

# THE

SUMMER 2013



# NEWS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY PTFA



## Chair's Words

Well, it's fair to say that we have risen magnificently to this year's fundraising challenge of replacing IT equipment. With everyone's help, we have raised substantially more money than we have for the past few years. This means we will be able to fund an amazing 13 laptops and the new laptop trolley. Our children are delighted that they'll soon be using laptops without missing keys and/or won't have to share them during lessons.

These are the things we need to keep in mind when we're asked to help out. Why do we do it? Because we can and because we do it well! I'm sure the final 2 laptops will be in the bag early next year.

We've enjoyed some new successes this year too with the Spring Fete, Christmas cards and tea towels, not to mention the baking extravaganza of Comic Relief. All of these required time and effort by many parents, families and staff, not to mention everyone who has bought items and come along to enjoy events. I think that takes in everyone, so please give yourselves a huge pat on the back for taking part in another great year of fundraising and fun!

Here's wishing everyone a lovely summer, a safe return to school in September and to more ways of putting the icing on the cake of our children's school experience.

Zoë Shaw

PTFA Chair (Mum to Findlay, Class 4 & Struan, Nursery)

## THANK YOU....

To everyone who has played a part in supporting the PTFA over the past year. From organising major events to wrapping prizes at home, helping the children choose library books to baking cakes and providing raffle prizes, it is all incredibly valuable and vital to ensure we raise money, add to the school community, have fun and provide extras for our children.

An extra roll call of thanks goes to:

**Mrs Bayes and all the school staff** for their constant support, encouragement and time. Helping the children produce Christmas card artwork, photocopying and laminating, website updating, letting us loose in the kitchen, tidying up and manning stalls at events are just some of the ways school staff have pitched in.

**Fiona Grogan** who has coordinated the library for the past few years and will now be leaving the school.

**All the parents of Year 4 Leavers** – thanks for your support over the past 5 years.

The many **local businesses** that have provided donations of cash and goods and raffle prizes. An ongoing thank you to **Sainsbury's** for supplying Christmas mince pies and contributing to costs for the Spring Fete BBQ

## Highlights of the Year

**Comic Relief Bake Off** – PTFA members pitched in to organise this brilliantly supported event. All money raised went to Comic Relief, but maybe this could be something for the school next time?

An annual contribution of £50 was agreed to support the work of **Archibald Family Support**. This is in line with the donations to each class.

**World Book Day** – another enthusiastic event helped restock the library books.

**Mary's Meals Backpack Appeal** – thanks to your generous support 50 full backpacks were donated enabling 50 children in Malawi to attend school, gain an education and receive a nutritious meal each day. An additional two boxes of bits and pieces were also sent to the charity. Thanks to the Green Team for their help in sorting the donations.

**All new Spring Fete** – the move to a Saturday saw many more families able to come along to the event and a steady stream of arrivals. The timing also enabled parents who can't physically support weekday events to help out. And, of course, takings rose by a third! Based on this success the Spring Fete looks set to be a regular feature.

**Christmas Cards** – who could fail to love their young one's festive artwork?! These went down a storm with parents and their nearest and dearest.

**Cake sales** – baking continued to be a successful theme as the cake sales have raised an average £80 per month so far this year.

**YOUR PTFA NEEDS YOU: WE'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW PEOPLE TO GET INVOLVED – THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE. COME ON – GET INVOLVED**



Farewell to Mrs McBride, Mrs Leake and Mrs Brown. Thanks for your support over many years and best wishes for your new adventures.

### **Treasurer's Report**

With your support takings so far this year from PTFA events and fundraising initiatives have been over £7000. From this we have been able to raise £4250 for the school, over £2500 of which has already been gifted to the school, as highlighted below. The remainder will be put towards the new laptops and a bid for equipment from school council.

With the funds held over for the laptops from last year as agreed with the school to take advantage of bulk buying, we are delighted to be able to provide the school with 13 laptops and a new laptop trolley with a value of around £7000.

Our funding commitments this year decreased substantially as the PTFA no longer has to pay for the classroom water coolers. In addition to increased fundraising this year, this has enabled the PTFA commit to funding 13 new laptops and the new laptop trolley. An additional annual £50 of funding was agreed at a PTFA meeting for Archibald Family Support.

As you will see, there was a greatly increased fundraising effort this year which has enabled the PTFA to go a long way to achieving the IT fundraising target of 15 laptops and a laptop trolley.

Thank you for your constant support, which puts smiles on our children's faces.

Marie Allen, Treasurer.

### **Here are some examples of where your money has gone this year:**

Contribution to the Year 4 leavers' trip to see Cats.

Refreshments at the new parents' evening.

Upgrading some materials for the Christmas Fair and Spring Fete e.g. new banner and Christmas decorations.

Christmas trees for the school halls.

£50 per year for each teacher to use on class activities, an additional £100 for the Early Years Unit and £50 for Archibald Family Support.

Providing book bags to welcome children into Reception.

Ice lollies at the annual beach trip.

Up to £300 for the children's wish list via the School Council. This year's bid is yet to be finalised.

Crackers for all children (school dinners & packed lunch) at the Christmas lunch.

And of course .....13 laptops and a laptop trolley!



## **Specific Help Needed for Next Year**

### **Class Reps**

It's an easy introduction into becoming more involved in the PTFA. Class reps organise the annual cake sale for their class, act as a point of contact between the parents and PTFA and arrange social events to help parents in each class or year group get to know each other better.

### **Helping Hands**

It's true, many hands really do make the work lighter. And just 30 minutes helping at an event or taking a bag of prizes home to wrap in front of the TV makes a huge difference, probably more than you think, and really spreads the load. It's often this help that is the hardest to come by, so please have a think if you could spare half an hour a few times a year.

