

Minutes of the PTA AGM

27th January 2015

Apologies: Nada Chowdury, Sunita Patel, Afshan Malik, Cathrine Nekati, Teresa Rodondo-Lopez, Emma Gladwell and Louise Beitverda.

Welcome

- The new Chairs, Candace Brooks and Lorraine Phillips welcomed all parents and carers. The meeting was well attended and a particular thank you went out to the new parents and carers who were there for the first time.
- The Chairs then went through the funds raised during last term's events, which were as follows:
 - The Non uniform day made £655.
 - The International Food Fair made £1881 (which is a record amount).
 - The Disco made just over £3470.
 - The 2015 Calendar made £3116.
- The Chairs also explained the purpose of the PTA and how the money is spent in general.
- The PTA also contributed towards the canopies in the infant playgrounds.

Meeting

The Publicity Officer, Mark Phillips has redesigned the PTA Website. He spoke and explained the different sections of the website and how all the various events are displayed in the "Events" section for all to see what the events are like and how one could help. You can also contact the PTA through the website: <http://montpelierpta.org.uk/>

There was talk of involving the school council to give them the option to request funding or items that they feel they would like from the PTA.

Event Update

- The International Food Fair did very well and the feedback from the Food Fair Coordinator was that the class reps were particularly helpful with liaising between their classes and the Coordinator.
- The School Quiz was to be held on Friday 6th February.
- There will be a new date for Non-Uniform day as it clashes with Red Nose Day. Date to be announced.
- The Easter Cake Sale is set for Friday 27th March.
- The Summer Fete will be held on Saturday 13th June. We are looking for a Food Coordinator to oversee that section at the Summer Fete, if you would like to take on the role, please contact Melanie Squire via the PTA website.

Head Teacher's Report

- Mr. Rai thanked the PTA for the canopies in the infant playground. They have helped tremendously with outdoor learning.

- There are plans to develop the outdoor learning space for the nursery. The piece of land between Helena Road and the nursery building is currently being treated and will hopefully turn into a large outdoor space for the nursery and reception children to use.
- Future plans are to add a soft surface area in the Junior playground.
- The School is looking to upgrade the computer suite by introducing new, faster computers with sound. Teachers' computers are also to be upgraded so that the link to the whiteboards runs much smoother. The old computers will be recycled and used to create a computer bar for the younger children to use.
- The school is currently running a "Coding Club" for children in Year 5 and Year 6. 15 children do a 6-week course on a Friday afternoon at 3.30pm to 4.30pm. The Club is run by parents at the school and they are in need for volunteers who could help with the club (Parents would need to dedicate an hour a week on a Friday from 3.30pm for a 6-week block). The School can help fast track a CRB check. If you can help, please contact the PTA via the website. You do not need to have any prior knowledge of computing.
- Mr. Rai thanked Beth Gregory and a handful of Montpelier parents for their persistence for the opening of the new Twyford School. North Twyford (name may change) is doing everything it can to open by 2016. This is will confirmed by July 2015. There will be 20 places for CofE students and the rest of the places will be based on distance from the Nodal Point which will be set as St. Peter's Church in Mount Park Road.

Funding Requests

- Tobias Morris suggested that there should be a threshold, below which, the PTA would not commit further spend. It was noted that upfront spend is specifically required before the Summer Fete which the PTA must have sufficient funds in the bank to cover. This was recognised and agreed by the committee.
- There is currently £27k of PTA funds in the bank. The committee voted and agreed to pledge £18k in total which will cover the annual costs (including Athletics and shortfall to school trip payments).
- It is expected that the full costs of the improvements to the infant playground will be approximately £27k. The committee voted and agreed on their intent to contribute further to this work, but are not currently in a financial position to pledge more than the £18k. Mr Rai will liaise with the Chairs before the next meeting if further funds were required in the interim.

AOB

- A parent looked into a company that produced Christmas Cards. The idea is to have every child in the school to draw a picture which is then printed onto a Christmas Card. They suggested a company who will give a percentage back to the school for each pack sold.
- Harrison's Catering: There have been some concerns by parents about the quality of the meals and the choice offered to the children at lunchtimes. Also concerns were that the menu handed out to parents does not

correspond to what is on offer on the day. Mr. Rai suggested that if someone has a specific complaint or comment about Harrison's Catering, to email the school for the attention of Mr. Rai.