

Burbage PTFA Meeting

Thursday 15th March 2018, 7.30pm

Venue: Sarah's House

Present: Sarah Humpleby (Chair)

Amanda Elliott
Jess O'Dwyer
Natalie Robinson

Margaret Smith
Julie Wood

1) Apologies

Apologies were received from Rachel Baker, Helen Barlow, Sarah Brown, Jo Cudahy, Beccy Elliott, Hannah Jackson, Claire Morrell, Pippa Peach, Zoe Simms and Nicki Wall.

2) What we have been up to this term:

We did Rock and Roll Bingo at The Duke on 2nd March. It went really well, The Duke was packed; we spent hardly anything on prizes as lots of committee members made donations, and raised a brilliant £165 for the PTFA. Special thanks to The Duke for letting us have our own special night and to Sally Gould for hosting the evening. Also big thank you to Jess O'Dwyer for organising the event.

We did the Mother's Day Gift Exchange on Friday 9th March. We got the wrapping done really quickly! We had enough gifts for all the children who wanted to take part to participate. There did seem to be a lot of confusion over when and where to hand the 50p in to. Some children didn't bring 50p; some brought 50p but forgot to hand it in! Maybe next time we should ask teachers to collect the money or collect it the day before? There was also debate whether we should let children who haven't paid and/or haven't brought a gift join in. We decided that it is nice for all children who want to take a gift home for their mum to do that. The gift exchange isn't one of our money making events, the aim is just to cover our costs.

Bag2School is booked for tomorrow (Friday 16th March). Manda, Margaret and Julie to be there to receive bags and keep a record of which class the children are in.

We also did a UV disco on Friday 9th March. This seemed to be a bit less well attended than previously. It was suggested that might be because we haven't sent any details out on paper this time. Some parents struggle to get on to ParentHub. The office has a list of all the parents who have requested paper copies of information sent out.

Action: Margaret to get a copy of this list so in future we can send paper copies out to those who need them.

We have a non-uniform day booked next week

Action: A message needs to be sent out about this.

Amendment: School Council are running this non-uniform day

We have a matchbox competition which will be launched on Friday 23rd March, the last day before the Easter holidays. Sarah H has written a letter to explain how it all works. Filled/decorated matchboxes are to be returned by 13th April so children have the Easter holidays to complete their entry.

Action: Matchboxes and letters needs to go out before Easter Holidays.

3) PTFA AGM

This is booked for Wed 11th April, 7.30pm at The Duke.

Pippa will talk about the PTFA's finances in the last year, what has brought in money, how much we have spent (and what it was spent on) and what we have left.

One important issue is the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), which becomes law on 25th May. In a nutshell, this means that EU citizens will have more control over their personal data. From our point of view it means we will need to look at the data we hold, where it is held and ensure we have consent to hold and use that data to contact people.

4) Plans for next term:

We have been asked to do a Father's Day Gift Exchange. Initially we were worried there may be fewer small, inexpensive presents for men, but things like chocolates, shower gel, aftershave, key rings, bottle openers and beer glasses would be perfect. This year Father's Day is 17th June so we could do the gift exchange the Friday before.

Action: Organise Father's Day Gift Exchange for Friday 15th June.

- **Sarah H to write letter**
- **Jess to see if can get any good deals on Avon aftershave etc**
- **Helpers will be needed on the day for wrapping**

EYFS are holding their new starters evening on Wednesday 13th June. Volunteers will be needed to help serve tea and coffee. Anyone who wishes to bake/donate cakes would be welcome to do so.

Action: Natalie is able to help on the night, other volunteers will be needed. Margaret to ask the kitchen to make some cookies.

We would like to do the sponsored bike ride again as this was a good fundraiser. Last year though, many people could not attend as it was Father's Day and there was an inset day on the Monday (so many people had gone away for the weekend). We decided to hold it the weekend before that one this year.

Action: Manda to ask Dave Holliday if he would be willing to organise the sponsored bike ride again. Provisional date set for 10th June.

(N.B if we do the bike ride, we won't do the fun run this year due to illness).

We will continue to do "Ice Cream Fridays" as and when the weather allows us. As before, volunteers will be needed to pick up the ice creams and sell them at home time.

We could not think of a suitable alternative to cake sales, which seemed to lose their popularity. If anyone has any good ideas please let us know!

We will also do another Bag2School but the next term looks quite busy already!

Action: Manda to book Bag2School for September.

5) PTFA float at the Carnival

Claire Morrell is planning to have a float in this year's carnival which will raise money for the PTFA. We would like to get the kids involved in decorating the float. If anyone is interested in helping Claire please contact her direct. Be warned roller-skates have been mentioned.....

