

Dickens Heath CPS Parent Teacher and Friends' Association

Annual Review 2018 - 19

The committee of Dickens Heath Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA) is a group of volunteers working to support the school by raising money for things that the normal school budget can't stretch to.

Review of the Year

In the school year September 2018-July 2019, PTFA events raised nearly £12 000 towards equipment and opportunities for the children. Events and activities held during the year included:

- School fayres (Autumn, Christmas, Easter and Summer)
- Discos (Halloween, Valentine, Summer)
- Easter raffle
- Christmas art and cards project
- Mary Poppins music and film night in association with Mrs Maddock
- 2 After-school tuck shops and dress down day

Additional funds were raised via donations and match funding from employers of parents involved in PTFA activities (£1040) and we were pleased to receive a grant of £500 from Dickens Heath Parish Council. PTFA funds have been spent or pledged for the following:

- Pupil IT equipment (laptop computers, tablets)
- New piano for school hall
- New curtain track for school hall
- School farm upkeep
- Reading books
- Contribution to the annual year 6 leavers party
- Replacement interactive whiteboard for classroom (pledged and ordered)
- Sports kits (funds pledged in 2017/8)

The year ahead – what are we raising money for in 2019/2020?

Mrs Nicholls and her team have identified potential purchases to be made using donations from 2019/20 PTFA funds. These include:

- IT equipment - a set of 8 additional iPads for timetables practice and Alexa for use in music room.
- Contribution towards planned outdoor improvements e.g. FS outdoor climbing equipment, canopy for FS1 play area, pirate ship/climbing frame and play equipment, timeline and map for the playground, year 1 and Acorns-re-surface for all weather access.
- New book spinners for KS2.

We are keen to link into the children's learning and development activities where we can. For example, we hope the funding of equipment and improvements to the physical environment will aid the school's emotional health and wellbeing programme (SMILE). Once again, we've also been able to support the "Life Ready" initiative and we were very proud of the enterprising Year 5 pupils who set up and ran their own businesses at the Summer fayre, raising a fantastic £476 and acquiring some valuable new skills in the process. We will be running this activity next summer for the current Year 5 pupils.

The PTFA Committee

Governance

Activities by the Dickens Heath CPS PTFA are guided by a constitution, which may be viewed on the PTFA website: www.dickensheath.org.uk. The PTFA committee consists of an elected Chair, Secretary and Treasurer who are voted in at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), as well as other ordinary committee members.

PTFA finances are reported to the Charity Commission each year and are reviewed by a suitably qualified independent person. Our thanks to Rachel Simonczyk (parent of three DHCPs pupils) for completing this task. Our accounts are also provided for public scrutiny/to be signed off by members of the PTFA at our AGM and can be viewed on our website www.dickensheath.org.uk.

How we communicate

The PTFA committee communicates events, volunteer requests, fundraising totals, funding decisions and other information via the following channels:

- Website: www.dickensheath.org.uk
- Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/DickensHeathPTFA/>
- Termly newsletter on Parent Pay and in book bags

We have recently introduced a new online event booking and communication system for 2019/2020. Further details to follow in our Autumn term newsletter.

Thank you

We say this often, but we can't say it often enough. Thank you to every pupil, parent, friend, teacher and grandparent who has attended or helped at a PTFA event.

The PTFA would especially like to thank our caretaker Mr McEvoy (known to everybody as Mac!) for his help, Mrs Halsey and the team in the school office for their ongoing assistance, and of course our teachers and headteacher, Mrs Nicholls, without whose support none of this would be possible.

The PTFA Team, 21st October 2019.