



Dorin Park PTA Meeting

Thursday 23rd September 2021

Minutes

Time and Location

7.30pm – Home via Microsoft Teams

Present

Amanda Hartley, Nicole Luijnenburg, Jay Hartley, Sarah Adam, Maxine Nevitt, Bridget Aldridge, Karen Nash, Lucy Lee, Jane Rowlinson.

Apologies

Lesley Body, Gillian Driscoll, Kate Francis, Helen Muggleton, Amanda Glennon, Lisa Robertshaw, Graham Davies, Vicky Roberts, Naomi Cowley, Jennifer.

Items to be minuted.

We have a new PTA team member, welcome Jennifer!

Actions from previous meeting

- Karen – Has applied for the CO-OP local community fund. They will let us know this autumn hopefully.
- Lesley – to check if B&Q will donate us some stuff through their 'community reuse' scheme, we can use things like wood, plants pots paint etc for our playgrounds.
- Collection tubs: we now have 6 tubs out at the following locations: Coop Hope Farm, Coop in Hoole, Starbucks Greyhound Park, post office in Dodleston, the Pavilion in Upton, Queensferry HiQ, soon in Chester market (Helen will take action on this).
Karen took one tub to Warrior Gym.
- Amanda – to share on social media where the PTA money has been spent on this year, to promote the PTA and recruit more volunteers.
Karen – will do a breakdown what we've spent in what area so far since we took over the PTA.

- Lesley – to check with Asda in Chester if we can be put forward for their next Green Tokens in store.

Treasurer Report

Update Karen:

Received:

£1087.50	Virtual Disney Challenge, massive well done to Bridget, the kids who took part and everyone else involved!
£120	Easy fundraising
£399.50	School lottery
£71.05	Roberts Recycling
£169.94	Boohoo (since we've gone online with this, incl car boot sales)
£285.80	Summer raffle
£80	Teacher's gin raffle

Spent:

£72	Just Giving fees (this is 3 months worth of fees)
£60	Big Yellow Storage
£70	Marquees we've bought
£3.20	Postage Boohoo clothes

In the bank:

£17.163 This includes £5000 which we've allocated for the playgrounds.

Dorin's Fashion Boutique

There's a few reasons why the decision was made to park it for now, not to pick up more stuff from Boohoo and hopefully pick up in January for the summer fair (Big Yellow Storage doesn't cost us much but we do pay for an insurance too, we've not been able to get stuff out in a big hall to go through of what we have (about 20 boxes!) and Lucy said we can't use the school environment at the moment because of Covid).

Halloween

Own clothes day or fancy dress (Halloween) for a £1 charge and a Halloween party to be held on 21 October. Ask Moston Garage to donate some sweets for the children. And ask around if Morrissons want to donate pumpkins for each class so we can organise a pumpkin competition. Maxine suggested to make it a pumpkin competition event for the whole school incl staff.

Roberts Recycling

They're due to collect on 15 November. We can use the area underneath the staff lockers for storage for a few days.

Maxine – to send out letters on 5 November.

Christmas

Christmas is fast approaching so we all need to push for prizes for the Christmas raffle. E.g. we can ask restaurants for free meal vouchers. We need to write nice letters to ask to extend dates for some vouchers we have.

Karen – will have a look if she can find the letter she has used before to ask for raffle prizes / extend voucher dates.

Santa Visit on Friday 10 December! Jay will book the suit in ☺. And a Santa grotto outside was suggested.

Jay & Amanda – to ask around for a donation for a big Christmas tree.

Storyhouse workshops

Jane Rowlinson came on the meeting and explained about different art and performance workshop packages Storyhouse offers to schools. Storyhouse will come to school and will do drama, arts, music, dance. I will include Storyhouse's online brochure with all the information.

There are 3 level of membership packages, Jane is thinking of package 2 which costs £3100 per year. We'll get a £1000 back in credits from Storyhouse which can be used amongst others for their cinema productions, careers events, all Storyhouse's facilities, smaller performances, school network meetings for staff, access to the young people council, (music) festivals that we can take part in etc.

Different concerns were raised: what would happen if we are not able to fund the next year. Jane said we will not be tied into a multi-year contract. Lucy said they are thinking to do a trial for the year and see how it goes, if it's really successful school is thinking of a long-term investment by the school. Will Storyhouse charge the parents who are coming to see their children's performance? School has got back to us and said: *'..school will be purchasing this to enhance the children's curriculum and give our children the large theatre production that they all want.'*

Karen mentioned that if it's 3 hours per week, divided over 16 classes it will only benefit each class once per month. Karen also raised the question why these performances can't be organised by school itself again and that there are children who are not going to enjoy this (e.g. children who wear ear defenders). Jane mentioned school can organise separate events for children who are not happy in a strange environment to perform. Lucy mentioned that school is not going to take away anything that the children are already accessing, like the nativity, Dorin's got talent etc. Those smaller opportunities to show their talent and be part of a performance will still be organised.

Maxine mentioned the children have thrived in earlier years during various performances and that it's something that's been missing in school and that it would be amazing to see those performances back again.

All in all the day after this meeting we had a minimum of 5 'yes' votes through our What's App group to go ahead with it.

Fundraising Ideas

Our regular fundraisers that keep us ticking over are:

- School lottery
- Easy fundraising
- Roberts recycling
- Our quarterly raffles

Kerry Atwood would like to buy pebbles for each pupil to decorate and a path will then be created that would lead to the forest school. Any new pupils will decorate a pebble too and those will be added to the path. It will be level for wheelchair users. Costing at £120 incl VAT for large pebbles (about 350-420). We all agreed it's a great idea and the PTA will fund this.

AOB

Bridget mentioned in the last meeting we now need items for the rebound therapy like bean bags for around the trampoline, parachutes, pictures to put around the trampoline, lighting etc. Bridget will get her wish list in.

Next PTA Meeting

Next meeting is booked for Thursday 25.11.2021 at 7.30pm, either by getting together or still via Microsoft Teams.

Nicole Luijnenburg 03/11/2021

Attachments:

- * Storyhouse information booklet about the workshop packages.
- * Treasurer Report