



Another very successful year for Farnborough Infants PTFA. We have implemented a lot of change this year but kept the events exciting and fun for the kids.

We successfully changed from a PTA to a PTFA meaning we can retain valuable members and also widen the criteria for pupils extended families to get involved. Last year we were in a position that more parents were working longer days and hours and the volunteer pool was a struggle at times. This has opened that right up.

I think we've also become more efficient in our planning of events & asking Miss Sephton for event rotas more in advance to give people more time to try get even an hour out from work and we all just pitch in with what we can.

We have continued to offer places to all pupil

premium so that no child misses out, meaning ALL the children in Farnborough Road infants are offered a place at events. This is one of the things I'm most proud about during our time on the committee.

With prices continuing to rise for supplies and vendors along with us also wanting to keep our events as affordable as possible whilst still wanting to fund projects that School need we decided to implement what we call Pay it Forward option to make this more manageable.

Pay it forward is an option on parent pay where people can pay for an extra place or donate a set amount that will go forward into a pot that can be used for children to have free spaces at these events. This is not only used for pupil premium but also for families that Miss Sephton thinks may benefit from free spaces. Not all families can afford to pay for their child to attend every event and Miss Sephton can allocate these free spaces confidentially. It's been extremely popular which will be shown in more detail in the treasurer's report.

With having the pay it forward option it's meant we can still donate the larger amounts to school but also start funding some smaller every day projects that might be needed in school but often get missed. We implemented a BID system where teachers could put suggestions for bids of things they needed for the class rooms or in the wider school. We set a rough limit of £500 and said we would try to grant two bids at a time or if lots of smaller bids came in we could support multiple bids. We set up a post-box in the staff room and then voted at the PTFA meetings about which bids to support. I think this has made huge improvements to the school & helped teachers as well as the pupils.

We also really pushed with supermarkets & businesses donating stock for our events. We soon learnt it was better to request specific items for each event. We do need to pick these up sometimes from multiple supermarkets but it has really helped us be able to keep events affordable. It might be useful to have a community champion within the committee.

We successfully secured a grant for £5000 from Morrisons which we applied for and won to help fund the pet paradise project. I would strongly suggest this is something the committee look at exploring in the coming years. It does take some time applying for these grants but our treasurer Rachel has been great at doing this for us and securing some amazing funding and help along the way.

This year we have assisted with funding the following,
Pet Paradise project.

A new shed for Reception.

Play equipment for year 1 playground.

Small world toys for nursery.

Baking equipment for the school.

Along with funding the year 2 leavers disco & purchasing leavers books for every child.
Every child received a selection box or treat at Christmas.

We have also invested this year in professional racking for our storage container. This will hopefully protect our things better meaning less wastage and make it more organised so any volunteer can assist with setting up an event or helping as everything will be labelled and stored in a safe easy place to find.

A big thank you to Dan at LTC Projects LTD for doing this whole project for us from the planning, ordering & fitting. We couldn't be more pleased with the results.

2024-2025

Autumn Glow Disco-

We decided to rebrand the disco from Halloween to Autumn Glow and this has been well received and more inclusive.

Class Fundraising-

We have changed from xmas4schools to class fundraising as it was an easier process and lots more products on offer to buy for parents. This was well received and we will stick with class fundraising for this year.

Breakfast with Santa-

Another brilliant year for BWS. Our amazing Santa & his elves delivered a great event over the course of three days and every child whether they attended or not got a present from Santa. We did make some changes this year all nurseries came over to a later sitting of breakfast with Santa rather than him visiting the class rooms. This was really popular so will be kept for this year too.

Christmas Gift Shop-

We made a change this year, we offered a box on parent pay where parents could write who the child was buying for this made it a much smoother process on the day but also meant we could buy gifts more accurately according to age, gender etc. This also reduced wastage of surplus gifts left over.

Christmas Fair-

We invited nursery to attend the fair and have decided to stop offering fair in a box to those classes. It meant nursery could join in the excitement and also gets them ready for school coming to the hall.

Valentines Disco-

Huge success with our resident DJ.

We had feedback that parents felt it was very late for coming back for year 2s. We changed the time of the discos this year so year 2 arrived a bit earlier so they could have their snack in the classroom and have more time to enjoy the disco. Some parents have expressed this still isn't convenient as there's not time to go home and come back. Might have to be something discussed in the next ptfa committee meeting.

