

## Mullymesker PFTA End of year report. 2015/2016

Mullymesker PFTA was set up to support our local school, St Marys Mullymesker. The group provides support to the school through helping at school events and raising money through fund raising activities and relevant grant applications. The funds raised are used to fund activities and equipment for the school which will benefit the children who attend the school (for example after school activities, Accelerated Reading program, buying new computer equipment or sports equipment.).

Mullymesker PFTA consists of parents of children who attend, or have previously attended, St Marys Primary school Mullymesker, friends of the school and staff. The group meets a few times each term to discuss the needs of the school, fundraising activities, how to help the school at events on the school calendar as well as how best to spend money raised through the groups fundraising activities. .

The past year has been busy for Mullymesker PTFA and we have had great support from the community. Since being set up the PTFA have had a number of successful fundraising events.

The group has a several core members who attend meetings. It also has a number of members who help and support school activities and events, prepare hampers & baskets for raffles and help with grant applications. Our group does needs a few more members to attend meetings and help with new fundraising ventures. We continue to encourage new members to join so that we have fresh ideas at meetings.

### **Highlights of the past PFTA year**

On 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015 Mullymesker PTFA's constitution was agreed and the group held the first AGM. A Chair, Secretary and Treasurer were elected.

The PTFA agreed on a focus for fundraising for the year ahead. The focus was to raise funds for St Marys to purchase a set of IPADs along with a wireless router to improve wireless access for devices in the mobile classrooms.

We had a number of successes this year:

- The PTFA Bank Account was opened. Thank you to Fiona McManus for completing this application.
- Mullymesker PTFA became a Registered Charity, thank you to Fiona Leonard for completing the application. This is an excellent achievement for our group.
- Our group continued to encourage parents and friends to use **The Giving Machine** when shopping on line. <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/>
- The 'Shorts and Shades' Sponsored walk (June 2015) was very successful and raised over £900. Thank you to everyone who took part.
- The school ran a number of successful afterschool activities- Dance, Art, Cricket
- Edel Dolan organised a Christmas card fundraising event for the PTFA. Children drew their own Christmas scenes for their personal Christmas cards, these were printed and sold to families for a small profit. This was a lovely fundraiser as the cards were enjoyed by the children and their families and our group made a little money from the sales.
- A number of the PTFA members successfully completed vetting so they could help with school activities.
- The PTFA were given a page on the school web site where news, fundraising activities and other information can be displayed.
- The PTFA agreed a logo.
- PFTA paid £1774.96 towards St Mary's Mullymesker Accelerated Reading program and after school activities. The Accelerated Reading program is successfully running in the school and the children are enjoying all the new books, the quizzes and the prizes.
- PTFA were successful in a FODC seeding grant application. Thank you to Fiona for her help in this.
- Since achieving charitable status the PTFA have been able to apply for other grants to help fund equipment and activities. We are still waiting on the outcome of these applications
- The PTFA made a huge effort in organising its first ever Spring Fete. Thank you to everyone involved, those who helped before the event and those who worked tirelessly on the day. A special thanks to our members who gathered prized from businesses across our local area and were tireless in their efforts to make the event a success.
- The PTFA Cake sale, held on the morning of our Spring Fete, was a huge success, thank you to everyone who baked for us and to those who manned the stalls.

- The PTFA had 2 stalls at a car boot sale, business was slow on the day. The money raised was donated to the RNLI.
- PFTA held a successful ASDA bag pack, thank you to Una Greene for organising the date and the rota. Thank you also to everyone who bag packed on the day, a few parents, new to the PTFA, and their children came along to help which was fantastic. We hope to have another bag pack next year.
- Una and Edel put together a lovely photo book for our P7s, these were given out as a leaving present. The children and their parents were delighted with them. We hope to do something like this again in the future.
- PTFA members helped out at the Christmas show, the Christmas Carol Service, at Grand Parents day and at Holy Communion.
- The school is ordering 4 C2K managed laptops (instead of IPADS) which will be paid for by the PTFA. These will allow the school to develop its ICT program.

### **Special thanks to those that have supported the PTA**

I want to thank everyone who has supported the PTA over the past year through attendance at meetings, helping at events, donating prizes for raffles, making grant applications and donating money. Thanks also to those who supporting our fundraising activities by buying Christmas Cards, raffle tickets, attending the Spring Fete, helping at the Spring Fete, donating prizes for Easter Baskets and the Spring Fete and by helping out at school events, ie helping with tea after school events, putting together hampers, bag packing etc.

Thanks to those who have registered on **TheGivingMachine** and who are shopping through this site. We hope more parents sign up to the giving machine to raise funds for our school. The PFTA could not operate without the much needed support which it receives from the families and friends.

### **How the PFTA's funds are allocated**

The PFTA decides on allocation of funds through discussions at our meetings. The needs of the school are outlined by the school staff but the PFTA is open to good ideas from all its members. We try to think of:

- areas of need within the school
- fun ideas or activities for children
- school activities needing parental support

## **How the PFTA has involved members, the school and pupils in its decision making**

The PFTA is made up of local parents and staff members of St Mary's primary school, Mullymesker. The group is always keen to have new members join. If you are interested in helping the school community please come along to our next meeting. We would love to see a few new faces. If you are new to the area it is also a good way of getting to know other parents and people in the local area. The PFTA will put notice of future meetings in the school newsletter and on the school website (currently under development). At meetings our members have opportunities to bring their ideas on fundraising events, activities for pupils as well as ideas on equipment which the school might need.

In school, Mrs Ingram meets with the school council and talks to the pupils to hear their ideas on what equipment or games they would like to have at school.

As a parent of a child at the school you may have been asked for your contact details by one of our PFTA members. These are being used to create class contact lists for each year group. We hope to use these to ask for help on occasions throughout the year.

### **Future PFTA plans:**

The PFTA already has some fund raising ideas for the year ahead.

- We are trying to get another bag packing slot at Tesco or Asda after our success this year
- We hope to meet with Jenny, the local Youth Club leader to discuss joint fundraising and joint events to benefit children in the area
- We hope to have success in some grant aid which may provide funding for some special pieces of equipment for the school and help us run another Spring Fete in the year ahead
- We hope to fund some games and toys for Golden Time (requested by pupils)
- We are organising a Family Quiz afternoon/evening in November. The PFTA will hold a raffle at this event.

If you have any ideas for fundraising or feel you can help at events please come along to our meetings.

Patricia Hyde  
Chair