



ASHTON ST PETER'S C of E VA LOWER SCHOOL
PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION
Chairpersons Report 2012-2013

What a successful and busy year it has been. When Laura and I stepped into the role of joint chair last September we didn't fully appreciate what life at the helm of a school PTA would really be like! We have been kept very busy with organising events for the whole school community to enjoy.

We would like to say a huge thank you to the committee for sticking with us and helping us find our way through existing events and supporting us in introducing new ones. We would like to say a massive thank you and farewell to John Taylor and Kim Tam-Lit. They have been on the school PTA for 7 years and have been an integral part to its success. We will all miss them very much and wish them and their children luck in the future! We would also like to personally thank Steve Fuller, our treasurer, without whom we would not have been able to achieve so much. In addition, we would like to thank the staff and in particular Mrs McGinty, Miss Padley and Mr Coote for allowing us to darken their doorstep on many an occasion!

Now over to the exciting stuff...our events and achievements...which we also need to thank the parents, carers and children for. We have been very fortunate to have had the help of so many parents this year manning stalls and supporting events. Without their valuable support we would not be able to put on so many exciting things for the children to take part in. We know all that have helped out thoroughly enjoyed themselves and we look forward to theirs, and other parents support, again in the coming year.

We kicked off the academic year with designing Christmas cards in September! Early we know, but very important to have them ready for the festive season. We then quickly found ourselves hosting the ever popular Breakfast with Santa. We were lucky that Santa was able to squeeze us into his busy schedule and join the classes in buttering their own toast and adding a variety of fabulous toppings.

Hot on its heels was the Christmas Fayre. This was, as usual, a manic but thoroughly enjoyable event. We had an amazing amount of things donated from parents and had the support of many members of staff in manning stalls. All of this combined to enable us to put on a fun filled Fayre with lots for everyone to take part in.

The New Year brought with it a wealth of new events as well as some long time favourites. We were all encouraged to turn out our wardrobes for Bags to School in January, and then again in June. The clothes go to good causes and help raise money for the school.

We held a very successful Portrait Day in February. This is an event that had not happened for a few years but proved to be very popular. The photos were amazing and we are sure will now be hanging on many a wall in and around Dunstable.

Our first new event was the Mother's Day gift shop in March. The children loved choosing an extra special (surprise) gift for their Mothers. This event was so successful we repeated it for Father's day.

Table Top Sales were brought to Ashton St Peters in March. This was a great time for people to sell their unwanted items. We advertised it far and wide and had people from all over town coming to buy from our stalls. We will be running more next year so it is something not to miss out on!

Another new event quickly followed– the Film Night. We all sat down to watch Wreck-it Ralph with a hot-dog and drink, followed by popcorn. The night ended with a little dance to the film's closing credits – a fantastic way to start a weekend!

The Easter Eggstravaganza was as popular as ever with the stalls being wiped clean within 30 minutes! Amazing what the power of chocolate can do!

Creative flair oozed out of the children to produce some fabulous pieces of artwork in June, ready for the Summer Fayre. Thank you to the staff for helping the children to produce fabulous masterpieces that will be treasured for years to come.

The Disney themed Summer Fayre was a great success, despite the weather's best efforts to bring it down. Unfortunately, we had to set up indoors on a very rainy June morning. But the weather never stops us from having fun, and the sun even decided to join us by the time the doors opened. We were very lucky to have Micky and Minnie Mouse to help us judge the fancy dress competition and Dunstable Fire service came along too.

We ended our year with a Leavers disco on possibly one of the hottest Saturday afternoons. The children had great fun dancing and playing games. As our way of saying goodbye and good luck to the Year 4 children they were each presented with an autograph book to collect those ever important signatures and messages from their friends and teachers.

This year the money raised has supported and enhanced areas of the curriculum and school life. These areas include Christmas and Easter gifts for the children, crackers at the Christmas meal, yearly subscription to First News and supporting the development of the new ICT curriculum.

The PTA always need extra people so if you would like to help in anyway, no matter how small, we would love to welcome you. Please contact us via the schools website, leave a message for us at the office or come and find us on the playground.

We have enjoyed our first year and are looking forward to what this new academic year will bring.

Emily Bayes and Laura Cladd