

Head Teacher's Statement October 2019.

This year has been another huge success and the PTFA have raised the most money I have seen for a long time which is amazing. A core strong group of members have worked superbly across the year to provide activities and events to raise money for so many extra great things in the school.

This year we have had a number of events for the children and families to take part in. The Mud Run was again a very popular event and despite a whole different set of weather on the day, this again allowed the whole school to participate and raised significant amounts of money. Thank you to Vicky for the idea and the passion to see it through with a great team working with her once again including having Brackley Leisure Centre on board.

Other events this year included running the teas at the Village Fete, a sponsored Cycle Ride at Aynho, the Open Farm Sunday event and the Copper Challenge. The staff also took on the daunting task of the staff pantomime which was a great success too. We revised our Mothers' and Father's day shops which I feel were successful and whilst not necessarily for money are a lovely thing to run. The Christmas Fayre is still our biggest income from the year and is always such a lovely evening (although I know extremely hard work!). We are revising this for 2019 and this I know will make it only bigger and better!

The traditional events such as discos, fayres, clothes sales, bag2school, child enterprise and film nights all provide regular income and whilst many are now slick and well planned these things do still take a lot of time to plan and deliver and it cannot be underestimated how much time is given to this. I would like to thank all those involved and who give their time in this way to the school.

I really like the use of Class list and feel this could be further utilized in surveys of events parents, families and children would like, along with posting requests, sharing upcoming events and communicating with parents.

I would like to at this point thank Julia Rands enormously for all the amazing hard work she has given to the school and PTFA in her role as Secretary – a role I feel is very much the glue to the committee and parents. We will as a school and committee miss her very much and all she has contributed (but we know she doesn't live very far away!)

Another member, to thank who has departed, is Eleanor Bland - she has been a great support in her time as a parent, especially with purchasing items

Finally, could I thank Mr Smith as the staff PTFA member who has been brilliant at leading events, supporting others managing the website page and attending meetings.

I would like to reiterate that if we did not have the PTFA we certainly would not be able to provide as many opportunities that we do and money from the school budget may well have to be spent differently.

From the money that PTFA have made a number of items have been purchased and opportunities arranged to enhance the learning at our school.

This year we are eternally grateful for the update to the IT provisions and the IPADs and trolley have very much enhanced school computing but especially allowing us to fulfil the music curriculum by using them. In addition, the cost for the 3d printer are with us and we cannot wait to be purchasing this – certainly something to very much keep current with IT developments.

A number of trips and whole school events have been subsidized and supported as well as the online tools we have to help children in their learning (I know other schools who charge parents for these).

I would like to thank you all for your continued enthusiastic contribution, giving your time and energy to the life of the school and its pupils.

I look forward to the year ahead, using an events program with both traditional and new ideas included and working with you all, mindful that we need to ensure new members join to ensure that events can be sustained and continued.

Mrs Sarah Smith