

ANNUAL REPORT – DEIGHTON GATES PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR SEPTEMBER 2019 TO JULY 2020



Summary

This year has definitely been a year of two halves, starting with new energy following the appointment of two new co-chairs and some fantastic events providing an opportunity for the children and parents of Deighton Gates Primary School to have fun and grow as a community together, while raising funds for our school. This was followed by the unprecedented temporary closure of the school as we know it due to the Covid-19 pandemic and along with it the cancellation of all PTA events and fundraising for the remainder of the school year.

A thank you for helping make it all happen

None of the fantastic events that have been held this year could have been achieved without the dedication and planning of the PTA committee, events teams and significant support from the wider group of parents, school staff, children and our local community. This includes our corporate sponsors, who have contributed generous donations for our main fundraising events.

We welcomed 2 new chairs, Lindsey Harrison and Steph Wright onto the PTA committee following in the footsteps of Helen Swales. The other committee members remained as were, Jen Johnson as treasurer, and Steve Irwin as Secretary, supported by Katie Horridge. Krissie Bamforth has continued to do a fabulous job on social media ensuring the PTA facebook page provides informative and fun updates. In addition to the committee, the PTA had individual fundraising event teams all supported by teacher, governor, and class representatives.

Events in the year

The first half of this year saw the return of many of the traditional events including the main events of the PTA calendar; the Christmas fair and termly school discos.

The Disco team (Fee and Andy Hudson) delivered a spooky Halloween disco in October and party perfect “under the sea” themed disco in February. The children and parents entered into the spirit of the themes with some fantastic fancy-dress efforts. Both discos were made even more special by the amazing balloon decorations provided by Party Streamer – thank you to all involved however big or small in making the discos happen.

The PTA event calendar would not be complete without the school fairs, and this year the Christmas fair organisation was led by Lindsey and Steph and assisted by a team of other volunteers. The turkey, stuffing and roast potato sandwiches at the Christmas fair were once again prepared by Ian Kendrew and team and have become top of the list of things not to be missed at the fair. Thank you to everyone however big or small your involvement in these events in helping make them a success.

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic and social distancing the PTA made the right decision to cancel the summer term disco and summer fair that was scheduled for the end of June.

Amounts raised from events	£
Christmas fair	3,735
Discos	1,324
Bake sales	472
Total	5,531

Other fundraising

The PTA continue to raise additional funds from other activities. This included the Christmas cards with the support of the teaching staff and organised by Chrisi Leslie. Bake sales were held afterschool led by each year group until the school closure so only Years 1, 3 and 4 had the task of providing and selling lots of yummy home baked treats.

Other funds continue to be raised for the school from the rag bin, “my name” tags and easyfundraising.co.uk. The previous year we were one of the Co-Op local charities for which we received the funds dedicated to new books for the school library.

Other amounts raised	£
Co-op local charity funding	1,336
Christmas cards	172
Wetherby town council PTA sponsorship	250
Rag bin	208
Easy Fundraising	82
My name tags	68
Total	2,116

Other activities

We continued with other activities in the year including the “PTA meet and greet” combined with the phonics evening for the new reception class where we welcomed the new parents and carers as part of the PTA and to encourage them to become active members of the PTA. Due to the current situation we have been unable to attend any of the new starters evenings for the reception 2020/21 starters, but we will be looking forward to this at the start of the next school year.

Where the money is spent

The PTA plays an important role within the school allowing parents and teaching staff to work together and put on some great events for the children. As part of this, the funds that are raised go towards valuable additional resources for the school at a time when funding is being cut.

The start of the school year saw us spending of the prior year’s funds, with the purchase of new school iPads and trolley. This has ensured the children have access to and learn from the latest apps that are no longer supported by the older iPads the school has. The other significant expenditure this year was the installation of a new safeguarding alarm system for the school that can be accessed, and the alarm raised, by staff anywhere around the school grounds.

Other smaller amounts of funds have been spent on the purchase of books for the school library, new musical instruments, and reusable cups for use by the school and the PTA at events.

How have we spent the money	£
New i-pads & trolley	5,029
School safeguarding alarm system	4,286
Musical instruments	1,154
Books	342
Reusable mugs for school & PTA events	286
General school expenditure (eg gravel)	250
Disco Stage band DJ lighting	83
Total	11,430

Covid-19 and what this means for the PTA, fundraising and events

As mentioned, the closure of the school on 20th March due to the Covid-19 pandemic meant all remaining PTA events for the rest of the school year had to be cancelled. This was the only possible decision that could be made however it has meant that bake sales, the summer term disco, the summer fair, and sports day refreshments did not happen. This is significant loss for the teacher and parent community but also a loss to the school in additional funds at a time when funding across the education sector is incredibly tight.

Although it is uncertain what the next school year will bring or exactly what it will look like, we will continue with our mission to bring a sense of community amongst the parents, carers, grandparents and teachers of the children of Deighton Gates Primary School and approach the next school year with renewed energy for some fantastic fundraising events. This is unlikely to bridge the gap in funds that have been missed this school year but will provide an important part of getting back to some sense of normality for us all.

Finally, a massive “Thank You!”

Thank you to all the members of the PTA, Governors, parents, carers, friends of the school and staff who contributed to all the events during the year. Without everyone’s involvement we would not have been able to achieve so much. The monies raised and spent allow the PTA to play a vital role in supporting the school in a variety of ways.

A final thankyou to our sponsors over the year:



Have a great (socially distanced...) summer break everyone.