

## Minutes for PTA Annual General Meeting 18/9/2015

In attendance from PTA Committee: Leah Harley-Taplin (Chair), Tanya Stevens (Assistant Chair and Acting Treasurer), Sabine Loisy (IT/Media Consultant).

Acting Secretary: Hshen Lim

| <u>Parents in Attendance</u>                | <u>Teachers in Attendance</u> |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Laura Vallerius (Lily Vallerius)            | Dr Chapleau                   |
| Adam Daly-Gourdialsing                      |                               |
| Jean-Claude Bardot                          |                               |
| Mei (Katrina's mum)                         |                               |
| Stacey Bedford (Milo's mum)                 |                               |
| Michelle Davis-Biscoe (Darcy's mummy)       |                               |
| Maria Sorrentino                            |                               |
| Marilyne Michaud Nerard (Charlotte T's mum) |                               |
| Nikki McGregor (Jayma's mum)                |                               |
| Mini Green (Sophie's mum)                   |                               |
| Radhika Viswes (Yasmin Chikballapur's mum)  |                               |
| Yulia Yakovleva (George's mum, Year 1)      |                               |
| Hshen Lim                                   |                               |
| Nina White (Florence's mum)                 |                               |
| Shanti Healy (Armand's mum)                 |                               |
| Fiona Ross (Flora's mum)                    |                               |
| Laura Tully (Leon's mum, Year 1)            |                               |
| Maria Antoinetta Adabiokou                  |                               |

1. Welcome and thanks by Chair, apologies for Roy and Fiona (arrived later).
2. Chair gave introduction to PTA members and roles, and reported that over £6,000 was raised last year.
3. Chair communicated that this year all PTA meetings will be held during the daytime, due to no change in attendees during the evening time slot that was tried last year. However, expressed that she was open to changing this if any new evidence showed otherwise.
- 4. Interim Treasurer report (Tanya Stevens)**
  - o £6,287 was raised last year
  - o Not included in this amount is £400 that was raised from the Last Night at the Proms event .
  - o £800 to £900 was raised from the Christmas Fair.
  - o £1,700 was raised from the Summer Fete.
  - o Further funds raised from the Halloween Disco and Parents Quiz.
  - o £2,300 is currently in the account, of which £1,700 is already accounted for (going to Scholastic books and other items).
  - o There will be another Parents Quiz to be held this autumn.
  - o Expenditure: Money raised last year was used to purchase musical instruments, maths equipment, and books and to develop the school garden.
  - o The group in attendance was asked to consider where would they like future money raised to be spent?

- Go Cardless and Easy Fundraising were mentioned as ways to donate money to the school.
5. **The post for Secretary was filled** - Fiona Ross was nominated by Leah Harley-Taplin, and seconded by Laura Vallerius, all in agreement.

6. **Class Representative Volunteers were appointed:**

Reception

- **Classe Marie Curie** - Upon suggestion of Madame Crittenden, PTA Committee to draft a note to be inserted into Marie Curie bookbags, as no nominations received.
- **Yannick Noah** - Stacey Bedford and Nora Tebib

Year 1

- **Simone de Beauvoir** -Nina White
- **Antoine de Saint Exupery** - Marilyne Michaud-Nerard

Year 2

- e. **George Sands** - Maria Antoinetta Adabiokou

Year 3

- **Jacques Yves Cousteau** - Mimi Green and Hshen Lim

Class Representatives' responsibilities were briefly outlined - to be a point of contact for the PTA in order to organise and co-ordinate parent volunteers during school events.

7. **The post for Treasurer was filled** - upon arrival of Roy Mahendren, nomination by Leah Harley-Taplin, and seconded by Laura Vallerius, all in agreement.

Other Business

8. **Car Pooling Forum was discussed.** It was decided that the forum on the PTA website would be promoted for use by parents to share their details with other potential car pool parents.
9. **Use of Funds** - Adam Daly-Gourdialsing put forward the idea to use funds to purchase more outdoor equipment - such as netball and football goals and to repaint the playground with multi-sport lines eg. basketball, football etc.
- a. Nina White commented that there are often free schemes from the Government made available to new schools, that include eg. free coaching for students. Nina told the group about her professional background - she has extensive experience in PE / Sport funding for schools.
  - b. Nina will investigate what is available to La Fontaine Academy.
10. **La Fontaine Academy's first school sports team** will be the Cross Country Running Team which will represent the school in March at the Bromley Schools Cross Country. The competition is held at Crystal Palace Park for children in Year 3 and upwards, and involves running a 1,700 metre cross country course. 2,000 children from the Borough participate from 60 local schools.
- a. Adam Daly-Gourdialsing requested long-sleeved tops in La Fontaine livery for the cross country event.
  - b. There is a weekly free 2km Park Run at Norman Park on Saturday mornings. The Chair expressed interest in promoting this event in the next PTA newsletter.

