

Registered Charity Number: 801153

## **Annual General Meeting**

**15th September 2015**

### **Chair's Report for the Year 2014-15**

Many changes have been brought about at Eaton over the last year, throughout which, we've remained a strong, active PTA resulting in yet another successful year.

The Treasurer's Report provides a detailed breakdown, but this year we've managed to raise just short of £9000, which I'm sure you'll agree is fantastic.

Our PTA calendar has been jam packed again this past year, with our usual traditional events, with the addition of a few new ventures.

We started the last school year, busily planning for Christmas Fundraising which brought cards, a nativity DVD and the ever popular Santa's Workshop. All of which were a huge fundraising success and some of which we hope to repeat again this year.

We also, for the first time, produced a fundraising calendar, an idea brought along by Bonny when she came to her 1st meeting this time last year and what an asset she's been.

Before we knew it, we were talking all things Easter and another success story in the form of the Easter Fair bringing in just under £1000. We ran a really popular egg creation competition too.

The sun began to shine and along came ice cream Friday's, which with Bonny's enthusiasm proved to be a huge success, demand always outstripped supply and we saw profits soar to £655.21!

Our biggest annual event and largest fundraiser came next in the form of the Summer Fete, again a monster success, with lots of fun for all - the highlight for most was seeing their teacher have a wet sponge thrown at them! Special thanks to Leaders, Virgin Active and all of the businesses and individuals who kindly donated prizes and offered their support. Again, massive thanks to the parents to helped, baked, served, set up and came along to support us.

We then continued by hulling what felt like 3000 strawberries for sports day refreshments - thanks to Waitrose for supplying some of those for us. We followed with one of our regular fundraisers in the form of Spree Book sales.

Our Year 6's, were, as usual sent off with a smile, courtesy of the PTA, not only did they have the usual leavers party, with a DVD of memories and a scroll, but this year we introduced the leavers hoodie, which was extremely popular and something we would hope to continue with again. We also helped subsidise the Year 6 dance show, performed at 'Open' by providing £200 towards the cost of the costumes and make up.

Another new event to round off our fundraising was our inaugural Quiz and Chips night, which was enjoyed by all and a sell-out success. Alongside these, we've also managed to fit in three bake sales, three 'wear what you want' days, a garage sale, a couple of Bag2School collections and in keeping with tradition two infant and two junior discos.

Surprisingly, following all of that fundraising, we did find some time to spend some money too. Again, the Treasurer's Report will provide an exact breakdown, but we've had a very varied expenditure over the last year, our purchases included all weather table tennis tables, netball bibs, and infant basketball.

Alongside our remit to fundraise for items for the school, the PTA also plays a role in providing other activities which enhance our children's experience of being at school. This encompasses our spending this year on school trips. We decided as a committee, following a suggestion from a parent at a meeting, to subsidise, or provide a school trip for every child across the school. These included a trip to the theatre to see Horrible Histories, a farm visit and a trip to the Sea life centre amongst others.

To those of you who are unsure whether to get involved this year – I would say “Do it!”. Whatever time you can give, the PTA can use it, whether it's helping out at daytime events such as Santa's workshop, or evenings at the discos. Perhaps a role such as managing 'Easy fundraising' for which the majority of work can be done at home. We welcome you all.

We aim to work towards a large fundraising target this year and I'm really enthusiastic to get going with this, so we can all see the fruits of our labour. Initial discussions have centred around providing a large, wooden play structure, to be located around the junior side of the school.

On a personal note, I'd firstly like to express my thanks to all of the PTA Committee, who have given their time and effort so generously this year. I think as a PTA we do far more than a lot of committees and this is reflecting in our success. I've made some really great friends and got to know people through the PTA, whom I otherwise may never have even spoken to. We've shared some fantastic times over the last year.

Special thanks to Jenny, who has undertaken a committee position for the last 2 years, the last one of which has been as secretary and what a fantastic, efficient, super organised one she's been, pulling us all into shape. You've magically brought so many loose ends together and prepared a really solid foundation by putting 'templates' in place for somebody taking over the role to build upon - Jenny has decided, that whilst she'll still take an active role, it's time for somebody else to undertake the role of secretary.

Thank you also to Victoria for accommodating us for our meetings at The Cellar House.

I would also like to express thanks to all the parents and families who have supported and participated in our events so generously and enthusiastically – without your participation, there is no PTA.

Finally, huge thanks to all staff at the school, who've helped make our events possible, many of whom have given their own time, especially Lisa Major for her participation as our teacher representative over the last year. I also extend a special thank you to Claire and Lisa in the office for their continued support.

Sally Kerrison

PTA Chair 2014-15