

Chairperson's Report – September 2022 to November 2023

Our last AGM took place in June 2022, during which it was announced the committee members, Maria, Helen & Rosie, were stepping down and new volunteers were being sought. A follow up EGM was required in September 2022 during which new committee members were voted in (Chair - Stephen Jones, Treasurer - Kelly Sinclair, Secretary - James Muehlnickel). Unfortunately the treasurer role is now open again as Kelly has since stepped down and we shall look to vote in a new volunteer at this year's AGM.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Maria, Helen and Rosie for all their efforts running the PTA during their time in position. They have all been a great help to the new members as we have been trying to find our feet.

Last year we were able to plan and execute 3 events; a Christmas Disco, a Spring disco and the return of the Summer Fayre. All events were relative successes and we were able to grow the PTA funds. They were also learning opportunities for the new members and volunteers and we hope to take this learning into this school year.

The Summer Fayre was a great event to end the school year and we were so pleased to be able to have it while Mr. Peterson was still in post. His appreciation of being able to hold such a community focussed and supported event meant so much to him. His pleasure at seeing the school buzzing with families having fun was plastered over his face and he was effervescent with joy at the end of the day. It showed us all what the PTA and all the volunteers can do when we come together. Of course, it is also where we have the greatest opportunity to improve. MORE GAMES . MORE STALLS and MORE (many more) TOKENS!!! The cashless system, while a great idea, was under prepared and we shall make sure the entry and pre-sales are less manic! Thank you for the patience and participation of everyone that attended. Planning for next year's summer fayre will begin in the new year.

I would like to thank the staff at school for all they do for the children, everyday. They are always willing to help the PTA in the planning and executing the events, however I also want to make sure the PTA is there to help them as much as they help us. So they will be key in identifying areas where the PTA can support the school, be it funded activities, resources or just warm bodies to help. Of course, last year we said goodbye to Mr Peterson and I feel we were able to send him off with him truly feeling the love that everyone at school felt for him. This year we welcomed Jen Johnson in the role of Head and already Jen & the PTA have begun to work together on how we can support the school, I know that we will have a great partnership going forwards.

PTA events and fundraising can only take place with support from parents and carers; YOU are the real PTA Committee. The 3 positions of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary are only the administrative positions required of a charity organisation, but without the volunteers that donate their precious time NOTHING will happen. I took the role of Chair when I was self employed and had control of my own destiny. I am now in a new job working international hours & travelling regularly. When I am not working my family is my priority, but it was because of my family, specifically my two girls who attend BCoE, that I volunteered to be Chair. A strong PTA committee is a benefit to everyone, to the teachers, to the school leadership but most importantly to the pupils. We want to support the school as much as possible; renovations, new equipment and eventually school trips are areas that we want to focus on. Enhancing your children's experience with activities in and out of school.

We really appreciate all the help we get from volunteers, but we want to do more and to achieve this we need more help. Please reach out to the PTA if you wish to be an active member of the committee or volunteer when called upon for future events.