11. **Shortage of female scientists.** Dr Chapleau brought to the attention of the PTA the shortage of female scientists in the world. With 57% of La Fontaine's students being female, he advised there is a great opportunity to encourage an interest in the sciences within the students. The Lego Foundation has many resources that can assist the school. Dr Chapleau asked if the PTA could help with funding for these Lego resources including Lego robotics.
  - a. It was suggested that Madame Mahlojian be the contact point between PTA and school.
  - b. Dr Chapleau commented that Science Week will be in March and workshops are already lined up across the years. Parent/ Governor Veronica Mitchell will be bringing high school students to help demonstrate experiments.
12. **Expensive cost of school uniform** - was raised by Maria Antoinetta Adabiokou. She asked if it would be possible to sell the uniforms at school. The Chair pointed out that this was unsuccessful at the summer fair, and by the Assistant Chair that school storage space is insufficient to store old uniforms.
  - a. It was suggested that old uniforms could be advertised by parents on the PTA website in a specific uniform forum.
13. **Winter Fair.** Adam Daly-Gourdialsing suggested that this year's Christmas/Winter Fair be a Frost Fair - with an ice rink. Issues of insurance and scheduling would have to be looked into but here seemed to be merit for investigation.
14. **Call for craft-based businesses.** A call was made by the Chair to anyone with a craft-based business, or friends with contacts with such businesses, who would be interested in operating a stall at a La Fontaine event, to please contact the PTA.
  - a. Michelle Davis-Briscoe offered to help with any decoration requirements for future PTA events.
15. **Summer Fayre name.** It was suggested by Hshen Lim that the name for this year's summer fair be more 'French', with the word 'Fête' as opposed to Fayre, and the use of French flag colours and signage and food offered etc.
16. **Halloween Disco event.** It was suggested by Hshen Lim that the theme for the event should have more emphasis on Autumn than Halloween, with implication that Halloween celebrations are an American tradition. However, there was no consensus.
  - a. The Assistant Chair suggested that there would be clear guidelines as to what costumes would be allowed for the event.
17. **Class Contact Lists.** The availability of Class Contact Lists was raised by Marilyne Michaud-Nerard.
  - a. The Chair agreed to send a newsletter with details about the Class Contact lists and a description of the Class Representative's role.
18. **Class Contact Lists availability** - the Chair informed the meeting that due to resulting heavy administration, the Class Lists would no longer be sent to individual classes, but rather to the school as a whole. Upon objection pertaining to security and safety of information, the issue was further discussed and identified that it would be possible to have individual class lists using the right technology.
  - a. Sabine Loisy (IT/Media Consultant) felt that the best approach would be to have password protected documents available off the school or PTA website, that would be editable by parents themselves, kept in individual class documents.

19. **A Local History Museum Closure** and school visit was raised by Maria Antoinetta Adabiokou. She was advised by the Chair that ideas for excursions during school hours are best directed to Dr Chapleau.
20. **'Used Fancy Dress Costumes'** was raised by Maria Antoinetta Adabiokou. Could they be swapped on a costume day, or sold to raise money for the school? There was general agreement that this could be a possibility.
21. **Auction of donated goods** - subject brought up by Adam Daly-Gourdialsing.
  - a. The Chair informed the group that there is a school eBay account where donated items can be sold to contribute to the PTA fundraising efforts.
  - b. Hshen Lim suggested that these, and/or other, donated goods be auctioned 'live' at key PTA events where parents bid against each other to win the donated item.
  - c. A continual/ongoing auction, based online, was suggested by Adam Daly-Gourdialsing whereby people could bid on items available for auction.
22. The Chair reiterated the **PTA email address**, and asked the group if everyone knew this address.

(The meeting concluded at 9:45am)