



## **North Hinksey C of E Primary Home School Association Chairs' Report 2017-2018**

### **The Committee**

At the end of last year all committee members stood down from an excellent run of fundraising for North Hinksey (Laura Wetherall, Amber Prime, Tessa Trigg and Liz Cranston). Things looked a little worrying as no-one stepped up to take on the HSA but, after a meeting was called in September, a new HSA team was elected. Liz Pattison as Treasurer, Susie Billings as Secretary, and Rachael Monks, Sarah Moran and Eloise Goodhand as Co-Chairs. Class reps stepped forward to help with two volunteers for most years. This year we decided to hold the annual AGM at the school picnic to ensure a good number of people needed to vote for the committee members.

### **Fundraising Events**

The dates for mufti days and Cook for Books (as well as the bigger events) were decided in a meeting with Mrs Pearce at the start of the year, and added to the school calendar to be circulated to parents.

Our first event was the Christmas Bazaar. We kept a similar layout to the previous year but tried to keep the hall as a space to congregate with fewer stalls so that the raffle and singing could take place there. Ruth Vaughan (Preschool Manager) again was very helpful in setting up and dismantling the grotto, and Mr and Mrs Claxton ran the grotto. The Governors ran the BBQ and sold beer. We didn't ask any local businesses to have stalls as last year the hall seemed a little cramped and they didn't make much money. On the night we made £1,926.11 which was a fantastic achievement. This was a big event to start off the HSA experience and a huge learning curve for us, but everyone enjoyed themselves and we learnt a thing or two along the way! It has been raised that it is particularly challenging to set up and dismantle everything on a Friday night after a long term at school. It has been proposed that next year we should run the event on a weekend.

Our next event was the annual school quiz. Steve Moore and Jamie Danby, the quiz masters from last year, generously volunteered and the questions were pitched fantastically. We were also very lucky enough to have support from Amber Prime and Laura Wetherall making their delicious chilli (meat & veggie). The evening was a success with the Governors winning the coveted title of brainiest team in NH! The evening raised £271.77 in total.

The sun shone for the May Fayre which was attended by Councillor Mohammed Altaf-Khan. We were able to set up the gazebos and tables the day before which gave slightly more breathing room on the day to set up. It was quite windy during set up but all gazebos were pegged down tightly and nothing flew away! We involved local businesses including Cumnor Hill House, Jericho coffee traders and a local ice cream van, and although this didn't make as much money for us, it was fun

for families and we had much less mess. Year 1 did brilliant maypole dancing led by Mrs Brett. We combined old classic games like the coconut shy as well new ones like the beanie bopper challenge. Fortunately we reduced the running time of the event to 2 hours as shortly after we packed up the heavens opened! In total the event raised £1,623.64 for the school.

The disco took place in June. It was really well attended and the children seemed to have a fantastic time. We made both key stages shorter this year which we felt worked well. We used Mr. Fish as our DJ and all in all we raised £550.28.

Mufti days are a good, simple fundraiser and take place every half term. They could make more if all families contributed £1 (though this is voluntary). Mufti days have so far made £459.03 this year.

Cook for Books has seen some opposition this year with some parents feeling that they are unhappy with the number of sweet things on offer for their children. In addition to limiting cake sales to after school (instead of break time and after school), the committee has sent out a survey asking parents to suggest easy alternatives that will raise as much money. All cook for books money raised goes directly back to their year group to be spent on equipment.

Reception - (Yet to take place); Year 1 - £111.17; Year 2 - £177.61; Year 3 - £97.40; Year 4 - £110.60; Year 5 - £89.39; Year 6 - £97.15. Total funds raised £683.32 with one more to go.

The attached Treasurer's Report includes a table comparing funds raised for 20016/17 and 2017/18 to help inform decisions and planning for future events.

### **Supporting the School**

The HSA has helped to fund a whole school trip to Blenheim Palace costing £4,250.

Miss Morgan asked the HSA the help make the year 4 residential trip more affordable for parents by paying £1,367.50 towards it.

The HSA also funded a whole school circus workshop costing £390.00, and a junk orchestra music work shop costing £399.00.

As directed by the School Council we have also earmarked money to be spent on creating a reflection area in the playing field which will hopefully be built over the summer in readiness for the new school term in September. We are looking at a ballpark figure of £2,500 to complete the work, and are currently in talks with fencing companies.

At the start of the academic year we had £9398.95 in the bank and to date we currently have £11,185.02.

### Looking to the Future

This year of events and fundraising has been a steep learning curve for new HSA committee members. Next year we would like to offer some new events and welcome more volunteers. We would love parents to give us feedback so we have sent out a survey to gather ideas and comments. This will inform our planning for next year. Suggestions for new events so far include: Dog Show; Family Quiz night; Film Night; Family Fun run 5k along with Botley School, and West Oxford; Auction Night; Garage Sale; Coffee Morning. There has also been a suggestion that we change the committee name from HSA to PTA or FONH or something more widely recognised.

### A BIG THANK YOU...

To the **former committee members** for setting up such a smooth running HSA that made it easy for us to slot in, as well as your continued support and encouragement.

To **Liz Cranston** who has single-handedly secured the most raffle prizes ever (how are we going to cope next year?!?!).

To **Georgina Buck** for managing the Christmas cards brilliantly and without a hitch.

To **Steve Moore** and **Jamie Danby** for their quizzical questions.

To **Mrs Dallimore** for allowing us to use the school kitchen for our events.

To **Mr Shepherd** for helping at set up and clear up of our events and always having an extra extension lead!

To **Dataprint** for printing our Christmas Bazaar and May Fayre events.

To all the **class reps** for your emailing, chasing, and organising.

To all the **children and families** who gave up their time to set up, tidy up, run stalls, make games, promote events, collect raffle prizes, and everyone who came along to our events! Without you there wouldn't be much point.

To **Mrs Pearce** and **all the teachers** for your support and for giving up your free time.

To the **school office** for collecting money, sending out parentmails, adding our notes into the newsletters, and answering all questions quickly and helpfully.

**The HSA is about raising money for North Hinksey Primary School, but more than that it's about bringing families and friends together to have a really good time. We think we achieved both this year. See you all again next year!**

Eloise Goodhand, Rachael Monks and Sarah Moran (Co-Chairs)