



Yanwath Primary School

PTA

Minutes

5 January 2023

Chair: Andrew Chambers

Treasurer: Rachael Kelly

Community Engagement and Social Media: Nic Pearce, Nicola Chambers

pta@yanwath.cumbria.sch.uk

Present:

Matthew Crouch
(MC)

Sarah Davies (SD)

Andrew Chambers
(AC)

Nicola Chambers
(NC)

Rachael Kelly (RK)

Zoë Hallington (ZH)

Apologies:

Nic Pearce (NP)

AGENDA	ACTION
<p>REVIEW OF CHRISTMAS MARKET</p> <p>The school and PTA had received very positive feedback on the Christmas market, both from parents and from stallholders. For future consideration, it would be better to spread out very popular stalls such as the lucky dip, guess the gonk and guess the sweets to ensure they were all very visible. This would require more volunteers. Some parents had suggested organizing a place to sit and have hot drinks/mince pies/cake. The cakes sold particularly well so should be part of the plan for similar events. The next Christmas market could also be a chance to organize a visit from Santa.</p>	
<p>FUNDRAISING PLANS FOR THE TERM</p> <p>PTA would continue to seek to raise the profile of the committee to encourage more parents to get involved. School and PTA agreed that small but regular events could be helpful to this end. Suggestions included selling a breakfast treat at the school gates, such as hot chocolate and croissants, similar to the "frozen Fridays" run several years previously when the PTA sold ice lollies on Friday afternoons during the summer.</p> <p>Another suggestion was to hold a coffee morning every half term. This could also be a chance to invite Laura Kinnard from Eden Book Worms to bring a selection of books for parents to look at and buy. The PTA could also bring the second hand uniform.</p> <p>Disco</p> <p>The PTA and school agreed to hold a disco for the children on Thursday 16 February. For KS1 children, the disco would run from 15:30 to 16:15 and for KS2 children, from 16:30 to 17:15. MC will be the DJ for the event.</p> <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PTA to organize decorations for the event that could be used for other future celebrations, such as colourful paper bunting and paperchains (NC to lead) • PTA to create a poster (tbc) <p>Chocolate bingo</p>	NC / RK

<p>The PTA and school agreed to holding a chocolate bingo on Friday 24 March from 17:30 to 19:00. The PTA would be in charge of running the event. School would hold a non uniform day on the same day, allowing children to come in their own clothes in exchange for donating chocolate for the bingo. To ensure variety in the hampers, donations of chocolate-based products such as hot chocolate, chocolate cereals, chocolate biscuits and chocolate spread would be encouraged, in addition to Easter eggs. PTA members would make up the hampers on the day in order to avoid having to store the donations. PTA would also run refreshments (tea/coffee and biscuits).</p> <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RK to check with NP about availability of bingo books/dabbers from previous bingo events • PTA to create a poster (tbc) <p>School cinema</p> <p>MC suggested running an indoor cinema with two showings for two different age groups. Parents could be invited to have a coffee and a chat with the PTA while their children were at the event, giving the PTA the chance to increase its membership. If successful, the event could be held outside in the summer.</p> <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MC to investigate hiring a screen <p>Sponsored walk</p> <p>MC suggested organizing a sponsored walk for the children around the “triangle”. This event had proved popular in previous years, when parents had volunteered to chaperone and others had attended to watch their children’s classes complete the walk. PTA and school suggested this could be organized later in the year when the weather was milder.</p> <p>Coronation</p> <p>The PTA and school briefly discussed celebrations for the coronation on 8 May. School advised that SATS would take place that week so any celebration would have to take place during the following week. School and the PTA agreed that any celebration should involve minimal set-up and overheads and be focused on offering the wider community an opportunity to celebrate, rather than having fundraising as a goal. The issue would be discussed further at a future meeting.</p>	
<p>FINANCES</p> <p>RK gave an update on the situation with Natwest, reporting that although the bank had said that the mandate changes would be made within a week of the previous PTA meeting, the changes had still not been made. RK was in regular contact with the bank, who had advised that identity checks were being carried out. Until the mandate changes were made, NC was the only active PTA member with signatory power.</p> <p>RK had reviewed recent PTA income and expenditure and calculated that the accounts held just over £1,600.00. However, she required bank statements to verify this. Payment of the PTA donation to the school Christmas dinner had not yet been made.</p> <p>Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RK to check with Ms Ripley to find out who the cheque should be made out to for the Christmas dinner donation 	RK

SCHOOL PLANS FOR THE YEAR

SD and MC explained that rather than holding a whole school trip on the same day, as had been done in 2022, the school was considering different options. The trip could be split over different days in order to ensure sufficient staff to accompany each class. There was also a proposal to offer each class an allocated amount to spend on improving the learning environment for current and future children. The outlook for school intake in coming years was challenging as the school's catchment area was small and birth rates had dropped significantly. The school was therefore focused on raising the profile of Yanwath as an attractive primary school. Ideas for spending the funds would be generated between the children and the staff through the school councils.

PTA support would also be very welcome in giving children access to special experiences in or nearby school, such as author visits on World Book Day or the installation of a planetarium during British Science Week. The PTA were very supportive of this approach, highlighting the rich opportunities for children within Cumbria that could be tapped into in place of big trips.

Minutes produced by ZH, checked by NP.