

## Chairman's report

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting.

*The purposes of the Charity are: to advance the education of the pupils at Friends' School Lisburn by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities for education at the School including the organisation or social and other events to promote good relations between staff and parents and the promotion of the wellbeing of pupils.*

This report details the work of Friends' School Parent and Teachers Association for the period of September 2016 to September 2017.

This has been my first year in the PTA and my first year as Chair of the PTA; stepping into the role has been both daunting and pleasurable in equal measure. I have enjoyed working with a fantastic team of Trustees who have given their time and energy so that the pupils, our children, have been provided with some of those 'little extras' in order that their experience of their school days are productive and memorable.

The primary function of the PTA is to raise funds, our fundraising activities will be detailed presently within the Treasurer's report but I must mention our desire to develop and foster relations between the parent body and the School. We are always seeking support, if any parent can give a little time to support the PTA's endeavours please get in touch via the office or any of the Trustees- you are very welcome.

I am very grateful for the ongoing support and guidance provided by our headmaster Mr. Moore, the bursar Mr. Hendry and the administrative staff who deal with our many and varied queries with patience and understanding. Without the backroom team the PTA would not function as we do.

Our year began cautiously with the new office-bearers finding their feet, regular meetings were well supported and the events that did run were organised methodically. During the year we considered each event and lessons have been learnt which will be adopted moving forward.

Improvements in communication and accessibility were progressed, the online booking system proved successful as was the introduction of a PTA Facebook page, thanks to Mr. Martin Grimley for the know-how and execution.

Thanks goes to Mr. Craig Cunningham who has fostered relations between the School Council and the PTA.

Thanks to the members and committee of the 'Old Scholars' for their support and friendship during the year, the PTA looks forward to discussing opportunities to cooperate in future fundraising events.

Events undertaken this year included-Year 8 induction/BBQ evening, Year 8 Quiz night, Prep Christmas disco and Summer (parents) BBQ. General fundraising efforts, coupled with events, subscriptions, donations and grants, amounted to a fantastic £20.000. This enabled the PTA to fulfil its commitment by providing the School minibus insurance, educational activity days, School Council 'minor works' float and departmental requests were facilitated (covered bicycle rack, fridge, various items of sports equipment, equestrian equipment, portable PA equipment and a comprehensive IT {sound and vision} upgrade to the Assembly Hall).

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to the outgoing Secretary Ms. Butterly and Treasurer Mrs. Morgan who have provided much needed organisation within their respected functions.

Finally, a word of appreciation to everyone involved in the PTA this year, your commitment and willingness to contribute has been incredible, your efforts ensures the PTA continues to strengthen. We look forward to 2017-18.

**Simon Leech- Chair Friends' School Parent Teachers association**

**Trustees 2016-17**

Kathryn Archbold

Fiona Brogan-Quin

Fiona Butterly

Ruth Collins

Ruth Connolly

Martin Grimley

Simon Leech

Emma Lockhart

Ciara Lowe

Barry Mageean

Ivor Monaghan

Clare Monteith

Stephen Moore

Mags Morgan

Catherine Ross

Judith Rowan

