

SICKLINGHALL CP SCHOOL PTFA (Registered Charity No 1094596) CHAIR'S REPORT 2015-2016

Why do we have a PTFA?

The basic tenet of a PTFA is to foster and encourage closer links between School and home, and we do this by organising events which are either simply social or fundraising or, ideally, both. We raise money through our events to support the school in its work and to provide an opportunity for us all to socialise with our families, friends, teachers and, of course, our children.

In the past we have been able to fund a suite of iPads and associated equipment, contributed towards the Community Defibrillator, purchased a Buddy Bench for the Playground, paid for installation works for the Trim Trail and we continue to fund the "extra's", such as Easter Eggs at the Daffodil Tea and the ice cream man on the last day of the Summer Term.

Committee Members

All parents automatically become a member of the PTFA when their child starts school. The 2015/2016 PTFA Committee consisted of:

Chair: Jules Clegg

Treasurer: Liz Grange

Secretary: Aimee Hall

Committee Members: Pam Caine, Hannah Young, Louise Clee and Gill Ashman

Overview of 2015/2016

Unlike the tenures of office of my predecessors, latterly Hannah Young and, more recently, Phillippa Godley, my tenure as Chair has been marked not by great organisation or communication skills but more by a "seat of your pants" attitude, borne out of a general lack of free time and, in my case, experience. I know I can speak for both Liz and myself when I say that what we lacked in appropriate skills and experience, we made up for in commitment and support.

Both Hannah and Phillippa left big shoes to fill and it has been a challenge to come close even to matching their efforts. This School's PTFA relies entirely upon the efforts of a joint committee made up of a bunch of like-minded individuals who contribute simply because they want to create happy times and memories for all of our children, not just our own. Our events happen because we ALL contribute.

We kicked off the 2015/2016 year by assisting at the **Harvest Festival** service in late September, where we provided refreshments for the children and their families and we will continue to do that.

We held a **Halloween Disco**, which continues to be very popular with the children, and which has recently started to make a profit.

The children held their own **German Market** in December which was well attended by families and the PTFA provided refreshments at this event. Our takings were donated to the children's various chosen charities.

One of the bigger fundraising events of the year, the **Christmas Fayre** in November, was very well attended and, following a change of format, continues to be well supported.

In December we also organised and enjoyed the annual **Christmas Party** at the Village Hall for the children with party food, games and of course a visit from Santa!

In April our traditional **Daffodil Tea** welcomed villagers, friends and family into the school for afternoon tea. The School Hall was decorated with Easter Egg poster designs coloured in by the children and those judged best in each class by Mr Shillito won a prize. The children enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt around the School grounds and the pre-school children enjoyed a smaller scale Hunt in the straw.

In June, we took our cakes to Wetherby Market for our **Cake Stall** where parents donated cakes for sale and a brilliant bunch of volunteers manned the stall on the day.

Each half term we hold a **Bun Sale** on a Friday afternoon after School. Each class takes a turn in donating buns and treats for sale at 20p a pop.

Also, in a departure from our usual fundraising efforts, we have supported two other charities this year; Martin House Hospice following the Daffodil Tea, in recognition of Peter Owthwaite's contribution to our children's Christmas "experience", and to Sicklinghall Cricket Club following their devastating fire, by donating our Bun Sale proceeds for the year to them.

We supported the School by hosting our families and friends at the Village Hall for performances of "Magpie Manor", the School's Summer Production and we will continue to support these events in the future.

Finally, we celebrated the end of term with the End of Year School Party (following a change of format) at School, not the Village Hall. Again, following another successful charity auction hosted by Guy Cooper, this event made a significant profit in excess of £800. It was a great evening!

Thank you all for making, baking, cooking, washing, ironing, wrapping, shopping, bringing, cleaning, selling, wiping, drying, typing, emailing, reading, counting, chopping, sweeping, hoovering, fetching, negotiating, begging, remembering, smiling, laughing and caring.

Let's do it all again next year!

Jules

Jules Clegg
PTFA Chair