

Drayton Community Infant School

Friends - AGM

Tuesday 27th September 2016, at 7:00pm in the Staff room

Minutes

1. Present and Apologies:

Present:

Fran Baker, Matt Cross, Zoe Armstrong, Angie Crocker, Maria Voors, Claire Mander, April George, Kelly Smith, Lindsay Rose, Jennifer Hurn, Marie Smith, Suzie Clare, Tabi Pierre, Sarah Catten, Louise Hunter, Tracey Bunn, Rachel Aldred, Philippa Martinez, Denise Slaughter, Cheryl Stone, Andy Bodycombe

Appologies:

Lauren Jackson, Sarah Halliwell, and Becki Chick

2. Chair person's Report including some aims for the Year ahead:

The Friends year normally runs from November to November, but this year due to a new team being in place early, we have decided to end our year in September. Many of you will have heard The Friends were going to have to end earlier in the year due to a lack of key members when our children left for junior school at the end of the summer holidays.

Thankfully an eager band of parents upset at the loss of The Friends bravely stepped forward to help, hence why we are having our AGM early.

Throughout the year our committee fundraises by holding an enjoyable and fun series of events as well as smaller activities such as Mother's day and Father's day shops which gives the children a chance to be independent and choose a small gift for a loved one for these special days. We don't make a vast amount of money from these 2 events, but have found the children enjoy the chance to be able to pick a special gift by themselves.

Cake sales are normally held once a term by Years 1 & 2 and provide the children with a chance to practice their math's skills and see family and friends outside of a classroom environment plus, of course, the opportunity for us all to buy lots of yummy, home baked cakes!

As of this school year though, The Friends have agreed to hand over the running of the cake sales to the classes themselves. These sales raise money solely for DT Resources so we have decided with Mrs Bates for the individual classes to run these enabling the children to be involved from beginning to end.

Before the end of the Christmas term we send home blank Christmas cards for your children to decorate. These are then sent off to the company who supplies them to be printed into cards, gift tags or mugs. These prove very popular as they provide an alternative to the usual cards on the high street and a unique gift for someone special. This year we raised £609.

The Friends have an EasyFundraising page which enables you to be able to raise money for our school whilst you shop online. Details of how to join are on the Friends board in the Foyer.

We run discos termly and we have just held our first one Friday for Years 1 & 2 and I think everyone who was there, will agree it was a really fun night. This raised £92.75.

The children love to be able to come back to school of an evening and let their hair down and it's normally a very lively and loud night which is why we decided to make the first one of the school term for Years 1 and 2. We have found from previous years, the first disco is often too soon for the Reception children having only been at school for a couple of weeks and the noise and excitement can often be too much for them. Our next disco is in December and will be open to ALL year groups.

If you would like to experience one for yourselves, please put your name on our parent's helper list nearer the time.

We have our annual Quiz Night run by Becky and Lindsay and hosted by Becky's brother on Friday 7th October (tickets on sale next week - Previously held in May). It's a hugely fun and very competitive night for parents to come to school child free and team up with family and friends. We are currently looking for prizes for this event so if anyone knows or works for any businesses who would be willing to donate prizes, please come and see one of us after the AGM. You may bring a bottle or 3 of alcohol and your own food just to help the evening along!!

About 3 times a year we distribute decorated envelopes for your children to decorate and return to school filled with 50p's worth of sweets or toys. We sell these at the Drayton Junior Christmas Fayre, where we have a stall every year, the Easter Egg Hunt and the Summer Event. These are hugely popular with all the children and we never seem to have enough!

We also raised funds through a story evening in April, where each year group came back to school in their pyjamas, with a favourite toy of course and listened to stories read by Mrs Bates (also in PJ's!) and Ben from Taverham Library. The evening was rounded off with hot chocolate and biscuits in the school hall.

We held our first Car Boot sale in April too, which unfortunately due to heavy rain, had to be held in the hall instead of on the field. This impacted on the amount of people who came, but we were joined by an enthusiastic group of people who all seemed in good spirits and overall was a good event for a first attempt. We raised approx. £90.

It was discussed we would hold another one, but that's still to be decided.

Easter Egg Hunt! Probably my one of my favourite events. Held just before the Easter break and has been held in ALL weather conditions as Cheryl and Melanie will tell you! One of our big 3 fundraising events. Tickets have clues on them and the children will merrily lead you all over the school grounds looking for letters which spell out an Easter themed item! Once all found they can come to the school hall to collect their egg. The Easter bunny usually makes an appearance which the children love! We raised £518.

Another of our big events is the Summer Fayre and this year's theme was a British Garden Party. It's held on the school field and we normally have bouncy castles and a disco with Freddie plus events held by Premier Sports. We also had an ice cream van and stocks, which I think proved the most popular! (Good sports Matt and Steve). Year 2 leaver's books are handed out too and Donna and Tracey do an amazing job. Donna photographs the children individually and as a class and Tracey then collates it all and they go off to be printed. Thank you to Tracey Bunn for working tirelessly to collect and decipher all the information the children supply!! I for one know, it's a memento from my daughter, Nyah's time here I will always treasure. Thank you to you both.

Finally and by no means least, our fantastic Fireworks event!

Set up by a very enthusiastic and skilled team of dad's, I have to say for a small school, these guys put on a display of fireworks to rival some of bigger events in the area! We have a quieter display for younger children first and a second louder display 30 mins later.

Hot food and drinks are available plus various stalls including the ever popular Flashies.

