

CHPS Friends AGM – Chairs Report – 2022 - 2023

Wednesday 12th July 2023, 7.30pm

Location: The Old Beams

A huge thank you to all members for their hard work this year. It has been another busy and very successful one with some very happy children and families, plus fantastic funds raised. A huge well done to each and every person that has helped and made it all possible.

We have a fantastic, strong, hard-working committee, demonstrating constant teamwork to bring these events together. Be proud of yourselves and know you have made a difference.

An amazing total income so far of: £14,826.75

Which minus expenses gives us a profit of: £11,078.95

(Final figures to follow in September once all events are closed)

Current committee official roles:

Chair – Melanie Stokes

Vice Chair – Roberta Vasari

Treasurer – Julia Ahulu

Secretary – Andrea Tierney

Ordinary Committee member – Andrea Fergusson

Social Media – Natasha Rickard

Uniform Co-ordinator – Jennifer Kent

****Resignations known in advance - Melanie Stokes – Stepping down from Chairperson.**

I have enjoyed the role of Chair over the last 3 years and Vice Chair before that for 2.5 years. I have made many Friends through being on the committee and got to know many families, but it is now time for someone else to lead the Committee and take things forward.

We have a strong, dedicated team, and having individual people or small teams of people willing to implement ideas and run events has continued to be very successful for the committee. Meaning the workload is being spread and we have happier committee members. This makes the job of Chair easier as you can then oversee everything without the need to be heavily involved in every event. As Chair I have still led events, but being able to delegate tasks to others means the Chair can ensure the events all come together in the end.

In the last report we talked about wanting more active members. I believe this year we have had many and this has been uplifting to see. This means events come together more easily and every effort is continuously appreciated.

Meetings Completed:

12th September 2022 – School Staffroom – AGM and initial meeting of the year.

17th October 2022 – School Staffroom - Full meeting – Minutes Sent Out

14th November 2022 – Focussed on the Xmas Market – Less formal

16th January 2023 – School Staffroom - Full meeting – Minutes Sent Out

26th April 2023 – Staffroom - Full meeting – Minutes Sent Out

24th May 2023– Fete Committee Planning Meeting - School Staff Room – Minutes

14th June 2023 - School - Finalising plans for the Fete and preparing what we could in advance.

A summary and financial breakdown of the school fundraising year - Successful events and achievements.

The 2022 – 2023 season had many fundraising events. The usual and most popular, some new and some returning events.

Foundation Stage Welcome – The first event of the year was the Foundation Stage Coffee Morning. This is where we introduce some committee members to the new families and this year we made small welcome packs. We hope to do this again next year as this seemed well received.

Movies and Munchies. X3 offered this year, raising £1,417.44.

This is always a popular event and is usually sold out extremely quickly. We have trialled different ways of running this event this year. Mixing different age groups to see if this proves better during the event. It can prove challenging to get helpers for the older sessions. Tickets did not sell as fast and for at least one session we did not sell out. This could be due to the choice of film, or the fact less older children choose to come.

Trails – We did not have the family trails this year but will do again next year.

Halloween Fancy Dress – Raised £28.68. Instead of the Halloween trail this year we decided to offer a photo competition, with prizes for 3 different categories. This didn't appear to be very popular, so we will rethink for next year and go back to the trail that had been so popular the previous year.

Disco - 3 Discos this year, the first 2 have raised a fantastic £1,145.94. The total for the third disco will be added following the completion of the event.

Always lessons learnt along the way. A great team bringing this together each time. With many parent helpers.

Christmas Choir Market – Raised £1,831.78.

We tried having the choir and year group singing at the centre of the event with mainly refreshment stalls and a few games. This appeared a great success and this taught us that sometimes less is better.

Christmas Secret gifts – Run in the same format as the last few years with a PowerPoint for children to choose from and presents being delivered to school wrapped and ready to go home. This raised £582.84. In previous years the children wrapped these gifts for parents and siblings which made it extra special. Hopefully in the next couple of years this can be reintroduced.

