

## Chairman's Report 2020 / 2021

14 October 2021

And just like that another year has almost passed! Due to the ongoing restrictions, OPTA were only able to host a few events but they were, very successful events.

This year we were unable to host a Summer Fair or Fireworks however we did, as many other organisations did, hold a virtual Christmas Fair; inviting local people and businesses to hold a virtual stall for a small fee. Considering we had no idea how best to hold a virtual event, we think it ran quite smoothly. Our Christmas activities raised over £1,800 in total which included the virtual fair, Christmas raffle, selling homemade items and the Class Hamper Auction which was very successful in raising £890 alone. We also provided children with an online 5 days of Christmas week, publishing different activities to do each day - "Festive Pets" in particular was very enjoyable and we were sent some lovely photos of family pets in their finest Christmas "get up".

Our first event this year was the Easter Fun Run! And it was lovely to see the children happy and enthusiastic to take part after such a hard year. Congratulations went to Robins and 3G for the most forms returned and each child in those classes received an Easter Egg. Thank you to Curchods who sponsored the event. The total raised was £4,708 plus gift aid of £800!!! A phenomenal amount.

There were a couple of other events we were able to run. Various Bags2School collections raised £543 and multiple sweet sales collectively raising £315.

Fortunately, due to the lockdown, the lack of fundraising has again been offset by the decrease in the need for items for the school however, OPTA have still made the following contributions. OPTA have spent nearly £15,000 on providing laptops to the school as well as providing new games and toys to each class for Christmas.

With all the above comes many volunteered hours and preparation before, during and after the events. We would particularly like to thank Bianca Williams for her continued support with the children's Christmas cards and the Class Reps who have worked hard to engage their class parents for each event, and all the other helpers and volunteers throughout the year. Finally, we must not forget the staff who have supported our ideas and helped at events.

As I am sure you are all aware, this meeting marks the end of my tenure as Chairman of OPTA and that of my colleagues Abi Knight, Kira Bennett and Aruna Chandrapalan. I would like to thank them for all their hard work and over the past 4 years as well as all the laughs and fun we have had along the way. We now look to welcome a new committee and promise to provide as much help and support as they need going forward. Myself and Abi will be signing over the Charity Trust to the new Chairman and Treasurer.

**Helen Mabbott**  
Chairman