

## **PTA's Chair's Report AGM 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

Welcome to St Wilfrid's PTA 2023 AGM.

The objectives of the PTA are to advance the education of the pupils in the school by:

1. developing effective relationships between the staff, parents and others associated with the school
2. engaging in activities or providing facilities or equipment which support the school and advance the education of the pupils.

The PTA is run by a committee of parent volunteers elected each year at the AGM meeting that deals with the formalities of committee elections and financial reviews. The newly elected team will go on to support the school through their fundraising efforts for the forthcoming year.

Before we begin these formalities, I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge and thank the serving PTA committee:

Claire Leatherbarrow – Treasurer  
Kate Doyle and Rachael Dalton – Joint Secretaries  
Sarah Bancroft – Parent Representative  
Jack Puller – Parent Representative

It is through their hard work and commitment; we have continued to work towards our goals in supporting the school and enriching the educational experience for our children.

I would also like to thank our parents and teachers who have volunteered throughout the year and without them, many of these events could not run.

As outlined in our constitution, the entire committee will now stand down and will need to be re-elected back onto the committee if there are no others wishing to stand.

### **Events & Fundraising**

In her Treasurer's report, Claire Leatherbarrow will now detail the breakdown of income for years 21/22 and 22/23.

As you have heard, in the year and a bit since our last AGM, we have seen the removal of the COVID restrictions that had hampered our fundraising activities in previous years, however, it also seen the increase of external demands on our committee members. This has reduced the time each has available to both organise and attend events. Whilst we thankfully have a strong network of volunteers whose support has allowed many events to continue, this has been a consideration when deciding which events we choose to run.

Despite these difficulties we have seen events such as the Santa Dash and Easter Egg Parade and Tombola return, which are both fun and profitable events. We have also continued with

events that are less focused on the fundraising element but instead offer valuable social and wellbeing benefits such as our parent coffee morning, World Book Day Book shop and pre-loved clothes sales. Though they raise comparatively smaller amounts, they are very popular.

We are also, in addition to events, trying to increase the number of grants we apply for with the help of parent representative Jack Puller. We have had success in a grant application to Wythenshawe Community Housing Group which allowed us to fund Coronation celebrations at the school. We are also in the process of applying for a larger grant with The Ford Trust which would fund improvements for the sensory room. In these times when financial hardship is affecting so many, we hope that the additional financial support from grants will maintain fundraising levels without placing too high a burden upon the school community.

As of 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023 we have £4350.23 in the bank and will be continuing our discussions with the school on how to best make use of these funds and those raised going forward. Last year's big purchase of a fire pit has proved popular, and it has been very rewarding to see the child use this space as part of their learning.

Finally, it is with sadness that I announce that this will be Claire Leatherbarrow's last term as Treasurer. Whilst still working within the trust, her temporary move to Didsbury CofE has become a permanent one. As a founding member of the PTA, we would like to give her our heartfelt thanks for the many years of time and effort she has devoted to the betterment of the school.

With Claire's departure in mind, we will be looking to recruit and handover to her replacement in the coming months. We will be running a recruitment drive from September to recruit for this position as well as to increase our volunteer pool.