



Minutes from PTA meeting – Monday 6th February 2023

Attendees:

Claire Hogan
Lara Jacques
Tzina Papadopoulou
Sarah Wilton
Liz Rasdall
Helen Lerwill
Pippa Cotton
Emma Renfrew
Leani Haim
Daisy Pratt

1. Eco Council

HL provided a brilliant overview of the role of the Eco Council at school – adding that the group relies on funding to be able to action the ideas that pupils have. Sustainable approaches to Energy and Waste are the key topics for this year. HL has asked for support from the PTA and we talked about joining forces – giving the Eco Council a platform at PTA events and also helping to find volunteers to help run second hand clothing stalls.

Next Eco Council fundraiser will be a second hand clothing sale on Friday 31st March, PTA to organise a bake sale to coincide with this. Will also ask for parent/carer volunteers to help run this.

HL asked to be added to PTA whatsapp group so she can keep us informed of any updates/initiatives and ask for support where needed. **CH to add Helen to whatsapp group. DP will liaise with HL for anything we can write on behalf of the Eco Council in the weekly school newsletter on the back of PTA updates and news.**

LJ suggested we pool funds from PTA / Eco Council together and help fund projects from the same pot. **DP to talk to JR about this.**

2. PTA funding transparency

TP asked for more clarity and also better reporting on what PTA funding goes towards at school. All agreed this would entice/motivate parents and carers to donate more if they had specific items we were fundraising for or knew what the funds raised had been spent on.

DP said hope is this year's funding will go towards paying for school visits to enrich children's learning, e.g. Peter Chand, and a climbing wall. ER suggested having a running total on the community noticeboard – like a thermometer going up. **DP suggested we set a target for this year's fundraising total and will float this idea with JR.**

All agreed to use noticeboard to communicate PTA events. SW/CH also suggested a second noticeboard on side gate for parents who now collect/drop off from the other side of the playground. **DP to explore this with school office and whether PTA can fund this.**

3. Fundraising ideas

ER talked about an ongoing fundraising initiative that the Cotswold School PTA runs called the 500 Club. Everyone who wants to enter purchases a number, which is drawn monthly to win cash prizes. PC added that Sipton Church runs something quite similar. **DP to explore this idea with JR / see if there are any ethical issues around this. Will report back at next meeting.**

i) Events:

We have decided to organise events one term at a time to help focus our efforts. LR suggested we give advance notice for parents/carers so that they have all events on their radar – this might also help with volunteer helpers. **DP to create a calendar of events for the remainder of 2023 to share with parents/carers via the newsletter.**

Upcoming events to schedule:

- **Pancake Café on Tuesday 21st February 3.15 – 4.15pm:** Set up in the hall and sell pancakes after pick up, with a lovely array of toppings for children to choose from. Will need to clean up swiftly as the hall is in use from 5.30pm (**we'll need volunteers to help set up tables and chairs, make pancakes and supervise topping distribution!**).

DP to check hall availability with JR and if feasible get something in newsletter 9th Feb.

- **World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March:** Ideas include author visit, Roald Dahl/general story book-themed baking competition for children

to enter and win a stash of books / book voucher. **DP to explore with JR and try teaming up with local book shop like Borzoi in Stow. Will report back.**

- **Spring Disco – Friday 24th March:** To follow the same formula as the last one, with a few tweaks. Also need to find a new DJ – TP has sent through a recommendation which DP/CH will follow up. **DP to check date with JR for school staff member availability and go from there.**
- **Eco Council Second Hand Clothes sale and PTA Bake Sale – Friday 31st March** – More details to follow.
- **Parent’s Quiz Night – Saturday 22nd April** – We’ll discuss ideas for this at next meeting, but for now **DP to check date with JR.** LR has also nominated Luke to act as MC!
- **King’s Coronation Garden Party – Friday 5th May** – Ideas so far include: big outdoor garden party for children – High Tea / picnic style. To discuss more ideas at the next meeting. **DP to confirm/check date with JR.**

PC also suggested we run a Coronation-themed competition to design a special commemorative mug or other item for children/families to purchase. And CH suggested Crown-making/decorating. Will discuss in more detail at next meeting.

- **2023 Summer Fair – DP will talk to JR about dates and report back.**

ii) **Fundraising grants**

- DP suggested there could be local groups that we could apply for if there is something specific we’d like funding towards. **If anyone would like to volunteer their time to some fact-finding research, speak to Daisy.**

AOB:

- **Chastleton Teas** – look into opportunity to run tea stall during Chastleton’s open season. All profits raised would go towards PTA/School. **If anyone can volunteer to look into how we apply to do this / how it works / if it’s running this year, that would be great! Grab Daisy or Claire to chat through.**

- **PTA section on the website** – CH suggested this might need updating. **DP to review and report back.**
- **Repair Café** – HL mentioned next event is on 4th June if PTA would like some presence there. **To discuss at next meeting.**
- **New Starters Picnic** – Think about organising a picnic again this summer for foundation children and parents starting in September to meet and play.

Next meeting: Monday 13th March at The Lamb, Shipton-under-Wycwood from 7.30pm