

**Chairs Report 19/9/2019**

Firstly I would like to welcome everyone this evening and thank you for attending. It is with your support and generosity that the PTA is possible and have been able to provide the children and school with the wonderful things we have to date.

It brings me great pleasure to report another fantastic year of fundraising efforts by everyone involved. It has been a year of changes throughout the PTA and the feedback to come from this has been wonderful. We have welcomed new members and brought back previous events, even agreed on new events for the future. The main area I focussed on was the communication between active members and parents within the school. This is developing wonderfully and I can not wait to see it grow in the coming years. Raising funds for our school is a joint effort and it could not be a successful one without your help.

We started our year of events off with our Monster ball. This was the starts of our biggest change in our hosting, the menu. After long discussions it was agreed to completely change the menu options and introduce healthier options like, Nachos, themed desert waffles and a chilli both vegetarian and meat. It was a huge success. Also on our tuck options we changed the sugary drinks to flavoured spring water and the sweet snacks from normal sized to treat size. This all came about after opening communications up with parents and discussing previous events. Parents also discussed charging normal prices for tickets without the option of free foods which in turn raised more funds at the event.

Our biggest event and most successful one was our Christmas Fair. It took a lot of effort from a lot of people to organise this event and each year it seems to get bigger and bigger. Our tree of surprises sold out in less than 10minutes, which lead to a discussion at our following PTA meeting about changes to it to ensure everyone had an opportunity to purchase from it, after all it took 4 months to raise donations for it. Drinks were flowing all evening especially our cheeky hot chocolate’s and mulled wine and the generously donated cakes were stacked so high we managed to sell some at during the children’s nativities rising extra money.

After the new year and the children were settled we hosted our Valentines disco. This year it was themed around books the children were studying as part of their curriculum. The ks1 was a huge hit and the children had a wonderful time dancing and playing games. Unfortunately the evening was hosted the same day as an event at the high school so the ks2 section wasn’t as well attended but the children still had a wonderful time and funds were raised.

Following the valentines disco came the grand opening of our Chatty hut. School held a wonderful ceremony in front of all the pupils and parents and Mrs Lawrenson cut the ribbon to officially open it. Vicky Beddall had an amazing Plaque created which was presented to Mrs Lawrenson on the day to show our appreciation in all she has done for the school and ourselves as we named the chatty hut ‘The Mrs Lawrenson Chatty Hut’.

April saw the ever popular Easter bingo. The decision was made, due to health and safety regulations, to ticket the event to control numbers. Previous years have shown number increase above regulatory amounts so we prevented this happening this year. Tickets sold out very quickly and left parents disappointed. We are looking to host the event outside of school this current school year so we can cater for everybody. The night itself was very successful and a great time was had by all , especially those who came away with an Easter egg. Thanks you for your egg donations, the children got an extra chance of winning one at the decorate an egg competition.

This year on May Day a few of our members pitched up on the village field and gathered customers to the Newchurch Robins tent where they could pick a bottle bag or a lucky dip for £1. The sun was shinning we all had a laugh and a good amount of money was raised. The stall was very popular, it was a wonderful effort.

We made a joint decision this year not to host a summer disco but to host a summer BBQ instead. What a wonderful evening it was too. Mrs Narraway kindly ensure the sun would be shining and boy did it!. We had lots of activities set up for the children to participate in from rugby, football and archery to arts and crafts and hoola-hooping. I would like to say a massive thank you to Suzanne Taylor for giving up her evening and bringing along some of her Culcheth eagle coaching colleagues and hosting the ruby activities, also Emma Benson and Damien Samuels from Fitness Feats for hosting the football activities and warren and staff from the village club for cheffing the event. All activities went down a treat. We will most definitely be hosting this event again in the coming years.

It has been an exciting year within the PTA but also a sad one as it was the last year for one of our longest serving members Suzanne Taylor. Suzanne has done an incredible job raising thousands of pounds for the PTA and the school and has had a huge part in the development of our playground. It has been an honour working with you and I would like to say an extremely big thank you on behalf of us all for everything you have done. We wish you all the best for the future.

As you know, none of our efforts would be worthwhile if it wasn’t for the generosity and support provided by all the parents, teachers, and local businesses. So I would also like to say a very big thank you to you all, especially for making my first year as Chair such an exiting one. I hope to continue making positive changes and I look forward to hearing more ideas and thoughts from you all in the future whatever position I hold within the PTA. After all we are all working together for our children.

Have a brilliant 2019/2020

Thank you

Keighley Boyes

Chair