



St. Jude's Church of England Primary School

PTA Annual report & accounts 2019-2020

Introduction from the PTA Chair

What a year! Although 2020 has not been business as normal for the PTA, we continue to support the school and our community, especially in these challenging times.

In the Autumn and early in 2020 we were still able to run our successful and popular events - with a very competitive Parent vs Teacher Netball match, fantastic Film Night, funky Valentines Disco, numerous cake sales, and of course the magical Christmas Fair. These events and our financial surplus from last year meant we had a healthy balance to commit towards the 'Green Screen' to protect against pollution in the KS2 playground, and other equipment and workshop requests.

In the new year we started planning our spring and summer events, which sadly we were then unable to run due to lockdown. However, we continued to stay in contact with the school and parents, and even managed a virtual 'PE Lesson' with our very own Mr Cutts, in place of our annual Fun Run. And even during the very darkest days our Chicken Officer and her team continued to look after the school hens.

Huge thanks as always to all the parents and carers who put so much time and effort into the PTA, and of course to our wonderful St Jude's teaching staff - we cannot thank them enough for everything they have done, working non-stop during the pandemic. You are all heroes!

This was my last year as PTA Chair, and indeed at St Jude's. This is a really special school, and we should be very proud of our community working together for all our children. I know the PTA will adapt to the 'new normal' and continue to grow from strength to strength with new members this year.

Susie Hall (Chair)

Our financial donations to the school

In the September 2019-July 2020 academic year, we made much more limited grants to the school as compared to previous years. Our income to the PTA was also vastly reduced since we were unable to hold the Fun Run and the Summer Fair – our biggest fundraising events of the school year.

We had been holding funds of £6,500 ready to support the ‘Green Screen’ initiative, along with the usual support we would provide for trips in the summer term. This means that the PTA still holds over £10,000 in funds at the current time, ready to support the school, despite our reduced income in 2019-20.

We will need to reassess with school now what they will most need support with in the 2020-21 academic year, given the changes brought about by the current COVID-19 restrictions. Our job as a charity (and particularly for the PTA Committee members who have agreed to step forward as Trustees of the charity, registered with the Charity Commission) is to put the funds to work for the purposes that they were raised – in line with our charitable objects. All grants over £100 from the charity to the school are approved via PTA meetings, after discussion about current funding needs informed by the school, so that parents guide the charity.

In total the PTA gave £735.77 during the 2019-20 year. The school invested these funds in:

- £615 for a pantomime performance in school before Christmas
- £120.77 for Netball balls

Fundraising

As set out above, one of the significant ways the PTA can support the school is via generating additional funds – but we combine our efforts with fun whenever possible, to enrich our children’s experiences at school. This section provides an update on key fundraising initiatives across the last academic year.

Parent/Teacher Netball Match

This was our first event of the year – a fiercely fought Netball match alongside a (mostly) healthy snacks stall.

The event raised £24.90 in donations.

Christmas Fair

Our first major fundraising event of the academic year was the Christmas Fair. We'd like to extend a special thanks to Jane Scott for all her hard work in making the event such a success. Father Christmas was in attendance to give his seal of approval and the event raised £908.41 as well as being lots of fun.



Film Night



St Jude's Film Night continued to be a successful event and was another sell out.

Everyone enjoyed the screening of Fantastic Mr Fox as well as a chance for the parents to catch up at the bar.

Many thanks to all the parents and carers who helped make the event happen.

The evening raised £411.87.

Valentine's Disco



February wouldn't be the same without the St Jude's Valentine's Disco - a fantastic and fun evening for everyone! The PTA would like to offer a **HUGE** thank you to the school for permitting us to hold the event on the premises and also to the incredibly helpful wonderful parents who all helped so much to make the evening go with a swing.

To the staff that stayed for the evening – may we also extend a thank you, as we appreciate that this was your time you were very lovingly giving. The children loved seeing you! It was a busy night and hungry thirsty parents and children made full use of all the refreshments - thank you to all staff and parents who contributed.

Finally, a big thank you to Larry Gunesse and Meryem Tahir who came back to check everything had been tidied up properly. For this event, the ticket sales contribute funds directly to the school, with the PTA receiving the other profits e.g. bar take – this contributed a whopping £734.45.

Second hand uniform sale

The PTA organised their first second hand uniform sale to help out families who needed new uniforms. Huge thanks to Rosabel and Karina for taking this on and organising this during COVID restrictions.

Due to restrictions we weren't able to do a normal table sale and sales negotiations took place over WhatsApp! Future sales are planned for this school year as there is quite a lot of uniform leftover and new donations coming in.

The PTA received £97.30 from sales of second hand uniform, which will be recognised in the 2020-21 financial year since our financial year end falls in July.

Quiz night

Our planned quiz night was sadly cancelled due to COVID-19. But many thanks to everyone who had already bought their quiz ticket and generously didn't request a refund.

Fun run and summer fair

These two events had to unfortunately be cancelled during lockdown but we were very lucky that Mr Cutts was able to run an online exercise class in place of the fun run for children and parents. Thanks to everyone who logged in to take part.

Regular fundraising throughout the year, other funds

We can't conclude the fundraising report without thanking **everyone** who has supported us with donations this year. Every time you dropped money into a bucket, it helped! In the 2020-21 year, we will be introducing online fundraising options to ensure that we can enable those who can afford to give at the moment to continue to support the school. We will of course aim to provide some fun fundraising opportunities too!

