

SASA Meeting Minutes

Thursday 8th February 2024

Present: Charmaine H, Richard C, Paul N, Celia L, Annie A, Abishek, Dawn W, Sheena, Julie B, Rachael F.

Apologies: Katie S, Melanie C, Anna C, Sarah M, Kristin V, Eleanor C, Anita M, Paul T, Lucy M, Mary W

Events – looking back

Diwali disco, Friday 24 November.

Successful event. Diwali theme worked well, children enjoyed the dancing and mix of music. First disco very well-attended, second disco (yr5-6) less so. Rethink age split for next year.

Winter Festival, Friday 1 December.

Some stalls were very busy and lacked space – lantern-making needs more space and 2ppl minimum next year. Tombola was great fun and easy, generous donations – try in another location last year as a bit crowded. Café was super busy and layout was a bit tricky. Hall was a bit noisy with both music and café in there together.

Film night, Friday 26 January.

Nice event, good atmosphere, good number of helpers. It worked well having an interval for hot dog service. Popcorn needed to go on earlier. AA pointed out that popcorn is a choking risk for under-5s (something to be aware of next year if planning a session aimed at KS1 and younger siblings). Muesli bar trial went well, all sold. PN suggested a break-out space for adults to talk – would help with noise management but might impact on effective child supervision.

Events – looking forward

Piano concert, Saturday 24 Feb at St. Andrew's Church

Volunteers needed to help shift grand piano onto stage prior to concert. Also need 1 or 2 more people to check tickets at the door, and serve wine at the end. RC and PN volunteered.

Action: JB to seek further volunteers as needed

World Book Day, Thursday 7 March

Suggestion of a simple café/cake sale alongside the book swap approved Action: JB to seek volunteers.

Possibility of adult book swap, reading corner, sponsored reading. 'Design a mug' activity could be a WBD-related activity. Action: JB to discuss with MW and investigate support for these suggestions

Led into a discussion about library and reading corner funding. Ideas suggested : Amazon public wishlist; QR code linking to a wishlist of wanted items – could be anything the school needs, not just books (Quarry have had success with this). Put QR code on posters and on the website. Action: JB to follow up with MW, Mrs Walker and Kelly from Quarry.

The Roving Bookshop was mentioned as a possible future event tie-in (wp.rovingbooks.com) to be explored.

Fun Run – date change to Sunday 28 April, 1pm

Liz H is leading – the call for volunteers will be closer to the event. Suggestion received after the meeting of a bigger 'kiosk' this year selling cold drinks and iced lollies; also more explicit messaging that this is a part of the fundraising drive for the playground equipment (“let’s beat last year’s total”)

Funding requests

Major request – playground renovation. Donation of £5,000 from SASA reserves was approved with immediate effect. Further funds will be passed on from future events ear-marked for this purpose until March 2025.

Further suggestions for fund-raising initiatives were received: named plaques for significant donations from families or individuals; supermarket grants (Tesco and Asda); targeted requests to local businesses, in return for a named plaque; more cake sales; targeted ‘asking’ for money that isn’t linked to attendance at an event; check in with previous SASA members/Quarry PTA for advice.

Action: JB

Secondhand school uniform sales

The sale held recently in conjunction with a charity cake sale was well-received and raised just under £50. Suggestion that uniform sales be held more regularly, and that alongside the school coffee mornings would be ideal. The Uniform’d app will soon be in use, but physical sales are also useful.

AOB

AA asked if SASA could do another Quarry coffee morning. When the weather is better, and combine with a uniform sale, so probably after Easter.

Date of next meeting. TBC