
St John's
RC Primary
School

Parent,
Teacher
Association



Chairs Report for AGM.
By Rosie-Jo O'Halloran
August 2022 – June
2023

AUGUST – DECEMBER 2022

With school life returning to normal and finally coming out of the shadow of covid, it meant that the doors of the school were full open for the PTA to fundraise again. Which in turn support events and causes within the school.

With this reopening the PTA decided to host the first Halloween Disco in 2 years and the children did not disappoint in their excitement! Although we enforced a no weapons or scary masks policy the kids got on board with the Halloween theme and made an amazing efforts with their costumes.

The parent volunteers turned up as a small army and were supported by the school staff. We had an amazing turn out. The tuck shop and tickets sales managed to raise £858.

Poly Tunnel Repairs, vandalism and removal.

As much as the Poly Tunnel was a long-awaited project that was finally installed in January 2022. By September we had made multiple repairs to the plastic as local vandals had taken up residence and decided to use it as a smoking den.

After an intentional fire was started in the football shed and the plastic was torn beyond repair it was decided to remove the tunnel and remove the vandal's new den as the deterrents we had enforced were not working and local police and councillors were less than helpful.

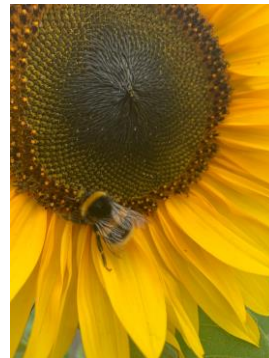
The tunnel frame was sold on second hand to a farmer in Ratho and the money was returned to the Parent Council Bank account so it could be repurposed.



Gardening Club

Although Tana and the members of Gardening Club were upset by the vandalism there were not defeated. The children managed to grow and harvest a crop from the outdoor growing spaces as well as learn about plants and insects and their relationship and reliance on one another.

Onions and broad beans grew over the winter months had flourished, edible flowers were planted, and the children worked on growing flowers that support bees so they could observe and learn about them.



Images taken from the Gardening club page on the school website – Photo credit Tana Holmes.

Christmas Fair 2022

The Christmas Fair of 2022 was a great success for all involved. We raised £2745.



Christmas Raffle and Cards



The raffle was another winning success – 2022 donations were amazing below is a list of all that was gifted:

- Lumineers Concert Tickets
- Proclaimers Tickets
- £100 Cash
- £50 Cash x 2

The Christmas Card sales once again were a huge success and raised £800. This activity is organized by Susan Ward and the PTA would like to thank her for her efforts in this and all the other volunteering she does.

Scottish Opera

Thursday 9th February saw Scottish Opera come into the school to work with the P6 and P7 year groups.

Scottish Opera's primary schools' production, *The Curse of MacCabbra Opera House*.

Scottish Opera's team of musicians, singers and drama specialists spend four hours working with pupils to rehearse and perform a show in their school for classmates, friends and family, complete with fabulous costumes.

The whole school loved the opportunity and enjoyed the performance by the older years. The PTA even got a special thank you from some of the pupils involved.

PARENT COUNCIL

24th February 2023

Dear Parent Council,

We are extremely grateful for you funding and applauding our opera. We couldn't have done this without your support and assistance.

It was a FANTASTIC experience, and helped build our confidence and courage.

We couldn't be more thankful.

Yours sincerely,

Serin and Uyi

P6b

Active Schools



Costs for Active Schools in Year 2 were considerably more than year 1 going up from £2500 to £3901.52. After the PTA meet with Lauren the active school's coordinator it was agreed that we could not support the costs at this rate, and we decided on a plan and a budget for active schools going forward.

We were to reduce the free offering and only contribute £800 a term towards active schools anything additional would be a chargeable cost and classed as a St Johns RC activity and not an Active Schools one.

Edinburgh Marathon



2023's Edinburgh Marathon Stand was another huge success and enjoyed by all volunteers.

The team managed to raise a huge £922.50 this year for simply volunteering for a few hours.

The atmosphere really was amazing, and everyone involved got into the spirit of the day.

Tricky Ricky



The Parent Council decided as part of the end of term fun to arrange Tricky Ricky to come into School on Sunday 7th May.

This was a ticketed event, but uptake was not as good as the Parent Council had planned on, so we ended up making 2 shows into one.

The children that attended very much enjoyed the show and were hugely entertained.

Summary

This Year was the first full year of no restrictions and we have been able to really enjoy some of the fun aspects of being involved in the school community and raising funds.

Special thanks must go to all the parents, teachers and staff that volunteered throughout the year without whom fund raising would not be possible.

Thank you to Mr Burgess and Mrs Kelly for supporting us and getting the school on board with some of our crazier ideas.

Finally massive thank you to Colm, Kate and Claire who have tirelessly worked on fund raising, accounting, minute taking, convincing parents to help, getting donations and fund applications. They have kept the funds coming into the PTA so that we in turn can provide the school with financial support to provide amazing opportunities to all the children.

This year myself and Kate are stepping down from our roles as Chair and Secretary however we will no doubt be on hand for future volunteering and wish you all the best going forward.