Smarties Challenge-

Another profitable event with minimal work. We offered a different alternative to our children with allergies this year it was a treat they could have with an organza pouch to collect money and this worked very well.

World Book Day-

It's become too hard to schedule a World Book Day event around school's busy curriculum that will also be inclusive to everyone. This year we decided to run a competition where children could create a book cover and the winners would win a prize. Prizes included

VIP voucher

Entertainer voucher

JJs jungle voucher

Gulliver's world voucher

This was a free event to enter.

Easter Fair-

Huge success this year. We added an Easter bunny visit this year by starkids which the children really enjoyed. We have also secured our own resident Easter bunny that I think we will try to continue with in future years. All children will get a sweet treat off the bunny.

We have talked about separating the egg competition to a table per year group to make selecting the winners fairer.

Mother's Day Shop-

We decided to offer a whole shop this year where children could come and pick their gifts for their special person. This would be lovely to do again but it does take some prep and helpers are needed to run the shop on the day so whether we stay with this or go back to a set gift depends on volunteer availability.

Break the rules day-

This year school took over Break the rules day to support a charity close to all our hearts- Elsie's Story. It coincided with the headteachers skydive and was a lovely community event that we could all get behind.

Summer Disco-

Similar to the valentine's disco this was a success but just might need to survey parents or have a discussion on what to do going forward on times.

Father's Day Shop-

We offered the same format as Mother's Day and again will depend on volunteer availability whether this will be a shop again this year or set gifts.

Leavers Disco-

Leavers Disco was a huge success we used the same DJ, bouncy castles & 600 degrees pizzas as last year. Big thank you to all suppliers for helping deliver this event. Leavers books were purchased for all children by Ainsdale printing press.

Summer Fair-

Summer fair was a success this year, Infants were asked to sort the raffle side of the fair & Juniors took on the planning of the actual day.

There was an issue this year where they were unable to transfer our half of the profit in time for the year ending 31st August which means the books aren't going to be balanced on a clean sheet for the next committee taking over. There has been talk of investing in new summer fair stalls.

Ice Lolly Day-

Ice lollies were purchased and delivered to school but a mix up had happened on timings with the concerts being recorded and volunteers were unable to hand these out like previous years. Sorry again for anyone who rearranged their schedules to help with this. This has highlighted an idea to get a shop to deliver the ice lollies direct to school and they go straight in the freezer if they think it worked ok and then frees up

Volunteers to maybe help at the summer fair or any other summer events going on.

Next Years Events.

- 1 Autumn Glow Disco
- 2 Class fundraising
- 3 Breakfast with Santa
- 4 Christmas gift shop
- 5 Christmas fair
- 6 Christmas Selection Boxes
- 7 Valentines Disco
- 8 Smarties Challenge
- 9 World Book Day competition
- 10 Easter Fair & Easter Bunny Visit
- 11 Mother's Day Shop
- 12 Break the Rules
- 13 Summer Disco
- 14 Father's Day Shop
- 15 Leavers Disco
- 16 Summer fair
- 17 Ice Lolly Day

Conclusion

We have had another amazing year with profits exceeding £14,000 and that would have been £15,000 if we'd had the summer fair payment before the year closed. We were able to give donations to school exceeding £8000. The closing balance on our accounts also mean we have a strong start for our next big fundraising target.

As you can see we have made many changes to hopefully make events more inclusive for all children. The changes also hopefully make some things easier from a volunteer perspective. The applications to grants and sourcing donations have really helped boost our profits which will eventually result in larger donations to school.

We have a big fundraising target this year- A Montessori kitchen install for the Nursery.

We have managed to secure a stronger starts grant so this will be available to

Vote with your blue tokens soon in Formby Tesco. Please all go vote when doing your shopping as it would really help.

I say it all the time but we offer a jam-packed event schedule for the children which not only raises money for the school but also gives the children life long memories. None of it would be possible without the amazing volunteers in our ptfa.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank every single volunteer at the ptfa that I've encountered over the last 4 years of being on the ptfa but especially whilst being chair for the last 3 years. Nothing would be possible without each and every one of you. A huge thank you to the parents and carers who pay for these events and support us. As you can see it's making huge improvements to the school.

Lastly a big thank you to the committee that has worked alongside me for the last 3 years. I wish you all the luck in whatever comes next.