

Friends' School Lisburn 2018 AGM - Trustees' Report

The purposes of the PTA Charity are to advance the education of the pupils at Friends' School Lisburn by supplying and assisting in the provision of facilities for education at the School. This includes the organisation of social and other events to promote good relations between staff and parents and the promotion of the wellbeing of pupils.

At the AGM held on 19th September 2017, Trustees were elected by those in attendance, and at a subsequent meeting on the 2nd October, office bearers were appointed.

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, so 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- I assure you, you will be made very welcome.

During October, PTA members were asked to provide refreshments during the Friday evening performance of the musical 'Annie' which was a fantastic opportunity to experience in action the new audio-visual equipment provided by the PTA last year; by all accounts a thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all, audience and actors.

The first formal event of the year was a Year 8 Quiz night, held in the School Dining Hall on Wednesday 15th November. The purpose on this occasion was not so much to raise funds as to allow new parents and their children an opportunity to get to know each other in an informal setting. The evening was well supported with teams contesting for their place in the annals of Year 8 quizzing winners. The quiz was followed by an enjoyable supper and prize-giving.

The Preparatory School Christmas disco took place on Tuesday 19th December in two time slots from 18:30 to 19:15 and 19:30 to 20:30. The PTA was pleased to be able to assist in co-ordinating the event. The disco was extremely well supported with request after request for the latest and loudest tunes possible. Feedback from our young dancers has secured this event's place in the annual calendar.

During April a shopping expedition was planned and a coachload of eager shoppers headed off bright and early to the 'Kildare village' complex, the team of organisers pulled out the stops and a great time was had by all.

After the success of last year, it was decided to put on another steak barbecue and dance evening which was held at Lisnagarvey Hockey Club on Friday 8th June. The focus of the evening was to raise funds for both departmental requests and the Prep library 2019 project. Around one hundred guests were in attendance and were entertained on the evening by the popular local band 'The Tune Dogs'. We are grateful to local businesses who provided prizes; in the final summary, the evening raised in excess of £1500.

The final event of the year was another barbecue, this time for the new Year 8 pupils and their parents. This was held on Monday 25th June and was attended by over 200 pupils and

their families. FSL staff and pupils facilitated a treasure hunt and activities for the P7 pupils, and food was supplied by Mulholland butchers.

To summarise, fundraising efforts from events, subscriptions, donations and grants, amounted to over £20,000. This enabled the PTA to provide funding to the sum of £15,000 towards educational activity days (Preparatory Dept.), a small budget for the School Council, the redecoration of the School's counselling room, storage facilities for Art and Chemistry departments; departmental requests, including Follow me printers, USB visualisers, Mathematics resources, Prep I-pads and smart television, and a variety of gym & sports equipment. Further funding requests were agreed and funds have been set aside to purchase on receipt of invoices.

It was agreed to carry over any surplus funds (in the region of £5,000) to be included in next year's Preparatory library project.

The Trustees would like to thank all members of the PTA who have attended events and provided all manner of support over the course of the year.

Simon Leech- Chair, Friends' School Parent Teachers association

Trustees 2017-18

Kathryn Archbold

Fiona Brogan-Quin

Fiona Butterly

Martin Grimley

Simon Leech

Leigh Lunn

Emma Lockhart

Ciara Lowe

Barry Mageean

Ivor Monaghan

Clare Monteith

Stephen Moore

Mags Morgan

Louise McNeill

Judith Rowan

Meaghan Sinclair