Bingo Night – Raised £625.71. Our first bingo event for a few years. This was a fun family event and fairly easy to organise. Families seem keen to have this again next year. A few lessons learnt and its difficult being restricted to only 100 seated in the hall.

Mother's Day Breakfast Bag – Raised £315.30

Following the feedback after the Father's Day Breakfast Bag we decided to offer it to the Mums. Same applies here as above, it would be nice to think that the school will allow the children to have more input in the future.

Charles' Coronation Wonka Bars – Raised £260.81

This was offered at the time of the Kings Coronation and seemed to be a popular event. We sold 273 bars that included milk and vegan chocolate. There were some very excited children running out of school with their Wonka bars and x5 happy winners got a £10 Amazon Voucher. The wrapper template was purchased so could be adapted and reused in the future. The wrappers were organised and donated by Lee from Mailing and Fulfilment and Dave at Data Laser Mail.

Father's Day Movie Night Bag - £198.42 A different slant on the treat bag idea. It took a while to find the right items, but we were lucky in the end with a number of items on offer, so we could get 6 items plus a movie ticket in and still in budget.

Personalised Tea towels and Totebags - Following the success of last year Andrea Tierney organised this again. Lessons learnt from last year were resolved, with school staff ensuring the pictures were in colour this year and had names on. This event raised a fantastic £256.63

Sports Day Refreshments As a committee we are keen to offer refreshments, but this proves a challenge with anyone that is at the sports day wants to be watching their children, therefore we chose to just put out drinks and an honesty box. We raised £51.03.

'Uniformd' shop - This is still ticking along. Some orders but not huge volumes. Can we think of ways to promote this further? Additional uniform funds raised at the Summer Fete.
Uniformd Website Total - £224.81

Summer Fete - Another successful fete raising £3057.39. This event was a lot of fun and all because the committee pulled together, demonstrating great teamwork. We had a committee debrief following the event to get our basic thoughts on what went well, and what we can improve.

Ice Lolly Fridays and cake bakes - Having discussed these sales with senior leadership in school, we have decided not to hold these events. It proves too challenging to run these successfully when parents are not collecting children from the school grounds. We will therefore focus our time on other events.

Amazon Smile has stopped the charity donation on purchases, but this year we had a profit of £277.00 from them before it closed.

Investments

Year group spend.

Portable sound system.

Hall Audio Visual system

2x fold up tables to sue at events.

2x Coleman Shelters - Strong Gazebos that we can use for each of the outdoor events.

Total spend this year: £9,627.91

What has worked well?

- We are an amazing team and work well together.
- We have achieved and smashed the charity goal/requirement of raising £5000.
- Dividing responsibilities worked well – Members/Teams taking Ownership of events.
- We continue to use our Friends Logo on correspondence we use.
- We are becoming more inclusive at events and manage to offer vegan/alternative options where possible.

Looking to next year....

Hopes and aims for the coming year:

Continue with the firm favourite events that we know families love, and work well such as Movies and Munchies and Discos. Bring back events that were well received previously and continue to look at new events where possible.

Continue to manage and make the Uniformd site a success.

We mentioned last year about re launching 'Fundraising Friend' which had been a success during Covid. We haven't managed that this year. Could we look at some whole school sponsored events next year?

Continue to try to connect with new families and build our strong committee even further.

Develop some simple policies within the Friends, set out clear descriptions of each role within the committee and build on our record keeping. We are beginning to try and keep detailed information on events to make things easier for anyone new taking on an event to plan and organise.

Continue to liaise with senior leadership about areas of need in school so that we know the future hopes for funding. Then events can be targeted to raising for particular items/projects. This should be communicated to families to inspire them to continue donating and more importantly getting involved with our wonderful events.

A final huge 'Thank You' and farewell from me. A wonderful team that is making a difference to and enriching the children's time at CHPS.

Written by Melanie Stokes (Chairperson)

Finances from Julia Ahulu (Treasurer)