

St. Thomas' PTA Meeting Agenda
Wednesday 16th October 2019 7:30pm at The Plough on the Moor



Attendees: Rhian Greaves (Co-Chair), Laura Nadel (Co-Chair), Becky Judson (Treasurer), Angie Pollard (Secretary), Sarah Morley (Communications Officer), Laura Sherrington, Adele Burns, Claire Hyde, Celia Hulme, Joanne Hayes, Lyndsey Pearce

Agenda Item	Notes
<p>1. Minutes / actions from last meeting and Finance overview</p>	<p>The minutes of the last meeting were approved. Our new chairs, Rhian and Laura, are keen for PTA meetings to stick to the main topics and leave the details to be discussed within the sub teams. This will hopefully allow the main meetings to be shorter.</p> <p>Finance overview No notable changes since previous meeting. The total balance of funds is now approximately £15,000, of which £5,000 needs to be reserved to cover our committed spend for the year.</p>
<p>2. Feedback & wish lists from school / ambassadors</p>	<p>Chair/ School Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Nadel fed back from a very positive meeting with Mrs Morris, who is supportive of keeping up the community feel and hopes to be more ambitious. Mrs Morris did express concern over the calendar becoming overcrowded towards the end of last year, which the PTA agreed with. • Mrs Morris is keen to support a Christmas event and proposed 7th December as a suitable date. • The infant hall could be used on 31st January for an event. • Summer Fair and Luxury Raffle proposed for 3rd July • Mrs Morris was very pleased with the Smartie Challenge and Easter colouring competition. • Mrs Morris is happy to support a couple of non-uniform days, including Christmas Colour Day (rather than Christmas Jumpers to give an option for those who do not have a Christmas jumper). The other potential is the day before VE Day to co-incide with a possible school event to commemorate VE Day. • Mrs Morris asked if the school discos could be brought forward due to the congestion in the school calendar in July. ACTION Becky Judson to discuss issues at previous discos with school to help with future discos • Mrs Morris asked if a hardship fund could be set up to support school trips for families who are really struggling to afford them. Mrs Billington is looking into this to propose a suitable amount. • A school calendar was suggested but would be too late to sort this out for 2020. • Mrs Morris would support a method of parents being able to donate to the PTA by regular and one off payments and utilising gift aid. ACTION Becky Judson to look into Just Giving type options and whether the PTA bank account can accept direct donations.

	<p>Wish List</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Morris considers a shade for the infant playground to be a necessity to allow children to get more time outdoors in both sun and rain. She would prefer to be given a budget from the PTA to work with when getting quotes. • Parents have expressed concerns about the amount of tarmac in the infant playground and also pollution levels with it being so close to the road. They would like the border to be planted with a hedge or other plants to improve the air quality. • The PTA have agreed to offer a budget of £10,000 for improvements to the infant playground subject to the following provisos: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Don't compromise on the plans if there are better options above the £10,000 budget, please ask the PTA to see if we can cover the difference - Plants to be included within the plans to address the parents' concerns - The plans should be a sustainable investment for the long term. <p>Other</p> <p>Laura Sherrington suggested a school magazine/newsletter with the children as writers, editors and photographers. We could have local business adverts, set competitions and print winners and children could interview teachers. All those in attendance thought this was a great idea and thanked Laura for suggesting.</p> <p>ACTION Chair to discuss idea of a school magazine with school</p>
<p>3. Calendar of Events 2019/20</p>	<p>We discussed lots of fantastic ideas suggested via the Class Ambassadors including bubbles and bingo, shwop evening for clothes/toys, fantasy football, afternoon tea, movie night, Christmas night in, auction of promises, eco bricks, fun run with BBQ & games, clothes recycling, reverse advent calendar for the foodbank in Heaton Mersey and a night in. We need to avoid too much going on at once and have outlined the following as potential events/dates.</p> <p>ACTION Chair to discuss cinema night option with school ACTION Chair to discuss reverse advent calendar idea with school ACTION Lyndsay Pearce to look into whether 15th May or 31st January would be better for a quiz with the potential volunteers she has to organise it.</p> <p>October Football cards hopefully going out before half term</p> <p>November 22nd Fashion Show Christmas Cards</p> <p>December 7th Christmas Fair Nativity Refreshments Santa gifts Christmas Colour Day</p> <p>January Zumbathon 31st potential quiz, cinema or bingo night</p> <p>February Smartie Challenge</p> <p>March Mother's Day Gifts Easter Colouring</p> <p>April School Discos</p>

	<p>May VE Day 15 – potential quiz, cinema or bingo night</p> <p>June Father’s Day gifts</p> <p>July Summer Fair – proposed as 3rd but need to check Euro 2020 fixtures as any potential clash with an England game could limit the success.</p>
4. Corporate Funding	<p>Joanne Hayes has already looked into a few ideas, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - applying to be a charity for bag tokens at a supermarket - the Co-op take applications in the spring for who they will help for the 12 months - smile.amazon have a scheme we can register with - schemes to sell giftcards where PTA earn 4% of them - Aldi stickers and other such competitions <p>We are very grateful to Joanne for all these fantastic ideas and Joanne has been appointed as our Corporate Funding Officer to take charge of this.</p> <p>ACTION Sarah Morley will ask Miss Grogan whether she has progressed with setting up the Tesco token funding scheme for our Forest School.</p>
5. Update on ongoing projects	<p>Fashion Show</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Becky Judson is running a sub team to organise this. • We need to check the timings for setting up/clearing away as we cannot have the hall before 6pm and need to be out by 11pm at the latest. • We can have independent stalls if no crossover with Fashion Show company. • Tickets to be sold via Class Ambassadors and in playground with hi-vis jackets. • We want to ensure there is time to enjoy drinks & shopping. Can the show be shortened to fit? <p>ACTION Sarah Morley to publicise Fashion Show through comms/social media and create a facebook event.</p> <p>Christmas Event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We discussed options for a Christmas event. Last year we did not hold one due to closure of the infant hall and concern over maximum number of people we can have inside the infant building at one time. With the growth of the school, we may not be able to safely accommodate everyone at the same time. • Potential solutions are for a Christmas Market style event where we utilise the playground area or a Santa experience with people buying advance tickets for staggered arrival times. • Ideas included kids’ craft activities, Santa in the church, outdoor stalls with a mix of PTA & external vendors and an inflatable igloo disco. <p>ACTION Chair to set up a sub-team to organise an event on 7th December.</p>
6. AOB	We had a lot to cover and there was no time left to discuss any other matters.
7. Next meeting Date	<p>The next 2 meetings were proposed as Tuesday 12th November and Tuesday 10th December. As Mr Campden may wish to attend one of these, we need to check with him before confirming.</p> <p>ACTION Angie to check with Mr Campden and book the next meeting.</p>