

PTA Meeting (AGM) – 29th January 2015, 6.30 pm

Present: Bex West, Nicola Luff, Karen Randall, Maddy Aldis-Evans, Emily Proctor, Julia Card, Sarah Redding, Jane MacLachlan, Sue Toomey, Alison Diamond Roberts, Gemma Bricknell, Nic Mitchell

Apologies: June, Madeline, Jill, Emily. Mr. Elkington sent apologies and Mrs. MacLachlan was present in his place.

Start of the meeting

It was agreed that Bex West would stay on as chair, Deputy Chair Nicola Luff, Treasurer Emily Proctor, and Maddy Aldis-Evans has taken over as Secretary.

Facebook

Bex has been approached by Kings Meadow School about a closed Facebook group for all Bicester primary schools' PTA groups. It was agreed we should join the group.

Treasury Report

Emily Proctor presented the report showing results to 30th September 2014. Fundraising raised a profit of £6,359.80. The bank balance is £18,225.87. Events falling in the new financial year were reported on. The Halloween disco raised £510, the film night £452 and the Christmas present shop £182.

Mrs. MacLachlan reported on the need for outdoor classroom spaces. Kirsten Black is looking into this. The garden area and pond needs clearing out and tending to. It was suggested that the local voluntary group “Green Gym” might be interested in helping with the clearing. Work on the garden will help with the aim of achieving the Eco-schools silver badge. A potential budget of £1000 was suggested.

Blackboards in playgrounds – the lack of wall-space makes this difficult.

Pirate ship

The flooring of the pirate ship needs replacing. A solid rubber flooring system is being researched and Bex has had a quote of £8000 for all areas needing re-flooring. It was suggested that Nia might be able to get a better quote.

New play equipment for Foundation

This is a priority. Need to check if plastic will get hot in the summer. Senior management to make a decision about what will go in.

Sponsored event to raise money to repair the Fort.

Sponsored read or spelling, auction, £1 in a bucket and themed non-uniform days were suggested as fund-raising activities and a target board should be displayed where parents can see it to encourage contributions and raise support. Possible grants need to be researched. A penny trail was suggested to raise a small sum.

Emily is looking into Gift Aid, but we need to be registered as a charity in order to benefit from this.

Film Night

Wednesday 25th February was suggested as a date, dependant on parents' evening. It was agreed it should be a Retro-Disney themed night, but that "How to train a dragon" be included as an option for, especially, the older boys. Films should be around 90 minutes in length to allow for a long Foundation / KS1 should be split from KS2. Children must stick to the choice of film indicated on their ticket. It needs to be clear where parents pick up children. This could be printed on the ticket.

Mother's Day

Gifts need to be bought. Suggested gifts include scarves, bangles, necklaces, cushions, plaques, lanterns, candles and key-rings. Maximum purchase price is £2 to allow for a £1 profit. It was suggested that gifts should be split equally per class to ensure that an equal selection of gifts was available for each class. It was decided that there would be no present shop for grandparents, aunts, etc. 1000 gifts will be bought and any surplus sold at a future date. 2 wholesalers have been contacted and are working with the PTA to supply gifts to the school. Gift-wrapping is time-consuming and a lot of work for teachers. It was decided that colourful gift bags sealed with a sticker would be a cheap and easy solution, whilst still giving the children the feeling of wrapping the gifts.

AOBs

Mrs. MacLachlan thanked the PTA for its ongoing support.

Please save plastic containers from Kinder Surprise eggs. A note in the newsletter reminding parents about providing an Easter egg for the scavenger hunt would be helpful.

Next Meeting

Date of the next meeting was not decided.