**Wanstead Church School PTA**

**Spring Term Meeting Minutes**

**1st February 2024, 3.30 – 4.30pm**

**AGENDA**

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|  | **Item** | **Lead** |
| 1 | Apologies |  |
| 2 | Welcome and introductions | Alex Laidler - Chair |
| 3 | Overview of Events | Alex Laidler – Chair |
| 4 | Treasurer’s report | Nicola Burnett - Treasurer |
| 5 | Playground project update | Alex Laidler - Chair |
| 6 | Grant Applications | Alex Laidler – Chair/Kerry Thompson |
| 7 | Spring/Summer term plans | Rebecca Wright |
| 8 | Plans for additional resources/activities  | Alex Laidler - Chair |
| 9 | Parent involvement/recruitment/volunteers  | Alex Laidler – Chair  |
| 9 | AOB |  |

**ATTENDEES:**

Mrs Denchfield, Natasha Cask-Monro, Alex Laidler (Chair), Stephanie Stapley (Vice-chair), Nicola Burnett (Treasurer), Lauren Watson (Secretary), Rebecca Wright, Kerry Thompson, Pip Amstell, Joelle Foster, Claire Craven

**Apologies – Alex Laidler**

* Nora, Hope and Jenny all sent their apologies.

**Overview by Alex Laidler, points to note:**

* Alex noted Hester Moore has stepped down from the PTA due to work commitments.
* Alex thanked the PTA for their commitment and hard work.
* PTA parent social - wine tasting was a great event, along with cinema night, Christmas art work, self portrait tea towels, treat Fridays/pre-loved uniform and Christmas party (inc Silent Auction).
* The Christmas party was a huge success, but it was recognised that it involved a huge amount of work. Consider having it earlier in December and/or make it a smaller event due to the time and effort that is needed during a busy period.
* Spread out the Christmas artwork and portrait tea towels and agree dates for these with the school nearer the time.
* Push Easy fundraising and school lottery. Nicola also mentioned she has been looking at other ways to bring in money.
* PTA funded school hall painting/redecoration, everyone agreed it looks great and thanked the PTA members involved – look to see what else can be done and when.
* Also funded Black history month prizes, nativity costumes and visiting pantomime. Mrs Denchfield noted it was great and requested we fund taking the school to a pantomime. School to provide PTA with options and prices.
* New teacher wish lists to be circulated.

**Treasurer’s report reviewed by Nicola Burnett**

* Breakdown of events and profit – Christmas party being the biggest fundraiser.
* Approx. 19k balance.
* Approx. 14.5k will be spent on the infant playground, leaving us with around 4.5k.
* Looking to move to online banking, looking into a community account offered by Natwest.

**Playground Update – Alex Laidler/Mrs Denchfield**

* ESP will be coming to measure up Friday and a meeting will take place next week regarding health and safety and finalise dates for the work.

**Grant Applications – Alex Laidler/Kerry Thompson**

* We currently have 2 Grant applications in process, 1 with Redbridge Community Support and the other with Tesco supporting futures.
* Alex asked Mrs Denchfield to sign the Tesco grant and return to her.
* Kerry and Nora looked at over 20 Grant options, but we only qualified for a few.
* Kerry noted that when looking at other ways to improve outside space, especially the junior playground, we could qualify for other Grants (for example, Mrs Denchfield mentioned a reading area that may meet other Grant requirements).

**Spring/Summer events plan – Rebecca Wright**

* Including 2024 Pancake flip challenge, parent social quiz night, Mother’s day gift stall – confirmed we will stick with the format of previous years, Coin challenge, Football night – still being discussed and finalised, Father’s day breakfast and summer party.
* Will do treat Friday/pre-loved uniform once a month and World book day costume swap after February half term.
* Think about offering something at sports day and selling tokens for the summer party.

**Plans for additional resources/activities – Alex Laidler**

* Agreed PTA will fund Science week workshop organised by Ms Turner.
* Other ideas, Planetarium – PTA to send the school information on this.
* All age resources bundle for play/sport/PE – Alex spoke to Ms Turner who spoke to the school council for feedback. Mrs Denchfield will also look into this and come back with some ideas.
* Steph spoke about Ellicott Construction, they gave us sponsorship for the Christmas party and approached us to see if they could help. They previously did some work at Nightingale school, they have an apprenticeship scheme and offer work at a discounted rate. Steph to follow up on this to see what they can do.

**Parent Involvement/recruitment/volunteers**

* Discussed how we can engage parents more.
* Tell parents we will be doing 2 big events a year where we need volunteers and it will not be possible to run these without them.
* Another Thank You poster to go out.
* Promote the playground and try get parent attention.

**AOB – Alex Laidler**

* Alex noted at the AGM in October we needed to vote in the existing PTA members and this was not noted so making a note of it now.