

## Chairs' report 2020

### The Committee

The HSA committee remained the same for the third year running. Namely:

- Rachael Monks (Co-Chair)
- Eloise Goodhand (Co-Chair)
- Sarah Moran (Co-Chair)
- Susie Billings (Secretary)
- Liz Pattison (Treasurer)

All members stood for re-election and were voted in at the 2019 AGM.

The committee were assisted by a team of class representatives, whose details were circulated to relevant classes.

### Fundraising Events

Unfortunately, our fundraising year came to a sudden halt due to the Covid-19 pandemic. However, we still managed to pack in several events before we had to abandon ship in March 2020.

As before, MUFTI and cook for book dates were agreed in a meeting with Mrs Pearce at the beginning of the academic year. These were then circulated to parents and carers via the school newsletter. These events are reliable sources of income for the HSA at little effort, so we were keen to continue!

Our first big event was the Autumn Film Night, which was held straight after school in the hall. Although it was popular last year, to simplify things further we opted not to serve pizza at the showing. Children were able to buy sweets or popcorn. Not buying pizza also saved on costs and the event made £327.45. The film we chose to show was *The Book of Life*, which was well-received by the discerning audience!

The next event in our calendar was a new one; a Christmas wreath making workshop. This was held at Dean Court Community Centre and places were limited. The session was led by florist Ann Dawson and her business partner Sally. Festive drinks and nibbles were served and a total of £76.83 was made. Although this was a relatively small amount for a "big" HSA event, we decided that it was worth doing again as feedback was so positive. Tickets were £25, but £16 of this was taken by the session leaders and we also had to pay for venue hire (£27,50)

December 2019 also saw us selling the customary Christmas cards, designed by the children in their classes (many thanks to the teachers for facilitating this). The cards are always popular with parents and raised £422.97 (a slight increase from 2018).

Eloise also arranged for the school choir to sing carols at Waitrose Botley Road on several afternoons. This was well-received by customers and staff but unfortunately donations were minimal (possibly due to positioning of choir at rear of store), so any monies raised have been included in Cook for Books cake sale takings.

The next big event was our Christmas Bazaar. This followed a similar pattern to previous years and saw preschool's Hive transformed into Santa's grotto. Thank you to all involved with that. Without Pippa Hamwee, the HSA provided the catering for the event, with a team from the Governors gamely manning the stall and serving all evening. A team of helpers (thank you!) assisted in setting

up the hall, classrooms and entrance and we made a profit of £1612.12. Although down on the previous year's takings, we are very fortunate that GAP have agreed to match fund the entire takings. This is currently being processed.

Fast forward to February and our annual quiz night took place. Well attended and again catered by the HSA and helpers, this was a fun night! Again, takings were down on last year but we had to supply food (which was very kindly donated by Real Catering Oxford last year) so costs were up. A total of £210.33 was made.

Our final organised event before Covid-19 struck was our Mothers' Day gift session. Children donated gifts (supplemented by a few HSA purchases) and these were placed out on display. Those who had purchased a ticket then came and selected a gift, which was then expertly wrapped and taken home to be given on Mothering Sunday. This made £207.53 (£3 down on last year).

Before the school year came to a premature end, we managed to squeeze in three Cook for Book cake sales (Years 6 and 5, and Reception). The rest were scheduled to take place later in the year and were subsequently cancelled. We also missed the opportunity to sell ice lollies after school in the summer term, plus our annual family picnic (with Pimms stall).

The MUFTI days that took place raised £217.77. Had the rest taken place we would have hopefully passed the £400 mark.

Cake sales were on track to be a bigger earner than they were last year (with yr 5 setting a new record for class takings!), so this was a huge blow.

Our biggest casualty of the year, however, was the May Fayre that never was. We had hoped to raise a couple of thousand pounds, going by last year's takings. We also had to cancel the KS1 and KS2 discos. This was obviously a huge disappointment to the children, who keenly look forward to these sweet-fuelled dance fests!

Easyfundraising continued to bring in money and was on track to be a bigger earner than last year. This source of income is definitely worth reminding our supporters about since it is not dependent on school being open.

