

Minutes Friends of Marlborough St Mary's Annual General Meeting Wednesday 26th September 2018

1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Alice Macdonald, Gemma Blundy, Saffron Gannon, Jennifer Horton, Anne Schwodler, Catriona Taylor, Ben Ferris, Rachael Herring, Sue Wilson, Colin Wilson, Saffron Cable, Lisa Wakeham, Lynda Gillingham

Apologies: Becky Deane, Jemma Baker, Caroline Baker, Sam Cook, Donna Kirby

2. Chair's Report

Alice Macdonald presented the following report:

Objectives

The main objective of the Friends is to raise money to enhance the experience that Marlborough St Mary's offers the children. Through multiple fundraising events we aim to provide additional equipment as well as whole school experiences for the children. We also look to increase the number of parents/carers who are involved with the Friends throughout the year.

Fundraising Events

Christmas Cards

These proved a popular project for parents to do at home with their children, the packs are to be sent out on Friday 5th October for the children to design their own cards again this year.

Sponsored Bounce & Sponsored Swim

These are always successful fundraising events and are hugely enjoyed by all the children taking part. This year we will invite the whole school to take part in the Sponsored Swim and all the children will participate in the Sponsored Bounce during school time. The Sponsored Bounce is booked for Wednesday 24th October, information and forms to be sent out to children on Friday 5th October.

School Discos

Always very well attended by the children who have a fantastic time competing for Best Dancer!

National Events

We helped the school to celebrate events such as Children in Need and Comic Relief with all proceeds going directly to the charities.

Children in Need – Friday 16th November – cake sale.

Comic Relief – we will discuss this with Mr Ferris closer to the time.

Curry & Quiz Night

Incredibly successful event that was very kindly donated to by Marlborough College, Shaun Presley and Chris Wyatt this year. It always proves to be a popular event and is widely attended by parents and staff. Thank you to the winning team, who immediately put their cash prize back into the fundraising pot!

Christmas Fayre and Summer Fete

These were both very successful, with the Summer Fete in particular making a record breaking amount. Date for the Christmas Fayre is Friday 7th December, 4:30pm to 7pm.

Expenses

- Christmas presents and Easter Eggs for all the children.
- Visualisers for reception classrooms.
- Contribution towards school trips.

- PE tracksuits.
- Playpod annual fee.

Thanks

Without the help of volunteers we are unable to raise the money that all our children benefit from. The parents and carers who support our events really can't be thanked enough – they volunteer for all manner of jobs from collecting raffle donations, baking cakes, counting bounces and hoovering up after the Christmas Fayre. All your efforts are hugely appreciated by all the Committee – we really could not do it without you.

I would also like to thank Mrs Schwodler and all the staff of Marlborough St Mary's for their continuing support of the Friends throughout the year. The staff who stay behind to help with the school discos, those that give up their Saturday to help with the Sponsored Swim and those that volunteered for the particularly stressful job of manning the nerf wars during the Summer Fete! Your help and support is greatly appreciated by us all.

A particular thanks to Caroline Cleford and her kitchen staff for allowing us the use of the kitchen during both the Christmas Fayre and Summer Fete and to caretaker Mog for opening up early for us and helping us clean up after events.

Objectives for the coming year:

- **We would really welcome some new fundraising ideas, so please make any suggestions to a Committee member.**
- **Raise funds for outdoor play equipment.**

We are always looking for new faces to join the Friends. If you feel you have a particular skill that would be helpful with future events or would just like to be more involved please speak to a member of the Committee. We are always hugely appreciative of any amount of time that people are willing to donate.

3. Treasurer's Report

Saffron Gannon presented the accounts up to and including 31 July 2018. A copy was circulated to all present.

The opening balance on 1st August 2017 was £12,087 and we have ended the year with a balance of £17,530. The accounts are healthy as we have made promises of sports kit and outdoor play equipment for this year, which we are saving for.

Purchases this year have included contributions of £5 per child towards school trips, £1,000 towards forest school equipment, 65" LED screen for the IT suite, playpod refills (£800 per year) and two further visualisers to ensure every classroom now has one. £6,762 was paid out of the 'new school' account this year directly to the school which was from donations received specifically for the new school.

To enable these purchases the biggest fundraisers this year were the Christmas Fayre and Summer Fete and the two sponsored events. Profits from these events were:

Sponsored Bounce £2,281 (plus gift aid to be claimed at 25%)
 Sponsored Swim £1,421 (plus gift aid to be claimed at 25%)
 Xmas Fayre £3,085
 Summer Fete £4,147

The Christmas pantomime ticket sales was a new event this year which had quite a good uptake and has made a profit of £208.

Copies of the accounts are available to view if anyone would like to.

We would like to thank Abigail Beaumont for agreeing to examine the accounts in line with the direction of the

constitution and the requirements of the charity commission. The accounts were recommended to be adopted by Saffron Gannon, this was proposed by Ben Ferris and seconded by Catriona Taylor.

4. Headteacher's Report

- Thank you to all the 'Friends of MSM'. The Friends are a real asset to the school and support in all sorts of ways. Bringing a sense of community to the school.
- The year so far
 - A good start to the year.
 - Lots of changes of staff placements – different roles/year groups – very successful.
 - Several new TAs who have been really good.
 - Staff lanyards for fobbing system – photos.
 - We had so many ideas last year, but it was impossible to implement everything.
 - Numbers up from 369 to 386.
- SDP
 - PE
 - Bronze Award (will go for silver).
 - 52% of KS2 children attended an after school sports club.
 - Silver medal at County level for gymnastics and cricket.
 - Year 6 Sports leaders.
 - Art
 - Art exhibition.
 - Music
 - Choir.
 - Marlborough College.
- New initiatives
 - Results in line with national but want to do better.
 - Whole class reading.
 - Maths mastery.
- Other
 - Trying to be better with communication, getting parents ideas and opinions.
- Friends help is appreciated by children, staff and parents, with a huge variety of events, including fundraising, supporting parents, helping at school events, providing fun activities for the children and social events for parents.
- A special thank you to the committee who have worked tirelessly to support the school this year.

5. Election of Officers

The previous committee all stood for re-election and there being no other nominees were duly elected as follows:

Chair – Alice Macdonald (proposed by Gemma Blundy and seconded by Jennifer Horton)

Secretary – Gemma Blundy (proposed by Saffron Gannon and seconded by Jennifer Horton)

Treasurer – Saffron Gannon (proposed by Alice Macdonald and seconded by Gemma Blundy)

Vice Chair – Jennifer Horton (proposed by Alice Macdonald and seconded by Saffron Gannon)

6. Any Other Business

Waitrose application for outdoor play equipment – Alice Macdonald to put in an application.

7. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 17th October 2018, 8pm at the Royal Oak.