



Annual General Meeting 2017 Chairperson's report

Report from Emma Parkinson, Chair of Hayfield Primary School PTA

This year the PTA has raised more funds than in previous years, which will be invaluable as government cuts increase pressure on school budgets, and we are working with parents and the school to identify how these funds can be used to best effect. We continue to involve parents and children in our decision making through our 'your PTA - your choice' surveys and have increased the ways that parents can share their ideas.

It has been a busy year for the PTA, with lots of events and activities, both raising funds but also putting these to good use. In the classroom we have supported the music curriculum with an array of instruments and part-funding for the Young Voices trip. In the geography curriculum we've funded globes and atlases and in science we funded and helped host Active Science day in March.

To enhance playtime we bought play and sports equipment, as well as the ball catcher and most recently playground painting. Alongside the resources and equipment, funding for the mini-bus has extended to secure its use each week of the academic year, and other transport has been funded for trips.

As well as funding whole or part-school activities and resources, we've helped children who would otherwise be unable take part in school trips, by part or wholly funding the cost of educational and enrichment experiences.

Last year we held more fundraising activities than before, including a family Chocolate Bingo night, and movie nights for the children, alongside our regular events. We've also delivered fundraising in different ways, including in partnership with the Cricket Club. The School Lottery raised over £1000 in its first year, which is money for school, but also benefiting members, with a local winner every week.

The core team of PTA volunteers continues to receive support from parents and staff at events, without whom we could not deliver such fun and varied activities, for which we are very thankful.

Without a doubt, we need more regular input from parents; as each new academic year we lose the parents whose children have gone on to secondary education making it even more important that parents step forward and offer their help.

We continue to appeal to the good nature of parents. The phrase 'many hands make light work' has never been truer. Only if the core PTA membership is slightly bigger, and we share the tasks out a little more widely, can we continue to make such a positive difference to our children.