



Ottershaw Parent Teacher Association

Enriching the lives of our children

Treasurers Report 2019

It has been a pleasure to be the OPTA Treasurer this year. We have looked to make a few changes that should set us up well for the next few years. Firstly we are now successfully registered for Gift Aid and have in fact claimed twice in FY 2019; we are now registered with AmazonSmile as well as Easyfundraising in an attempt to gain as much money as possible from shoppers; we have made some small investments in buying Sumup devices in order to be able to take credit card payments and we have set up a Stripe account to enable us to take payments online as well. These should hopefully be useful through the FY2020.

This year we raised £20,109 through the various events. We are very pleased with this given OPTA was run by a whole new team this year. The other main item to note is a payment of backdated invoices for previous years fireworks of £2,880 – this has been adjusted for in the final available balance for FY19.

Our large money making events were: Fireworks night, Christmas fair, Easter sponsored run and Summer fair.

Highlights of the Year:

This year Bags2school raised £876, this was less than last year's £1,020 however we plan to utilise this revenue stream as much as possible during the next year.

This year the Fireworks was our first event as a new team and were a huge success. We raised £3,754 which is slightly down on last years £4,422 however this was the first year we have been charged by Dragon Fireworks for providing them. In addition Dragon Fireworks also gave us invoices for the previous 3 years fireworks which meant that we had a cost in the year of £2,880 which related to previous years.

Our Christmas fair total was £3,259 – this was not as much as last year, however we were unable to run a raffle before the event. We are now set up with a small lottery licence which means we can have a raffle this Christmas.

The small lottery licence also allowed us to set up OtterLotto which has been a great success – we hope to continue this in 2020.

The Easter Fun Run now in its third year raised £3,486 which is higher than last years £3,229. In addition we successfully claimed Gift aid of £592 on the sponsorship.

Lastly, our Summer fair raised £3,100 which was an increase from last years £2,023. The weather helped make it a great event and we tried a new idea of selling wristbands beforehand (and on the day) which gave access to mini games, the bouncy castle and the face painting. The idea was to help lessen the petty cash on the day but also allow parents to budget more easily. Overall it was a great success and we will look to continue the wristband idea.

We have continued with a number of sponsors this year. Trident kindly paid for the snowboard simulator at the Christmas fair and Curchods agreed to contribute £1,000 per year over the three main events. In addition

Barclays match funded the tombola stalls at our Christmas Fair to their maximum limit of, a very generous, £1,000. We implore working parents to see if their employers do a similar scheme as this is a great way to earn extra money.

There were a number of other money making activities, such as; Quiz night, Theatre ticket sales, Cake/uniform sales, Christmas cards, Smartie Challenge (including Gift Aid again), Leavers books and bears, and shopping sites such as Easyfundraising and AmazonSmile.

In this financial year, we have spent nearly £10,000 providing our schools with a set of new tablets, new cushions / chairs for reading corners and a huge number of toys and games which the children are very excited to have received.

The OPTA team have recently approached the school to see if there are any large items required by the school as we currently have £36,000 of unallocated funds which could be used. The school have now met with some contractors in the summer holiday and we are pleased to announce that OPTA can fund a new climbing frame to be installed at the Juniors and a new Trim Trail to be installed at the Infants later in 2019.

All of the OPTA team are very grateful to all those who have volunteered over the year and we are so grateful for the previous OPTA committee's help in getting us started for each event.

Abi Knight
OPTA Treasurer