### **Mary's Meals Backpack Project**

Please remember to keep hold of any children's flip flops, T shirts and shorts they grow out of this summer for the next appeal in the autumn.

### **New Pub Quizmaster**

As the lovely Ivan has closed his trivia book, we need a new quizmaster if the popular PTFA Pub Quiz is to have a future. Could that be you?

### **School Library**

The school library, run by the PTFA, is always looking for new helpers for an hour on a Monday or Tuesday morning for admin and checking in books and on Wednesday afternoons to help the children select their books. The more people that volunteer means the less frequently each person will have to help!

### **Retail therapy!**

Can't get into school but would like to help? Then this is for you! We need someone to select and order the toys sold at discos and other events. It's only a couple of times a year, and can be done from the comfort of your home. All instructions will be provided.

### **PTFA Chair, Treasurer & Secretary**

The Chair's 2 year term comes to an end in October and changing personal circumstances mean the Treasurer and Secretary will be standing down. If you are interested in any of these roles, please contact Zoë Shaw via the school office or in the playground (usually around Year 1 entrance or nursery in the morning)

## **YOUR PTFA NEEDS YOU!**

**As you probably know, you're automatically a member of the PTFA when your child comes to school. Any help in the organisation and setting up of everything is really appreciated – and any new ideas you have are, of course, more than welcome! If you can spare any time to support our school and attend the odd meeting, please contact any committee member for further details, via the office.**

### **What exactly do we do?**

We hold social and fundraising activities throughout the year. The money raised is used for a whole host of extras for the benefit of the children and sometimes the local community. We also fund and run the school library which allows the children to borrow books on a fortnightly basis and other volunteers sort the fruit for the children's daily snack.

### **The PTFA is a registered charity.**

### **The current PTFA committee members are:**

Chair: Zoë Shaw

Treasurer: Marie Allen

Secretary: Kelly Fry

# LEAVERS LAST WORDS

School discos are great. The DJ is so cool.

I enjoyed Beamish and Cats. It was the best time in year 4. I just enjoy everything. It was so fun at year 4.

The moment that comes back to me most is the time when we were leaving year 3 and the classroom was filled of love but sadness to.

Been at Archibald has been some of the happiest memories in my life. I've seen my class mates grow from small cute children that are worried about starting reception to smart pupils about to start middle school.

My speshial memory is Hawcurst because it was really good and fun. The caddins were really cool, on the night time we watched films and had chocolate, crisps and pepperami.

I liked when we were swimming in year 3 with everyone in my class.

When I first came to this school I was scared and nervous. In year 3 our best trip was the Discovery Meuseum and I bought a bendy rubber.

My favourite memory from year 4 would have to be Hawkirst because it was fun and I loved it.

In year 4 we had the best teachers ever.

I found Cats the musical absolutely amazing. It was defently one of the best school trips ever.

My most important memory is obviously Hawkirst because I've never spent so much time away from my family or with my friends.



Sydeny being my best friend since reseption that is my favrate memory.

Going to Beamish was so fun espically the fair ground.

I enjoyed Hawkirst and our room at Hawkirst was the only one with 6 beds.

Year 4 all loved Cats! We had fun, even on the journey.

Being in year 3 with Mrs McBride and watching her laugh nearly all the time.

Archibald Discos are cool. In the disco you can dance till you drop and win sweet prizes.

Hawkirst – people give lots of slips for Hawkirst to the lovely Mrs Watson.

My favoirote memorys was when I found my friends.

The best lesson was when we did monster poems.

My first memorie was first starting this school when I was in Nursery. The teachers were really kind to me.

I remember in Year 1, the DT day when we made our own castles.

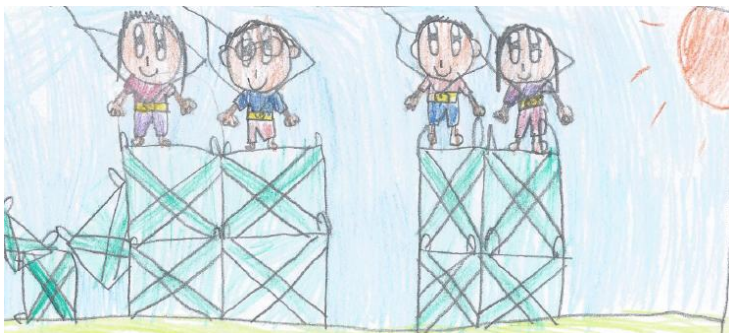
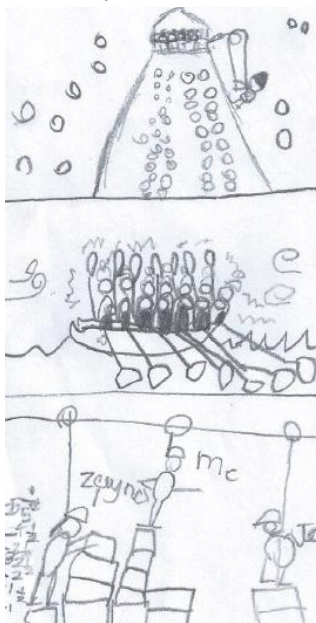
I remember when we were in year 3 and we were raising money for charity. We were doing 3 laps around the school. It was really hot so when we had finished we were sweting like mad.

My favourite memory is when I was in nursery and I met a whole bunch of brand new friends.

In year 4 I remember Mr Beck coming to teach us and become a real teacher.

I liked when my mum came with us to Castle Ceep.

I'd like to thank Miss Scott for being the best teacher ever and taking us to Cats.



Thank you for all your comments and we hope you all have a great summer holiday before starting your new schools.