

St Andrew's School Association (SASA)

Committee meeting

Thursday 28th January 2021, 8pm

MINUTES OF MEETING

PRESENT:

Helen Reid (Vice-Chair), Vikki Simpson (Communications), Anna Chamberlain (Secretary), Liz Hurren, Nichola Heer, Tetyana Bogdan, Eleanor Cameron, Richard Cohen, Vanessa Clipstone, Robin Danely, Rachael Farnsworth, Mazz Image, Emily Johnstone, Ian Johnstone, Katie Small.

Welcome & apologies

Apologies received from Jill Horner, Jason Clarke, Carla Cohen, Paul Tucker, Sophie Eichwald-Ladha.

Helen welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked those present for taking the time to attend this during a busy time.

She reminded the group that we're still looking for a committee Chair, and to let her know if anyone is keen to take up the place, with her remaining as Vice Chair support.

Rachael Farnsworth is also looking to step down as class rep for Rainbows group, so a replacement is needed.

Treasurer report

SASA funds – since the start of the year, £1800 has come in, including classroom costs paid out. Easyfundraising - £2600 has been raised since first joined, and £250 since last meeting.

Amazon Smile – awaiting next payment.

Donations from SASA – Class money; contribution to Year 6 leavers book; library fund; KSI area (currently on hold due to pandemic) .

Lockdown teaching

The class reps and other attendees reported on morale and how things are going with online teaching for each year group. The response was overwhelmingly positive, with much appreciation expressed for the teachers and TAs and the fantastic work they're all doing: the robust provision of creative and engaging teaching, with a good balance of online classes and set work, and the support provided to parents and of course children, who have proven extremely resilient. It's clear that parental feedback provided during the last lockdown has been taken on board, and it's appreciated.

There was a safeguarding concern raised by an attendee about the move to Teams for class meetings, and the provision of school addresses for the children - for discussion by those concerned with Mrs Bennett outside of this meeting.

Robin, Year 6 rep, mentioned that the Year 6 yearbook project is coming up. Vanessa suggested that husband Roger could advise on the logistics of gathering photos and input from Year 6 parents during a lockdown, as had to be done last year.

Fundraising:

Calendar :

Thanks were given to Ian, Emily and Mazz for their hard work on the calendar and photo competition last year. It was agreed that it was a very successful event, bringing the community and the children together.

The competition raised £175 and the calendar sales £500, with around 200 copies sold.

Sponsorship was an issue during Covid, but it was proposed that we organize the event again next year, and start the process earlier in the year – perhaps running the competition over the summer holidays so the calendar can be produced in September and sold in October.

Recipe book:

Nichola showed the group the proofs of the eagerly-awaited recipe book, which looks fantastic. She thanked everyone involved in its creation and proof reading, including Robin, Maryann, Roger and Helen Kidd.

The 82 page book includes 77 inspiring recipes from 31 countries that represent the countries and cultures of the school community.

With a suggested price of between £6 and £12 per book (preferred price £10+ to cover costs and enable fundraising extras), it's great value and is expected to sell very well. 200 copies will be printed initially, with the book ready in February, before half term.

Looking forward:

While obviously there's no certainty as to when we'll be able to all gather together in person, it was agreed that we should make provisional fundraising plans for the year ahead.

- Possible half term event. Suggested - design an outfit for Mrs Bennett to wear!
- Mary McGill asked for volunteers to help with a virtual World Book Day event – Rachael and Katie offered.
- Summer Fun Run (Liz to check with Mrs Bennett & if approved, then check with council)
- Summer Fete / catch-up-on-the-year's events missed fete?

The group was positive about the suggestion of a SASA Whatsapp group to enable discussions and ideas to be put forward.

Next Committee meeting - TBC