

SICKLINGHALL CP SCHOOL PTFA

(Registered Charity No 1094596)

CHAIR'S REPORT 2014-2015

Why Do We Have A PTFA?

The main aim of the PTFA is to raise funds to help support the school in providing the best equipment, environment and experiences for our children throughout their time in our community. We have been able to maintain a dedicated and active PTFA at Sicklinghall CP School for many years. In the last two years we have been able to fund a suite of Ipads, cases, appropriate software and a storage unit as well as support the current library project. With our hard work we are able to continue to fund the 'traditional extras', such as the children's Easter eggs and visit from the ice cream man.

Through holding fundraising events the PTFA creates a whole new social life for children, parents and teachers, so instead of a quick hello or goodbye in the playground, we are all able to form closer bonds, and friendships. The quiz night, race night, coffee mornings and daffodil tea are all great events that bring us all together on a more sociable level.

Committee Members

All parents automatically become a member of the PTFA when their child starts school. The 2014/2015 PTFA Committee consisted of

Chair: Phillippa Godley

Treasurer: Sam Parkin

Secretary: Melanie Kunz

Committee Members: Rebecca Alderson, Louise Clee & Jules Clegg

Overview of 2014/2015

I stepped into the role as Chair this year when Hannah announced, after 3 years as chair, she wanted to step aside and let someone else have a go. I have enjoyed the role and really felt part of a team, but couldn't have managed it without the support of others at all the events with the organising, running and generally getting involved.

We have had another great year both in experiences and financially (details to follow from our Treasurer, Sam Parkin).

At the start of the year we hosted a welcome coffee afternoon and uniform sale for the new parents - it is always great to get together and have a good natter and this also helped the new mums find their feet and ask any questions that they have as it can be tricky to do this in the playground in the early weeks. We also provided tea, coffee and biscuits after the annual Harvest Festival service, which is quite a tradition now and it is always nice to wet your whistle while you wait for the children.

We held a **Halloween Disco**, which was a huge success with the children, this was the one event that was never intended to be a fundraiser, it was just so that the children had fun.

For the centenary year we produced a cook book, which I believe we still have a few copies for £5 each, we decided to produce something else last year so we put together a tea towel which marked the transition from Mrs Thompson to Mr Shillito. We sold these at our Christmas fayre in November, this is one of the big events for the PTFA where all hands are on deck and as much support as possible is needed as we have a number of stalls that we run ourselves such as refreshments, cake stall, games and crafts along with external stalls. Unfortunately I was unable to attend this event due to chickenpox in the family, however I was reliably informed that, as always, we had a good turnout and of course Santa and his elf went down brilliantly.

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! The Mums' Christmas night out was a good excuse to get out of bedtime routine again, then of course we all enjoyed the Christmas productions with a cup of tea or coffee and mince pies courtesy of the PTFA!

After Christmas, we welcomed Mr Shillito at one of our meetings, and brought him up to speed with our plans for the rest of the year, starting with the **Sing A Long A Frozen** night, which was a very loud but super satisfying evening. With the support of Ms Gimeno and Miss Copperthwaite, the children had an amazing time singing at the top of their voices.

Shortly after this, we held a **Race Night** in March at Linton Village Hall, an event we had never done before. It included a well sourced pie and pea supper, and of course a bar, we all worked very hard with this event to make it the success that it was.

Also in March we had our traditional **Daffodil Tea** where we welcome villagers, friends, family and prospective parents into the school for afternoon tea. The children entered the best decorated egg competition and enjoyed a wonderful Easter Egg Hunt around the grounds, preschoolers hunt amongst straw in the shelter for small bright foil wrapped eggs, this is such fun for all. We had some nice retail stalls and of course a well stocked raffle consisting of various donations.

In May, we had our annual **Cake Stall** at Wetherby Market when parents donate cakes, buns and biscuits and we had a rota of parents selling, chatting and

promoting the school. The decoration was brilliant again this year the stall looked amazing with bunting, gingham and cake stands. Again we sold out by lunchtime so another successful event.

In June we held yet another **Ladies Pamper Evening** which was another HUGE success! With wonderful therapists, relaxing treatments, great retail stalls, a glass of fizz, nibbles, relaxing music and Mr Shillito as bar man for the evening, it was enjoyed by all.

Each half term we hold a **Bun Sale**, which the children LOVE! Each class's parents take turns in donating buns and treats that are sold on the last Friday of the half term from the shelter for 20p each. Along with the coffee afternoon donations from Sports Day and the Enterprise Afternoon, all these little bits and pieces help.

Finally we got to the end of the year and as usual we funded the ice cream van during the whole school picnic on the last day of term. We then all celebrated with a fantastic end of school year BBQ at the village hall - this also included another successful charity auction with Guy Cooper being our compere which really made the night! We had circus skills laid on for the kids, and a bouncy castle. It really was a brilliant evening which we couldn't pull off if we didn't have the support from local businesses and parents.

I hope you agree that all our hard work and efforts that we put in is very essential and enjoyable, but most of all its both rewarding and worthwhile when you see the children reaping the benefits.

I am very grateful to the Committee and everyone else who helped in whatever way they could, for all their hard work and effort.

Here's to another exciting and successful year.

Phillippa

Phillippa Godley
PTFA Chair