what we need eg, cover for pond.

Now that we are a primary school we will need to look at our resources/facilities for the older children; and I know you will support us. As a small rural school our budget is very tight so the PTA enable us to achieve the extras which makes our school unique.

Money raised is always spent immediately on our pupils, and this is something I feel very strongly about, so that those raising the money see the benefits for our pupils:

- The text/email system is invaluable and well used.
- Redecoration of the school main corridor
- EYFS outdoor equipment the play ship has been very popular
- New Coomber PA system for productions and assemblies.
- School trips have been subsidised and Christmas events.
- Oscars and medals purchased for leavers, and leavers party.
- Banners to promote the school.
- Additional laptops and trolley.
- Updated our reading schemes

One of the key Ofsted judgements under the new framework is 'the effectiveness of the school's engagement with parents and carers' and the 'quality of the school's communication'. As a PTA you have contributed massively to this key objective by:

- Providing the text system and supporting the website
- Marketing the school through events and distribution of leaflets

- Planning and organising school events which celebrate our core values for children eg Christmas, Easter, Mother's Day etc.
- Fundraising activities to meet the priorities of the School Development plan.

Our targets this year are to improve our reading at home and we are looking at the 'accelerated reading programme' which help parents and staff to monitor home reading. We have also purchased the 'No Nonsense Spelling scheme'. In addition, we are focusing on challenge in maths and Mr.Purdie is sharing training with staff, as our Maths co-ordinator. We have replaced our server to improve IT efficiency across the school. We are also improving our lunchtime and after school offer.

I look forward very much to 2017-18, our numbers are close to the 105 capacity, and I would personally like to thank you for your continued support and also the contribution of our supportive staff team.

Thank you,

Sharon Williams, Headteacher

