

Oatlands School PTA Meeting

11th March 2025



Start of meeting 19.45

Present:

Carina MacKenzie - Chair	Sarah Read – Deputy Chair
Mrs Mooney – Head Teacher	Vasti Grootz - Deputy Treasurer
Paula Guedes - Treasurer	Katie Isaac - Class Teacher
Helena Gibbons - Leopards & Ladybirds	

Welcome and Apologies

- Apologies received from Laura Rust (Secretary)

Minutes of last meeting

- The minutes of the last meeting were approved without amendment and are available on the school website.

Events Past

- **Second Hand Uniform Sale** – Currently building stock levels for Move-Up Day when there is typically a major sale to new Reception intake
- **Treasure Hunt - 18th January** – This was a low profit event (£268) but enjoyable and good for building community feel
- **Sponsored Bounce - 14th February** – This was highly successful, raising £5,247 (over £6,000 including Gift Aid) compared to around £1,500 last year. New policy of high targets (£399 per class) and competition between classes was really positive in terms of fundraising. There was some discussion of whether this placed undue pressure on parents but, on balance, we agreed to set a similar target next year. It was agreed that this will be the only annual sponsored event to be marketed in this way.
- **Quiz Night - 8th March** - Only 24 parents signed up (4 teams) although the event was good fun and well-received and the hall did not feel too 'empty'. There was some feedback that people would prefer a broader topic mix as the quiz was quite music-heavy. Next year it was agreed that we will revert to the previous format - possibly re-using one of the quizzes that are now 3-4 years old - which should also increase profitability with larger teams, higher bar sales, and the sale of clues.

Events Future

Spring Term

- **MAGs craft morning – 25th March** – Sarah Moody will co-ordinate this, and materials have been purchased. We have requested volunteers with positive responses particularly from Reception classes.
- **PTA Discos** – This event has been cancelled due to poor volunteer engagement.
- **Bake Sales** – Following success of the last bake sale on the last day of term, it was agreed that Year 2 will host a Bake Sale on Friday 4th April immediately after school (1pm). CM to

request Y2 volunteers. There was some discussion around whether some Y2 children could be collected 10 minutes early to help set up.

Summer Term

- **Spring Ball – 10th May** – We have sold 199 tickets. All seating requests submitted have been accommodated and we will follow up this week with further availability. Few prizes have been donated by parents, which is disappointing, but the Ball Committee have had significant success with approaching local businesses. We also have several sponsors this year which will help to boost profitability of the event.
- **DUGS craft mornings – 9th-10th June** – To be discussed at the next meeting.
- **Community clear up – 8th June** – It was agreed that this will be rescheduled to a weekday. Potential for some parents to use corporate 'volunteering days' to be able to help, particularly with gardening and smartening up outdoor areas.
- **Bake Sale hosted by Y1 – TBC**
- **PTA Fun Day – 29th June** – To be discussed at the next meeting. There was some discussion of whether we could provide food, although it was acknowledged that lack of food makes the clean-up more straightforward as pizzas created a lot of waste. PG to investigate potential food options before the next meeting.
- **New Families Welcome Picnic – 5th July** - To be discussed at the next meeting.
- **Family Camping – 11th-13th July** – Social evening to provide more information to interested campers scheduled for Thursday 13th March.

Treasurers Report

- The committed spend agreed for this year is £15,050.
- The committed spend for one-off projects is £16,092 including the new library furniture (fundraising focus of sponsored bounce)
- FOS Account balance now £25,254 and Community Account £26,684 - although this is inflated by Ball ticket sales (we still owe approximately £11,500 to the venue and suppliers). Committed spend left to spend is currently £19,494
- The School / Board of Governors have approached us with a request for £2,000 to support their CIL Grant Bid to pay for playground lighting and a gate with a buzzer and keypad to make Oscar Club more secure. There was some discussion as to whether this is affordable based on our current bank balance and committed spend (we aim to leave a £20,000 buffer in the accounts at all times). However given the success of the Sponsored Bounce and further events still to come this year, we have agreed to commit to this.

AOB

- The PTA Constitution needs to be looked at and updated. The document on the Charity Commission website is very outdated.
- Easyfundraising has now raised £400 to date, with 35 families currently signed up.
- FOS registrations are still low. The school will send some correspondence on behalf of the PTA.
- There are two PTA committee vacancies for 2025/2026 – Chair and Deputy Chair (or two Co-Chairs). Despite marketing these to the school community, there has been no response. There was some discussion as to whether the roles could be broken down into separate events which may be less daunting for parents to join the PTA. CM to follow up on this.

Close of meeting 21.05

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 29th April 2025 - 7:30pm