



Friends Meeting Minutes 3rd March, 2017, 9am

Present: Heidi Beattie, Chair (HB), Bianca Gaspar-Dunn (BGD), Claire Hammond (CH), Sarah Harrison, Secretary (SH), Helen McNeill, Treasurer (HMc), Georgina O'Connor (GO), Gemma Shahjahan (GS), Marie-Louise Thirlaway (MLT), Sue Wilson (SW) Karen Streets (KS), Philippa Cook (PC)

Last meetings minutes approved and the summary in book bags seemed to be well received so will continue.

Treasurer's Report

£12,500 in current account

- Awaiting money from Christmas cards and Hundred club
- Paid in £113 from Children's Disco

Paid out

- £440 Riding Lights Theatre
- £107 Early Years play cooker
- £406 Nursery Wish list

Playground Committee: The new committee will meet on 10th March at 2.15. Paul from Groundworks will be able to help with the project. GO explained that Taylors/Bettys Tree Charity team have helped support other school's projects with environmental issues. Other schools have involved year 5/6 in the design with a dragon's den style judging panel- this covers a lot of aspects of the curriculum and the children really feel part of it – MLT to look into this.

PMN: Meeting taken place awaiting update and next actions.

Upcoming Events

- **Chocolate Bingo** –Saturday 25th March 4-6pm. Claire Hammond co-ordinating, Vicks Hazeldine, Gemma Shahjahan will assist. Will need other assistants on the day with bingo calling/raffle/kitchen. A form will be sent out in the book bags (CH &BGD). Ticket sales will be capped at 80. Need to approach Morrisons for donations of food (HB). Need to source a bingo machine (SH, HB). Raffle tickets to be sold in the playground for people who are unable to attend (class reps).

PMN: CONGRATULATIONS FOR A GREAT EVENT – Claire will communicate what we raised but thank you to Claire and Jonny for running the event with lots of help from others – special mention also to Vicks and Gemma and all those people and businesses that supplied Chocolate/Raffle Prizes.

- **Tea and Cakes** – Friday 7th April 2pm– Class 3 to coordinate (BGD and SH)
- **Bag2school:** Friday 28th April (SH)

- Parents social to be organised by Lisa Dickinson. HB check the status on this and hopefully propose a date at the next meeting.
- Morrisons bag packing. Date given was same as July BBQ date so this will need changing. (HB). PMN: Now been given Saturday 15th July to be discussed at the next meeting.
- Open Gardens: 25th June for further discussion at the next meeting following up Helen Tesseyman's great idea of Baking Competition.
- BBQ and Bike ride: 8th July Hot dogs and ice creams. Maybe an obstacle course around field. Philippa Cook organising this event.

Spending requests from MLT

- 5 more iPads to be purchased £379 each.
- Request for help with transport costs for school trips as it increases the cost so significantly e.g. the Bolton castle trip costs £15 for entry but would be around £350 for the coach and the Yorkshire wildlife park is £13 entry with the coach also around £350. It was agreed to help with these costs - providing all the school children have an equal share.
- PMN:
 - Class 3 and 4 - It was agreed to pay up to £350 for the coach, in fact the bill is £285
 - Class 2 – Agreed to pay for their coach to the Yorkshire Wildlife Park. Invoice £200
 - Reception - Agreed to pay £250 for their wish list
 - Note Nursery already benefited from a wish list.
- Friends are to also be mentioned in any letters sent out to ensure all parents are made aware of such contributions.
- School sweatshirts in royal blue or yellow for the child who gets star of the week. This needs to be looked into further as there are issues regarding washing them and returning them. Other issues about the children getting too hot in them ...perhaps a T-shirt would be better. Other concerns were mentioned -generally that the trophies are a better way of rewarding good behaviour or achievements. Needs further discussion to find out how other schools use them (MLT/HB).
- Waterproofs for the younger children. £68.94 seen as more of an essential school item rather than a 'nice to have' therefore friends will not fund.

Other items discussed

- Lucy Taylor is a new school governor and DBS checked.
- There are 3 other parents who are in the process of getting DBS checks, thank you to them.
- Sadly, one of our x parents Yvonne Allott has lost her battle with cancer- she designed the friends logo and helped with scenery in the school plays. It would be nice to have a memorial for her and Sally Eden; perhaps a fruit tree. MLT to contact the families.
- Clarity Required with regards to Voluntary Aided School and what this means to all parents.
 - It seems it is still not clear to all parents that we are a voluntary aided school and therefore how essential it is to have all the parents support even if it is a one-off donation a year. This was previously mentioned to all new parents at the initial interview but this is no longer in place. HB to discuss with Chair of the Governors.

Date of next meeting: There have been requests for the meetings to be on different days and in the evenings to ensure more people can attend. Please would parents let Heidi know when is best for them and then next meeting date can be published – email martonfriends@gmail.com