We would also like to particularly thank everyone who uses Easy Fundraising – this site raised £488.49 for the PTA via everyone's online shopping. This has been an ongoing source of funds throughout lockdown. If you haven't signed up, you can access our cause page here and build up funds for the PTA whenever you shop online:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjudesprimaryschoolhernehill/>

In October 2019, we again received a grant of £500 from the Field Day/Mighty Hoopla Community Fund, connected with the 2019 festivals held in Brockwell Park. A big thank you to Susie Hall for applying to this fund again on behalf of the PTA.

PTA non-financial support for the school

Nature Garden

We are lucky to have the Nature Garden at St Jude's. The children make good use of it for lots of outdoor activities and we all enjoy giving the chickens a run out there. Last year, school ran an after school gardening club with help from parents and we grew lots of vegetables in the planters in the KS1 playground. The school achieved its Royal Horticultural Society School Gardening Level 2 Award. Parents and children also planted spring bulbs in the planters and in the Nature Garden at one of our regular after school gardening sessions. Sadly, most of our gardening activities have been put on hold by COVID restrictions recently.

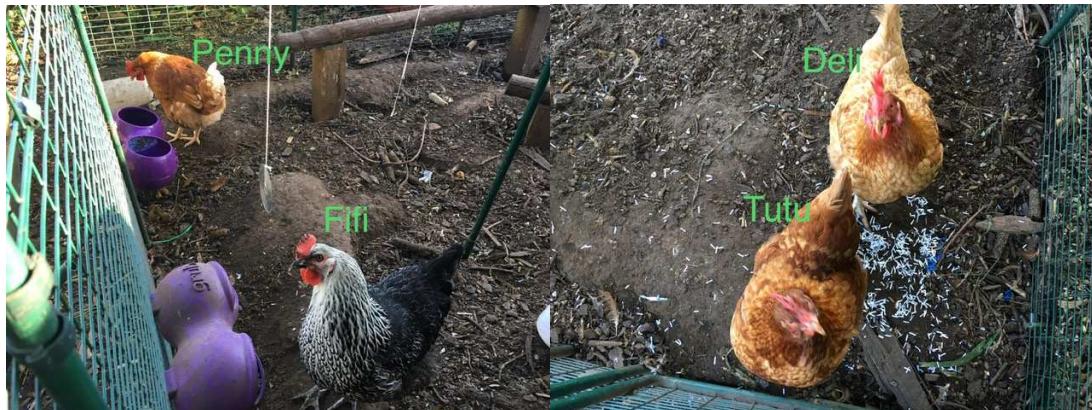
Fortunately, Miss Booth and last year's Y6 did a lot of hard work to keep the Nature Garden in good order during the last few weeks of Summer Term and the KS1 children grew tomatoes and cucumbers.

As the new school year gets underway, we would like to explore parent volunteer gardening sessions taking place again, in smaller socially distanced groups, to spruce up our outdoor space.



Chicken Officer's update (Sarah Dyer)

One of our original 3 chickens sadly died at the end of last year. With generous support from the PTA, and the school's blessing, we decided to add to our flock, and so Tamsin Isaac and I went on a fun jaunt to Charlotte's Chickens and picked up 2 sprightly young hens. There was a bit of pecking and chicken meanness to begin with, but they seem to have settled in well now. We had a little naming competition for them - see photos:



With Lockdown, parents took over full time care of the chickens (usually looked after by children and teachers during the week). We had a recruitment drive for new volunteers immediately before lockdown, to support our emergency rota. We had a great response and it has been terrific to have so many new members of the chicken team. Co-ordination works really well amongst the group via our WhatsApp group and Google Drive rota doc. With school now open full time again, we have reverted to our usual routine of weekend and holiday care.

Some things are still a bit different however. We used to fund the cost of chicken feed through egg sales. Eggs were collected by the children during the week and put in boxes in the plastic crate in front of the chicken coop. Parents could buy eggs on a first come, first served basis for a suggested donation of £1 per half dozen. Because of COVID restrictions on parents' access to school, it's not practical to sell the eggs at the moment. Instead, we suggested that children or staff in the class

looking after the chickens that week get to take some eggs home. We are very grateful to the PTA for agreeing to fund the cost of chicken feed, Diatom powder etc for the time being.

The 2019-20 PTA team

This year the Chair is standing down along with the lead organiser on the Christmas fair. We really hope to attract some additional active members of the PTA to replace those who have moved on from St Jude's.

Our 2019-20 team were:

Chair & charity trustee:	Susie Hall, outgoing at this AGM
Co-treasurer & charity trustee:	Sarah Wallace
Co-Treasurer:	Sian Kelly
Secretary:	Claire Collins
Committee members:	Dolina Logan; Eleanor Mayes; Julia Howgego; Russell Carter; Sara Bacon; Tara Carey; Jane Scott
Communications:	Tara Carey (Twitter @stjudespta) Ruth Fenton (design)
Chicken Officer:	Sarah Dyer
Nature Garden Lead:	Sarah Dyer

Accounts for the financial year ended 20 July 2020

Income	£ 4,138.27
Donations received	£1,900.16
Gross takings from events & activities	£2,238.11
Payments	£ 1,667.26
Grants made to school	£ 735.77
Cost of running events & fundraising	£ 695.13
Admin costs	£ 236.36
Assets at year end	£11,415.02
Cash in hand and in bank	£11,070.44
Debtors	£ 344.58
Liabilities	£ 69.62
Creditors	£ 69.62