



05 October 2017

Charity Number: 1055597

## Representatives Of Oak Tree School AGM

### Chair Review 2017-18

Well this year we have certainly found our feet this year! I think we have grasped the sheer size and scale of our school community now and have a much better idea of what and how we do things on a larger scale!

I'd like to begin by thanking certain people who have made chairing this group and leading our fundraising efforts a little less painful!

- All our Class reps for 2016-17 who have really helped ensure our two biggest fundraisers were a success.
- The Teachers/Teaching Assistants at Oak Tree – who's help is invaluable – from letting us move all the furniture around in their class rooms, to putting them in the stocks and have wet sponges thrown at them! They really do their part to support our fundraising!
- The Office and Support Staff – the extra work they get due to ROOTS events and activities is quite significant - sending out letters, selling raffle tickets, collecting money, letting us loose in the canteen, cleaning up after fairs and coming in on their days off!
- Chris Slater and Catherine Wild – they have supported all our hair-brained schemes and ideas and pretty much given us free rein to run events how we want!
- My partners in crime, the ROOTS committee members – without whom we really wouldn't have got all the events off the ground!

Our fundraising has proved very successful this year – I couldn't be prouder of the events we've staged and profits we've achieved! We have now begun the process for getting some play equipment installed into the grassed area at the top of the upper playground. We had 3 companies draw up plans and we now have a good idea of what we are trying to create. A final planning stage is happening in the next few weeks, with a view to beginning to break ground and start Phase 1 this academic year – well actually this term (hopefully)! I can't wait to see all our hardwork pay off with something visible to improve our children's environment. As part of this process, we have realised the importance of external funding schemes to help us afford the next phase of this project, and as such, over the coming months we are trying our hand at bid writing to achieve just that!

Our big challenge for next year will be to engage our parents to continue to support us – everyone leads very busy lives now which makes it harder to give up precious free time, however, without those volunteering we really could not put on events like we do and ultimately raise the kind of funds we do! There will always be something to do behind the scenes, so please don't just leave it all to others!

Let's make 2017-18 even more successful so we can really give our kids something special!

**Kate Exley**

**ROOTS Chair**