Unfortunately last year we had to make the very hard decision to cancel our fireworks event due to the lack of help needed to put on such a large event, but I am happy to say we will be holding it this year on Friday 4th November. Preparations are under way, but we still need lots of helpers for the run up to the event and on the night so please consider joining The Friends or signing up on our parent helpers list.

Without help our group cannot continue to run and I know we all lead busy lives, but even a small amount of help is worth a lot to us. If you would like any information, please come and speak to any of us.

With the money we have raised this year we have purchased 4 picnic tables for the outside area costing a total of £1364.

The Gazebo was repaired at a cost of £263.41 and Matt plus Steve Claire came in on their own time to repaint it, thank you.

We purchased Musical instruments to enrich their music time and we also purchased Bead Strings which help with math's lessons. Both of these investments were requested by Mrs Bates and the teachers.

At the children's Christmas meal we always provide crackers, but we didn't have to buy many this year as we had a lot of boxes left over from the previous year so we only spent £24.

We always donate money to each class (£100), including the Nurture Room (£50), to enable them to buy items they wouldn't be able to buy within the school budget.

Plus giving money to Multi-cultural week which was £1000.

3. Treasurer's report:

4. Election of members:

Post for election	Nominee	Nominated by	Nominated 2 nd by
Chair	Maria Voors	Angie Crocker	Claire Mander
Vice Chair (joint position)	Suzie Clare	Claire Mander	Zoe Armstrong
Vice Chair (joint position)	Andy Bodycombe	Tabi Pierre	Matt Cross
Treasurer	Fran Baker	Louise Hunter	Suzie Clare
Deputy Treasurer			

Please note we still have a vacancy for a Deputy Treasurer.

Class representatives:

Zoe is still to lead class reps.

It would help if the class reps are part of the friends, as it will help ensure communication and the sharing of information is

A photo of each class rep, should be put on the class board so parents are aware of who it is.

Tabi to get the current class rep information to Zoe.

Reception classes do not currently have class reps.

Hedgehog- Sarah Catton has offered to share this post with another parent

Owl- Tracey has offered to take on this role

Mouse- still need's a class rep

Staff representatives:

Becki Chick

Claire Mander

Lauren Jackson- Link to Mrs Bates/ Miss Clark

5. Future events

Quiz night- Friday 7th October 2016

Tickets will be £3 each – Please ensure the team is listed when purchasing tickets

7:15pm doors will open with a 7:30pm start.

The event will finish by 10/11pm.

Top prize is a £50 cash prize.

Matt will lock up after the event, but will need help putting back tables and chairs after the event.

Fran, Louise and Angie need to organise the float.

We are still looking for donated prizes. Maria to contact a new parent who offered to donate prizes. Becki's work have donated £125 to the event.

Fireworks- Friday 4th November

The fireworks have been ordered and will need to be paid for when collected.

Rob, Jason and Dan will be doing the display.

Matt and Steve will be organising the car park (Nigel and Andy will also be available)

We have pre-booked a Norfolk Hog roast, with the condition they are they only food supplier (due to size and cost of hog roast).

They will also provide a popcorn machine and dinky donuts.

The Friends will do hot and soft drinks. Maria will contact Star bucks (St Steven) to provide these. Cheryl will purchase soft drinks.

We could also have sweets for sale.

Maia has a list to organise flashes.

Matt to- contact Taverham band to confirm the times. Also, confirm with them the discount (10%) off food and not for free.

-Inform the fire service prior to the event.

-organise the skip hire for rubbish

Angie will help to send out letters to local residence.

Maria will need to contact and pay for St Johns Ambulance. The details should be in the file.

Ticket templates are in the files.

Ticket sales will be in advance of 500-600 people.

If the head will be present on the night to welcome people, maybe we could also take ticket sales on the night?

Christmas cards- this will be discussed at the next meeting.

6. Letter from Michelle Clark:

Please see attached letter from Michelle Clark

7. Thank you

These I would like to thank 3 of our longest serving members whose children have now moved on to Junior School...Melanie Colman, Sarah Halliwell and Donna Brown. Melanie our previous Chair who is always around for help and advice no matter what time of day. Sarah, always working tirelessly at our events, including spending the whole day at school with myself and Cheryl helping to set up the summer fayre and last, but by no means least, Donna, photographer extraordinaire, with her great sense of fun she always manages to get the best from the children she photographs for the Leavers book. You've all given so much as members and I'm so proud to have worked alongside you all.

I would also like to mention Claire Mander, who although not leaving, has also given 6 years of her time whilst her children and Lois and Julian were here. She will now be liaising the school and Friends to enable an even better working relationship.

And finally, I would like to thank Louise Hunter, not only a long serving member of The Friends, but our Deputy Treasurer who then became Treasurer when I became Vice Chair 2 years ago. Louise given everything to her role to enable her boys Oliver and William and the rest of the children who have passed through this school to build up treasured memories of fun times and friendship. You will be greatly missed.

8. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 17th October 2016 at 7:30pm in the Staff room.

9. Any other business

Wish list for reception

Cones for outdoor separation- Matt has some available

Tablets- to help ensure photos can be taken and uploaded for Tapestry and learning journals.

Communication networks

We need to discuss further the use of a communication network such as Class List.

Also the possibility of a member of the Friends becoming an admin on the school facebook group.

Suzie to contact parent to find out the cost of banners. This will be discussed/ compared with Matt's quotes from outside printing company.