



Maple Cross JMI PTA Minutes

Thursday 26th January 2017

Attendees:	Apologies:
Laura Whyte	Lenka Page
Nicky McHugh	Sarah Robinson
Siân Edwards	
Jessica Ackland	
Jo Mitchell	
Jo Sweales	
Ellie Fuller	
Rebecca Ross	
Sarah Rowe	
Hannah Trickett	

Action / Vote Cast

Treasurers Report

- Estimated Balance £4584.00
 - Petty cash £ 97.70

See PTA folder for full breakdown of PTA finances

Fireworks Night

****PROFIT £4249.00****

- **Date agreed for next year – Saturday 4th November 2017**
- 'Illusion Fireworks' have provided us with a quote of £1800.00 plus VAT. This is an increase of £300.00. We need to establish why the price has risen this amount prior to agreeing on using them again. Email to be sent. LW
- Quote to be obtained from another firework company for equal display, also requesting references and video footage of their displays ASAP as need to book within next couple of weeks at the latest. RR
 - Further feedback included gates opening earlier to allow more time for people to purchase food and drinks.
 - Some request for more activities for children prior to display e.g. rides but will be at a considerable cost for external supply of activities and requires volunteers for anything else.

FEEDBACK:

Family Photo Day

****PROFIT 250.00****

- Positive feedback although would like session to be held in October time to give people time to order for Christmas gifts etc.
- Only negative feedback was that photographer did not instruct people that feet would be visible in images and therefore socks were left on child(ren) which would otherwise have been removed. PTA can put up a sign informing families of this should we run the session again.



Christmas Disco

- Agreed that having the Christmas Disco at the school works well.
- Only negative feedback was that children struggled choosing which flavour juice to have and there was too many flavours of crisps offered.
- Agreed that only water will be given in future and only ready salted crisps was suggested. Crisps not agreed as PTA will generally go for the best deal financially.

Christmas Fair

****PROFIT £1100.00****

- Overall good feedback. Usual bottle necks at the more popular stalls but separating the tombola's worked well.
- Negative feedback includes:
 - *"People had to queue to get in ..."*
 - Due to safeguarding, we cannot allow people access into the school until all the children have been dismissed. Therefore, a queue between school ending and the doors re-opening is inevitable.
 - *"Can you not set up earlier? ..."*
 - No! We can't allow external stall holders in to set up whilst the children are still in school, also the hall is in use until late in the school day. Reiterated the usual problem of a big lack of volunteers for set up, general stalls and clean up.
 - *"There was a lot of people congregating in the hall ..."*
 - Generally agreed that this is a good sign of a busy event. We have separated the tombola's in response to the previous year and that worked much better. Suggested that we perhaps move the raffle from the hall entrance next time.
 - *"Can the stall holders be put in the classrooms to make more space? ..."*
 - No! They pay to have a premium spot hence the tombola's and school stalls are placed in classrooms.
 - *"It was too busy by Year 3 / Santa's Grotto ..."*
 - We try to limit how much classroom space we use to both protect the classroom and also limit that amount of space that we have to clean at the end of the event. Again, reiterated that a lack of volunteers to clean up necessitates this.
 - Many families decided to get in to the Santa queue before their time slot. This caused a lot of people to be in one area at the same time. Once Mandy took control this issue sorted!
 - *"Not enough to keep children amused ..."*
 - Again, we did not have enough volunteers to run the games room as done of previous fairs. Suggested that the year 6 pupils could potentially run a 'gift room'; this would amuse the children and generate a profit.
 - *"Why does it have to be on a Friday? Why not the weekend?..."*
 - We explained that although sceptical when we first changed to a Friday, there is actually no variation in profit and that having it on a Friday after school actually gives more people the opportunity to come. Also, Mrs Trickett said that while they would be happy to help, holding it on a weekend would be yet another day that teachers would have to come back into work on their own time.

Pantomime

- Those of us who volunteered felt that the pantomime was a bit too long for the children to be expected to sit and that there was not enough older jokes for the older years to giggle at whilst the younger years would have remained oblivious! This meant the older years got bored and started to fidget.
- Agreed that we would try to source a new pantomime company for this year.
- Many good suggestions offered including utilising Stage Coach for ideas / contacts.

Easter Egg Hunt – Friday 31st March 2017

- There will be NO Easter egg hunt this year. Agreed that the older years were not particularly



enthused about running around looking for plastics eggs, particularly in the less pleasant weather like last year. From an educational point of view, it does take the children out from learning whilst they do the hunt. Also the usual issue of not having enough volunteers and current core PTA group who usually do it cannot take any more time from work to do this. Instead, the PTA will just gift every child with an Easter egg to take home.

Summer Fayre – Saturday 10th June 2017

- Response awaited regarding fair rides
- Steam train – DR not at meeting to no outcome
- Petting Zoo – we wish to charge a stall fee and take a percentage of profit
- Jungle Juniors – we felt it may be good for them to do ‘talks’ rather than general petting. Quote required.
- Live music – as yet, have not liaised with Buddy Ash from last year but will. Also suggested that we could have a karaoke type event where people can just have a go!

SE
DR
JA
LW

Pamper Evening

- Rebecca Neave would like to run a pamper evening which would raise some funds for PTA. Agreed that this is a good idea but that it may be difficult to run at the school for reasons including needing a member of staff to be available to lock up and alarm the school at the end, together with needing to apply for and pay for a TENS licence to enable alcohol to be served.
- Suggested that it may be better to hold it on a Friday night up at Maple Cross Club where the PTA can potentially cover the hire cost of the hall and charge the beauticians a ‘stall’ fee.

LW/RN

Mothers Day

- Flowers were very successful last year. Agreed that we will do this again this year but will send a paper bag home with the letters about taking part. Those who wish to take part will decorate the bag and return it with the money. Flower will then be placed into bag and given out.

NMc

Easter Disco – Friday 31st March 2017

- Will be held at the Maple Cross Club from 16.30 – 18.30 – need to check availability
- As usual, a parent will be expected to stay to supervise their child/ren.

LW

AOB

- Bike shelter – being discussed at Monday’s Governor’s Meeting
- Signage – “funded by PTA / Thames Water” (outstanding from previous meeting)
- Community room – Laura has been contacting firms and has been looking into grants. Ongoing issue which she will work closely with Mrs Trickett
- Year 5 say thank you for Hazard Alley Trip. This will become an annual PTA funded trip.
- Ms Thanki is organising the Year 6 Leavers Hoodies. This will become an annual PTA funded item.
- **PTA Website** needs a meeting dedicated to just that. Will be organised within next couple of weeks and will be held at school as need to work closely together.

DR/HT
PTA
LW/HT

LW/HT/SR

Wish list

- Funding request from nursery / reception for PTA to pay cost of coach to take them to a production of “The Tiger who came to tea”. Cost £185.00 agreed.
- *Tarmac from adventure trail to the playground – more accessible in wet weather – further request to extend this around the entire field.*
- *Children’s 1st Dictionary for Year One x30 please*





- *Board games for use during wet play.*
- *Medium sized goalposts for use at lunchtime play.*
- *New equipment for use at playtime e.g. skipping ropes, balls, hoops etc*
- *Child friendly storage for banded reading books – ease of access etc*

With the exception of the agreed funding for the coach, all other wish list items need to be discussed either at subcommittee or at the next PTA meeting. For those smaller items, can staff please provide figure of how much money they would need to purchase these items please – either leave in the tray or email.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday 9th March 2017 – at the school

Thursday 27th April 2017 – at the school

Subcommittee to be organised as needed and information regarding this will be placed on the PTA notice-board and on the Facebook page.