

Montpelier PTA meeting 5 Feb 2013

1. **Welcome and apologies**

All new members were welcomed to the second PTA meeting of 2012/13.

2. **Financial report**

This item was put on hold as the Treasurers were not present.

3. **Review of last term's events**

- The Food Fair had been very successful and had raised around £1700.
- The figures for the last Non Uniform day needed to be circulated.
- Many thanks were extended to Candace and Janine for an excellent Christmas Disco – the PTA was currently awaiting figures. Particularly outstanding was the food stall thanks to Kate and Sushma. Overall, the disco had been very well run and stalls were more spread out, allaying the health and safety concerns of previous years. It was thought that one enhancement to next year's disco would be to move year 3 to disco 2 to distribute numbers more evenly.
- The calendars had also been very successful and an additional print run had taken place. Around 420 calendars were sold.

4. **Forthcoming events**

- **PTA Quiz Fri 15th March** – this was a very good social event with a group quiz, a sit down dinner and an honesty bar. Class reps would start selling tickets by the end of this week. Up to 10 per table were permitted and new parents would be assigned to tables if they did not know anyone yet. Candace and Mark were the quiz managers but they would require help with photocopying and distribution, and markers.
- **Cake sale Thurs 28 March** - helpers and cake makers were once again needed, posters would be put up after half term.
- **Fete – Sat 29 June** This was now being run by Mel and Dina who proposed a movies theme for this year's fete. The fete was an annual school event, and the most important fundraiser of the year. Each class is allocated a stall. The fete runs from 12:00 – 16:00 and ends with a big water fight on the infant playground. The 'Montpelier at the Movies' theme was agreed by the PTA Committee and Dina and Mel would meet with class reps to start organizing the event in the early part of next term. It was thought that sponsorship could begin earlier this year to get a head start on fundraising and donations.

5. **Headteacher's report**

- The train in the infant playground and the climbing frame would be repaired during February half term.
- The decking in the junior playground was in urgent need of repair; it had had been closed off it as gets slippery when wet. It was agreed that the decking needed to be removed and replaced and the School was currently looking for a solution. The roots from the trees under decking were a hazard.
- The School asked the PTA for help to purchase construction equipment for the infant playground. The ballpark figure for the construction equipment was £1,200. The **Committee voted in favour of this spending request.**

- Some invoices not yet been given to PTA as the finance officer had been ill.
- The contractors had revised the cleaning programme so open door areas were cleaned with antiseptic every day to combat viral infections.
- The school has been surveyed with a view to expansion to a four form entry. The pro would be that more parents would get Montpelier as their first choice. The cons were that there was no additional outdoor space.
- The School was revamping their website and trying to get parents to access the MLE to encourage all children to want to go on the site. One parent brought up the issue that not all year 1 children had MLE passwords. Mr Rai would follow this up.
- Mr Rai asked the committee for feedback regarding the snow arrangements and the decision to make the end times of the day more flexible. The committee agreed that it had been a good plan both from a health and safety perspective and had given parents more flexibility in collection arrangements.
- It was queried whether parents could yet hire out the hall for parties at weekends. This had not yet progressed due to Mr Beeson being on sick leave and there were complexities regarding care taking arrangements. The School would consider this again post April.
- The school shed was now in great order because of the purchase of storage boxes. Thanks were given to Mark for his ongoing work in clearing and keeping the shed in excellent order.
- Year 6 celebrations: a meeting had taken place last week to decide what was happening and discussion had partly been around what the PTA could and could not fund. The celebration plans were in hand. Tues 23rd July was the last day of term.

6. **Any Other Business**

- For the first time this academic year the classes from Years 1-2 had been mixed up in order to balance them better given that the School has 27% mobility. Classes were also reshuffled at the end of year 5. Some parents thought the mix could have been made more transparent to the children and that the information could have gone out earlier. There had been few problems associated with the mix and nearly all had been resolved after the first couple of weeks.
 - School website had been reviewed using a small focus group and a user survey. The school also tried to draw upon informal comments.
 - One parent pointed out that there were many university academics amongst the parents who could be invited in to support core school teaching and give a different perspective. Mr Rai agreed this could be a good idea.
 - One parent wondered if the curtains in the main hall could be replaced as they gave a bad impression of the school. Blinds were perceived to be a better alternative. Mr Rai stated that the curtains had been replaced relatively recently and were not currently a priority
 - At the school concert held last spring, the music started at 19:30. It was queried whether this could be moved forward to start earlier to enable younger siblings to attend. Mr Rai said that this would be considered but 19:30 was traditionally thought to be a good time as it enabled parents time to get back from work.

7. **Date of next meeting**

The date of the next PTA Committee meeting would be held on Tuesday 30 April at 19:00.