

# Ballyholme PS PTA Meeting

Wednesday 23 January 2019

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## **Attendees:**

Louise O'Driscoll

Julia McBurney

Aileen Smith

Allison Templeton

Catherine Adamson

Ruth Taylor

Pamela Rothwell

Tina Ferguson

Emma Coleman

Hilary Austin

Kirsty Merriman

## **Apologies:**

Alison Beers

Shelley Cave

Jane Brookfield

## **Autumn Fair - Feedback:**

- No need for a disco next year.
- Slushy stall was a great hit so need to think about possibly charging them more next time.
- We had too many cakes, but then ran out of chocolate for the tombola. So suggest we welcome 'homemade' cakes OR chocolate from those allocated year groups.

- Too many mince pies and biscuits more popular than shortbread so need to revise this next year.
- 3 crafters per room worked well, however will ask for deposit to reserve space, as we did have some no shows.
- Not enough volunteers. Going forward, we will put a sign up to say that if no volunteer to take over for the 2nd hour, that stall will have to close. It is important that people get to spend time with their families at these events so they need to be relieved after the hour.
- Having the games in the hall worked well
- Feedback from Pamela - all went very smoothly. 2 entry doors was good. We just need more signage at the entrance. Games cards separate from entrance was great.
- Discussed investing in white/flip boards which need to be moveable for signage. Kirsty to speak with a contact about options.

### **Money raised/spent**

- Pamela discussed how current school budget is used to cover essential costs ie staffing, heating, stationery etc. For anything over and above, need to look at where savings can be made. Income generated from the PTA is so important for the children.
- Last year £10k was raised by the PTA which went towards new chairs for the ICT suite, a blue screen, a smart TV and the accelerated reader programme.
- This year, we looking to replace the roof on the gazebo (£6k), plus replace reading material for P1-4, along with some other repairs to outdoor furniture (including a new chalk board for P1/2). Pamela will pull together a pic collage to send out to parents [already done].
- The PTA would also like to look into possibilities of funding something separately for the children and possible ideas are cycling proficiency or first aid for kids.
- We discussed the success of the recent community day, which as it was using 'volunteers' was allowed and was extremely beneficial for the school.
- We talked about the use of Social Media to make parents aware of necessary repairs so that volunteers can assist. Pamela confirmed that the school website is currently being reviewed to include a newsfeed and possibly connect to Twitter.
- £5k to be given to school now - Julia to organise a cheque.

- Big cheque presentation in assembly - Louise to liaise with Pamela on a date.

### **Survey Monkey**

- Louise has created a Ballyholme PTA account so we can send surveys out to parents for feedback. We are currently working on short survey to get feedback on the Autumn fair and get views on other events.

### **Parents evening out**

- We are not having a quiz this year. Looked at lots of options (one being a ball) but we have decided to go for a Race night which we hope will be a big money earner and lots of fun. We need to get businesses to Advertise by sponsoring a race.
- We are looking at a few options for location - will depend on size and cost. The Stables is great but possibly too small. Ballyholme Yacht club charge for hiring, however Bangor Golf club is free. Kirsty will look into location.
- Provisional date agreed of Friday 15th March. Kirsty to confirm once agreed location.
- Suggesting £5 entry and £1 per race.
- We need to look into printing a brochure for the night, which will detail all sponsorships (suggesting £50-£100). Options for printing are Stewart Digital or Davenports.

### **May Ball**

- Confirmed date of 9th May
- DJ Aldo will host

### **Summer BBQ**

- Confirmed date of 14th June
- Raffle - will wait until nearer the time to confirm.
- Games - might want to review which we have and possibly make changes - will look at nearer the time.

- Discussed bringing more things in ie inflatables, however EA insurance would not cover this.
- Talked about the climbing wall that we had previously however the queue was very long and likely not covered by insurance now.
- Suggestions made to look at the fire brigade or police dogs.
- Discussed options for other events, as opposed to having 2 fairs. Options included a hair night or fashion show. Fairs are so popular - so much so that people want to come and enjoy them, rather than volunteer to help out, which is the main problem we currently have.
- Year group nights are continuing and these are just for parent to get to know each other. Not organised by PTA committee, needs to be instigated by parent but PTA will support.

#### **AOB**

- Online system - ready for buying tickets - Pamela confirmed not as yet but hoping by Easter.
- Flyer out for Race night with cut off for tickets 12th March.

**Next meeting: Tuesday 12th February**