Tickets had already been purchased for our Spring film night and refunds have been offered for these. The option to leave purchase as a donation was also offered.

## **Expenditure**

The HSA funded two big purchases this year.

- New playground markings. These were long overdue, with the existing markings being worn down, cracked and scruffy looking. We were able to get these redesigned using suggestions from the pupils (presented to us by the School Council); look out for the laser-shooting dolphin! The work took place over a half term and the children were greeted by the new layout upon return to school. This was a large investment at £4300 but will last (hopefully!) for years.
- Climbing poles. We had originally planned for a climbing wall to be installed, but after discussions with the school we decided that climbing poles were a more appropriate option. These have been installed as an extension to the Timber Trail on the school field. Unfortunately, the children have yet to be able to make use of these as they were put in

after the school closed in March 2020. We look forward to seeing the pupils clambering up and down them when it is safe to do so! These cost £2607.02.

## Profits

The following table shows our earnings compared to last year. Consideration should be given to the fact that much of the fundraising year was cancelled due to Covid-19.

|                               | 2018/9 Profit          | 2019/20 Profit         | Difference        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Xmas Cards</b>             | £369.83                | £422.97                | £53.14            |
| <b>Film Nights</b>            | £604.36                | £327.45                | £-276.91          |
| <b>Choir Carol Singing</b>    | £188.77                | £0.00                  | £-188.77          |
| <b>Xmas Bazaar</b>            | £1,951.02              | £1,612.12              | £-338.90          |
| <b>Quiz</b>                   | £285.37                | £210.33                | £-75.04           |
| <b>Mothers Day Gifts</b>      | £210.08                | £207.53                | £-2.55            |
| <b>May Fayre</b>              | £2,077.66              | £0.00                  | £-2,077.66        |
| <b>Wreath Making Workshop</b> | £0.00                  | £76.83                 | £76.83            |
| <b>School Disco</b>           | £736.59                | £0.00                  | £-736.59          |
| <b>Easy Fundraising</b>       | £145.18                | £126.12                | £-19.06           |
| <b>Ice Lollies</b>            | £78.26                 | £0.00                  | £-78.26           |
| <b>Summer Picnic</b>          | £95.37                 | £0.00                  | £-95.37           |
|                               | <b>2017/18 Takings</b> | <b>2018/19 Takings</b> |                   |
| <b>Mufti</b>                  | £459.03                | £217.77                | £-241.26          |
| <b>Cook 4 Books</b>           | £798.77                | £408.78                | £-389.99          |
|                               | <b>£8,000.29</b>       | <b>£3,609.90</b>       | <b>£-4,390.39</b> |

NEW

## September 2020 and beyond

The Committee was planning on standing down at the end of this academic year and handing over to a new group of enthusiastic parents and carers. However, due to the lack of opportunity to recruit fresh blood, we have agreed to stand for re-election on as a "sleeper" committee. Should be re-elected we will remain in post in name only, but will not be carrying out fundraising activities. After three years at the helm, we are ready to pass on the baton! Once things have stabilised and a "new normal" has been established, we will assist in recruiting a new committee and getting them up and running.

The HSA has offered funds towards getting resources in place for the pupils' return to school in September 2020.

## Thanks

Thanks are owed to the following:

- The team in the school office for dealing with our near constant requests
- All the teachers for their continuing support and giving up teaching time for pupils to design cards, draw portraits and attend events during the school day.
- Mrs Holloway for her unwavering positive attitude and general cheerleading for the HSA.
- Mrs Dallimore for kindly letting us use the school kitchen to cater for events
- Our amazing team of helpers for assisting in the run up to and at events, and taking on the beast that is sourcing raffle prizes!
- Our quiz master extraordinaire, Steve Moore.
- Keith Elmitt for donning his Santa suit at the Christmas Bazaar
- Our class reps, who recruited helpers, send reminders and generally whipped their years into shape!
- All the families at North Hinksey who have continued to support us over the past year.
- The Children, whose appreciation makes it all worth it!