

Thank you to everyone for joining us tonight.

In line with our constitution the purpose of this Charity is to advance the education of the pupils at Wheatfields Primary School by assisting in the provision of facilities and equipment for the School and by organising social and other events to promote good relationships between staff and families.

The primary function of the PTA is to raise funds, and our fundraising achievements will be detailed presently within the Treasurer's report. However, we also work to build the relationships between families and the School through the events and activities we hold.

This report details the work of the Parent and Teachers Association for the period of September 2021 to July 2022.

The 2021/2022 school year was my third as chair of PAWS. Children were able to return to a more normal feeling school this year. We at PAWS had real hope of reinstating our 'in school' events and really getting back to normal, so we excitedly started planning our annual Christmas fair.

But Covid had other ideas and we soon found ourselves scrambling for alternatives.

The Christmas fair moved online and we experimented with several ideas to make it as fun and interactive as possible. The committee members and helpers showed some rather fantastic skills with online videos and Facebook streaming. There was wonderful engagement from our families and some really helpful feedback so we could refine our work.

Over the course of the year the world slowly opened up further and with it the activities and events we were able to hold. We introduced the Auction of promises, which proved both successful and challenging. We learned a lot and we are hoping to bring it back even better this year.

We were very privileged to be involved in the Queen's jubilee celebration in school and to facilitate the production of the commemorative Jubilee tea towels. For those of you who purchased them, did you find Wally? (Note to self – do not leave husband unsupervised while he is helping with PAWS work.)

Our year of events culminated with a real summer fair, the first the current committee has been able to host. It was exceptionally well supported by our school families with the food vans both selling out and the raffle being one of the biggest and busiest we've ever had.

We have continued to use as many platforms as possible for communication with email from school being our primary form, backing this up with Facebook posts and messenger messages. The provision of Bopp, the online payment platform has proved a popular alternative for those who don't have cash, especially on dress down days. As the use of cash continues to decline we will keep looking further into suitable payment methods for events.

We were very pleased to be able to fund the purchase and installation of a challenging piece of climbing equipment as our main spend for the year. Staff had noticed the children really needed more opportunity to advance their physical skills and PAWS was so happy to be able to provide this equipment.

I have had the privilege of working with a fantastic team of Trustees, Staff and Helpers who have given their time and energy so that the pupils, our children, can be provided with some of those 'little and sometimes not so little extras' in order that their experience of school is both productive

and memorable. Special thanks goes to Kirsten for all her hard work as she steps down from the treasurer's role.

Thanks also goes to Mrs Probert who is staying with us and Mrs Khan and Mrs Grey-Thomas who are stepping back from their role this year. They have fostered the relationship between school and the PTA, helping to gather ideas and feedback and to champion our cause to the staff.

I am very grateful for the ongoing support and guidance provided by our head teacher, Mrs Thornton, and the administrative staff who deal with our many and varied queries with patience and understanding. Without their unwavering support the PTA would not function as we do.

Finally, a word of appreciation to everyone involved in the PTA events this year, your commitment and willingness to contribute has been incredible, your efforts and generosity ensure the PTA continues to strengthen. We look forward to 2022-23.