

2011-01-25

Montpelier School PTA Meeting held on Tuesday 25 January 2011

Present: Jane Hillmen (Chair), Kate Jackson, Andrew Hurford, Candace Brooks, Sarah Mitchell, Nadim Khan, Farough Pakjou, Matthew Wilkinson, Lucy Wilkinson, Mona Jamal, Hilda Tamou, Achala Odhey, Balwinder Kaur, Delia Alfonso, Jackie Field, Enya Glanz, Margaret Kolanowska, Tamsin Connett, Melanie Sturge, Sunita Patel, Tasneem Outten, Richard Van Woerden, Emma Parker Gladwell, Bishtwon Zancana, Anna Wood.

Apologies: Richard Piercey, Janine Neye, Kate Grenfel, Am Rai

Finance report 2010-11 (by Andrew Hurford, Treasurer)

The total fundraising net income for 2010/11 so far was £6231.50.

The Christmas Disco had done very well raising a net income of £2462.56, as had the International Food Fayre which raised £1494.85, almost 50% up on last year.

The total income of the School Calendar had not yet been finalised but a net profit of around £1800 was estimated.

School expenditure had totalled £7441.29. The most significant purchase was a new Sound System.

The closing balance was £19,526.81, which was mostly in the bank.

2.1 It was noted that there had been some food wastage at the School Disco (especially the hotdogs). It was thought that due to the event's popularity, the corridor had been very crowded and posed a potential health and safety issue.

2.2 The PTA agreed that for the School Disco next year, one of the classrooms adjoining the corridor would be opened and used for the refreshments stall, to enable only one side of the corridor to be in use.

3. Headteacher's report (by EG/MK)

The first term had been very positive for events:

The November Curriculum Evening had been well-attended with a very positive survey response which indicated that the event helped to support the children's learning at home

The end of November Anti-Bullying Week had raised the profile of this issue and had included workshops, an all-school assembly, and a session run by an external company. The week had engaged the children who had talked about the subject outside of the scheduled sessions.

The Christmas Concerts were very well attended and had raised around £400 for the charity Water Aid.

Other events/projects included the Local Authority led 'Ocean Maths' which was a new scheme aiming to help improve pupils' maths through involving parents/carers, was currently being trialled with Year 4 and would be rolled out to years 5 & 6, plus a weekly music workshop.

Arts Week had just been launched. This included drama workshops at a cost of around £400 and a two-day mosaic workshop for £1200. The school logo had been designed and would enhance the entrance. Art materials and workshops had totalled £900.

A new PTA-funded colour printer had now been installed, bring the total number of school printers to four (two colour).

Timetabling for the playground project was being considered. The main aim was to improve the junior playground and create a number of different zones eg quiet zone, activity zone etc, as well as a secure games pitch. The project was currently being scoped in terms of priorities and budget.

Beanbags had been ordered for Reception and Year One children. 24 had been ordered at £32.50 totalling £780. The PTA voted and unanimously agreed to finance this purchase. Discussion around raising the profile of the PTA included a photo of each class rep on the classroom window briefly stating their PTA link and a few bullet points about what the PTA does. There were data protection issues around releasing and circulating personal information regarding children and their parents but first names and gender of children could be released. General invitations (e.g. to coffee mornings etc) could also go up on classroom windows (after approval via the school office).

The most effective ways of attracting new parents to join the PTA was discussed. It was agreed that the PTA could have a 7.45-9pm slot to meet new parents following the 6.30-7.45pm new Parents Evening Meeting planned by the school on 30 June 2011. An off-site social event would follow in September. The merits of a local pub for this event were debated, and it was agreed that the Brentham Club may be a venue that would potentially attract a wider demographic, although expensive to hire. More ideas for the September social would be discussed at the next PTA meeting.

A new display was up in the main hallway exhibiting the links with a school in China. Year 5 children had used Skype and had sent letters and pictures through. Other locations for linked schools were Haiti, France and the Isle of Wight.

4. School Fete (Kate Jackson – fete organiser/Jane Hillmen - Social Events Coordinator)
Newer PTA members were alerted to the fact that this was the most significant fundraiser of the year and required all hands on deck. A list of themes were suggested and a shortlist was created:

Seaside/Hawaiian Tropical/Treasure Island

Rainforest/Endangered Animals

Masked fete

A vote was taken and the most popular theme was Seaside/Hawaiian Tropical/Treasure Island so it was agreed to go with a Treasure Island theme for the fete.

4.2 Sarah Mitchell agreed to co-ordinate the task of contacting local businesses with regard to advertising for the school fete. Anna Wood would assist in this task as necessary. Sunita Patel would support/hand over as she has dealt with sponsorship for the last few years.

4.3 The auction would be run again though with fewer items to be auctioned on the actual day as last year's online auction and bidding had proved very successful and would be run again this year.

4.4 The agreed date of the fete was Saturday 25 June 2011. Kate Jackson (kate.jackson1974@gmail.com) would bring a small team together and co-ordinate the event. There will be more news and meetings on this starting sometime in the next half term.

5. Other planned events

5.1 Non-Uniform Day

The next non-uniform day was scheduled for Friday 18 February 2011. £1 contribution invited from children wishing to take part.

5.2 Easter Cake Sale

This event consists of parents donating cakes and then buying other cakes in return. Volunteers will be needed to create posters, set up stalls, donate cakes and clear away afterwards. Tamsin Connett (tamsinconnett@aol.com) agreed to co-ordinate this event again.

5.3 Gardening Club

Planting for the Gardening Club should begin in March, and more seeds and hand tools needed to be purchased. A club co-coordinator was needed. Some parents had volunteered to run the club with a group of children during school hours but this could only be permitted if individual parents had undergone an enhanced CRB check (£36). It was therefore more likely that the club would run outside of school hours.

It was agreed that the school would discuss and agree feasibility and time slots. This would be emailed to the PTA who would then circulate a list to find volunteer gardeners. Margaret Kolonowska agreed to follow this up in school and revert to the PTA.

5.4 School Quiz

The school quiz had previously taken two forms: an interschool quiz with Montpelier, North Ealing and St Gregory's, and a quiz for Montpelier parents only.

It was agreed that a Montpelier School Quiz would be held on Friday 1 April 2011 in the School Hall (or possibly in a smaller room in the new building if more appropriate). Refreshments would be available and Montpelier parents could also invite family and friends to take part. Mark Phillips (post meeting) confirmed he will organise this event with the help of Candace Neye and Jane Hillmen (mark.phillips123@btinternet.com or caggieneye2003@yahoo.co.uk)

5.5 Musical Evening

This is an early evening social event in which children sing and perform music to parents. The date of this event has post meeting been confirmed as Thursday 7 April 7-9pm and PTA help is requested to provide an interval bar/refreshments as in previous years.

6. Date of next meeting

This would be confirmed and circulated in the near future.