Action: Manda and Natalie to speak to Claire and see whether children could do some of the decorations in art lessons at school. Claire to liaise with school re. how to involve pupils.

6) WhatsApp Group

A parent has suggested that we could set up a "WhatsApp" group for each year group in school. There are a couple set up already e.g. in Reception, so that parents can talk to each other and ask advice, share information and so forth. It's a great idea but at present we are struggling for volunteers.

Action: If anyone would like to volunteer for setting up WhatsApp groups for each year group (or even just their own children's year groups) we would be very grateful.

7) Hoodies

We will be doing Year 6 leavers hoodies again. Manda will organise and is currently checking out local suppliers.

Margaret would also like to get some "playground leader" hoodies. These would be similar to the blue "buddy" hoodies but the children would like them to be red. Margaret will speak to Sarah Ingleby who ordered the buddy hoodies before.

Approved: Margaret to get 6 x playground leader hoodies, PTFA to pay.

8) Leavers Disco

As previously the PTFA will pay for the leavers disco. School to set a date and DJ will then be booked

9) Burbage Outside update

Nicki reports that the plans for the top playground have been scaled back. There have been further quotes so things are moving slowly, watch this space.....

10) Cloth bags and other personalised gifts!

A couple of people have requested that we do the cloth bags again (we get the kids to draw a small picture of themselves and write their name, then have the whole class/year/key stage printed on the bags). One parent specifically mentioned that other schools do a bag for Reception class every year. Everyone liked that the School would then have some sort of keepsake/memento from the first year of school and the last year. As our leavers have hoodies, we discussed whether Reception could have t-shirts (many nurseries do graduation t-shirts when children leave for school). This developed into personalised teddies with graduation t-shirts and mortarboard hats on!

There was also a brief debate about calendars. Previously we had talked about making a calendar from pictures submitted to the Spring photograph competition last year. We decided that photographs of the children were probably going to be problematic so drawings or other artwork might be better. We could do a competition where children pick a month and draw an appropriate picture or (to get an even spread) have the children draw a picture of their birthday months. Another suggestion was that each class do a collage so that all the children have some involvement. There was a feeling that parents would not buy a calendar if their child wasn't on it or hadn't done the picture. Does anyone have any thoughts/ideas?

Action: Nicki to investigate

11) Hand washing facilities

Natalie has provided Mr Tierney with all the information about the portable sinks. The School are currently making a decision.

If storage is an issue, the PTFA could look at buying some outdoors storage sheds.

12) Summer Fair

We haven't been as amazing this year at getting raffle prizes. There are quite a few letters still to go out, and we have had less positive responses from those that have been received. We also need to do a letter to ask parents who have businesses if they are able to donate a prize. We are short of a star prize for this year too and are hoping that the school community will be able to support us with collecting prizes.

**Action: Sarah H to do letter to parents asking for raffle prize donations.
Nicky to apply for license for advance sales.**

We discussed the attractions we have on the field. We wondered if we should have the smaller trampolines from Trevor Zoppi this year rather than the bungee trampoline. This might allow the younger children to go on and keep queues down as there are six trampolines rather than three. The small bouncy castle is maybe a bit boring? And quite small, so someone usually has to police the bouncy castle and not allow the big kids and the small kids on together. But then a small bouncy castle is good because the little kids can go on it!

Action: Claire M to look at possible alternatives to the bouncy castle and the rodeo pig.

Action: Julie to ask her contact at Markovitz about sand for the sand pit.

Action: Natalie to get licence to sell alcohol.

Action: Sarah H to book donkeys and climbing wall.

PLEASE NOTE: The date of the Summer Fair has been changed to 6th July to avoid Carnival weekend.

13) Update on grass verges

Natalie has been in touch with the Council and we are not allowed to put any sort of sign on the verges. We can try to get a special license to plant in the verges and hedges etc can be up to a metre high. But people might still run over them as they run over plant pots and other obstacles placed by residents. We briefly discussed whether the verges could be filled in or the kerbs could be raised, but we know that residents are keen to keep the grass verge. Mr Tierney has sent a letter to local residents asking what they would like to do, so we will await the outcome of that. Connected to this, Mr Tierney has also asked for volunteers with a School Travel Plan, which may involve walking buses and other solutions.

14) Dates of next meetings

PTFA AGM: Wed 11th April, 7.30pm at The Duke

PTFA meeting: Tue 5th June, 7.30pm at Manda's house (3 Turner Road).