



05 October 2016

Charity Number: 1055597

## Oak Tree Primary School R.O.O.T.S. AGM

### Chair Review 2015-16

We've survived our first year as a newly formed PTA! The challenge of bringing together two very well established PTA's with slightly different ways of doing things has been tough going at times but is testament to the hard work and dedication of the committee, class representatives and members of our ROOTS community! THANK YOU!

Special thanks must go to Vicky Williams, who has reluctantly stepped down as Vice Chair. She has been a huge driving force on the committee this year and put in many hours for ROOTS, while at the same time setting up her own new business venture. We wish her the best of luck in her new business!

The class reps have been an invaluable source of help for organising the two fairs. Without them we would have struggled as a small committee to organise that many stalls and more importantly get volunteers to help run them. I for one, certainly want to continue having these roles next year!

We, as a committee, are beginning to get to grips with organising much larger events and the amount of time commitment that puts on us. We are by no means there yet and with the school growing year on year, it will be sometime before we feel we know just how to organise them – so please bear with us and remember we are not paid qualified event planners – just volunteer parents!

On a fundraising note, we have done incredibly well!

- The Summer Fair, closed off our fundraising efforts for the year with a bang! It was lovely to see our children's talents on display during the day, with our Maypole dancers, school band and some Irish dancers performing too.
- Our secret shopper events proved very popular and we received some lovely feedback from parents about how their children really enjoyed choosing a gift for them.
- The school discos were very well attended and ran smoothly. Several parents of Reception children were disappointed that they were not included but it was felt more appropriate for our youngest members of our school community to have an event specifically for them (a Magic Show), during school hours.
- Ladies Pamper Night was a great success, with the help of the Clarins ladies! Similar nights would prove popular!
- The Easter egg tombola was a new Oak Tree event that the children and adults really enjoyed – who can resist chocolate! An event to be repeated!
- Bed Time Stories was a lovely concept but we just didn't quite get the organisation right. Although for some the experience was positive, it can't be said for everyone.
- Christmas Winter Wonderland was our first ever Oak Tree event. No one could have predicted the numbers of people attending that night, as it wasn't just families from our school! However, we raised lots of money for our school and the children had a fun time.

School have now given us a clear direction for how they would like us to support them - **Outdoors play equipment!** We have now committed 50% of each event's profits next year to a fund a large piece of outdoor play equipment. This is going to be a massive financial commitment for ROOTS, so will take a year or two of fundraising to achieve our end goal.

We have also funded this year;

- new multi-hoop basketball hoops for the playground
- book bags to ALL reception starters each academic year
- a contribution to the year 6 leavers party.
- £300 donation to buy the wooden planters, hanging baskets and compost on the school tidy up day, helping make our school grounds look a little more attractive and inviting.
- Book token prizes for an English creative writing competition
- £100 petty cash donation to each class teacher to pay for extracurricular items that would not be funded by school funds, such as golden time games and toys, dressing up equipment, class reward prizes.

I am sure we will continue to go from strength to strength, fundraising for our school. Thank you to everyone who supported us this year. Let's make 2016-17 even more successful!

**Kate Exley**

**ROOTS Chair**