

THE

SUMMER 2012



NEWS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY PTFA



Chair's Words

It's been a great year with a fantastic amount of money raised and plenty of active support from parents, family members and school staff. We've had some fun along the way and, importantly, been able to provide lots of extras for our children.

Our cake making, and eating, skills have been to the fore with the bun fights at the monthly cake sales. These events have really made a big difference to our fundraising efforts – over £900 will have been raised from these sales by the end of the year.

As ever, we will be waving goodbye not only to our Year 4 children but also some long term helpers who will no longer have children in the school, so a HUGE thank you must go to them for all their support over the years. Happily for us, some of the parents at the recent new starters' meeting have already said they would be keen to get involved, so we are looking forward to welcoming lots of new ideas and skills into the PTFA next year.

Looking ahead to next year, we now have a substantial fundraising target to help the school to continue to provide first rate IT equipment and teaching for our children. So every little really will help and there will be lots more ways to get involved and support this fundraising drive. We'll keep you posted and hope you will be able to lend a hand.

I hope you all have a great summer holiday, let's hope we see the sun, and look forward to seeing you in September for another action packed year!

Zoë Shaw

(Mum to Lily, Class 9 and Findlay, Reception)

THANK YOU....

To everyone who has helped the PTFA in any way, big or small over the past year, from wrapping presents, donating books and bottles, attending events and meetings, serving teas, baking, clearing up, sorting fruit, checking library books, creating posters, manning stalls.....the list is endless. But a particular thanks must go to the following people who are stepping down from their usual PTFA roles and some of whom are leaving with their children this year including:

Christine Fowler who coordinated the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal;

Fiona Grogan for masterminding the raffles;

Joanne Dolezal, our disco queen and PTFA Secretary.

Thanks to all **the local businesses** that have kindly supported us with donations, raffle prizes and in other ways. A special mention to Sainsbury's for the Christmas mince pies and rolls for the summer BBQ.

A special thanks to the **school office staff** who have helped us even more than usual this year (and often at very short notice!)

Mr Nolan for helping us with the setting up and clearing away of the many PTFA events and **Jackie Smith and the kitchen team** for letting us loose in the kitchen.

Also to **Mrs Bayes and all staff**, who help us make things happen.

The fundraising challenge begins.....

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the school is upgrading and extending the IT suite and PCs this summer to the tune of £15,000. Unfortunately, this more than eats up their budget so the PTFA has been asked to help with replenishing the geriatric laptops and laptop trolley which are used nearly all day, every day throughout the school. The school has asked for £8758 which will be used to provide the new trolley/cupboard and 15 laptops on a gradual basis. The proposal was agreed at the last PTFA meeting where those present felt strongly that up-to-date IT equipment is essential to our kids' education. A host of ideas on how to raise the money were discussed so please keep your eyes and ears open from September on ways in which you can support these ventures.

Can you or your employer help?

Perhaps you could please find out, over the summer, whether your company has a community giving scheme? Would they like to donate the funds for one laptop or the laptop trolley? Maybe you work for an IT company who could give us a good deal? Or do you know of a trust or foundation that funds this type of activity? The school is happy to give recognition to any company who helps in this goal. If you have any ideas please let the PTFA or Mrs Turner know.

YOUR PTFA NEEDS YOU: WE'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW PEOPLE TO GET INVOLVED – THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE. COME ON – GET INVOLVED

Highlights of the Year

Agreeing to the School Council's request to **fund new outdoor play equipment** for playtimes for the children

Easyfundraising.org.uk – Almost £100 raised since last November through online shopping. Not registered yet? Why ever not? Jump online, it takes 2 minutes and makes money for nothing!

An **extra £100** given to Early Years Unit whose penchant for baking puts Nigella to shame! This extra donation will become part of our core funding from next year.

The continuing success of our **monthly cake sales** which raise an average of £80 each time.

Providing the **refreshments**, and **helpers** to serve them, for the school sponsored run.

New library books donated at another great World Book Day event.

Operation Christmas Child – your generosity continued with 56 boxes collected this year.

North East Air Ambulance – the super collection was organised jointly with the school's Green Team, who were able to receive the £46 for use in their environmental work.

New disco format – after more tweaking in response to parental and child feedback, the new disco formats have been a great success for the littlies and older pupils alike.

Starting the new tradition of a **farewell event** for our Year 4 leavers.

PTFA web page – well, it will be next year really. But we will be looking to use the PTFA page on the school's shiny new website and minutes and newsletters will be posted there too.

Here are some examples of where your money has gone this year:

Providing book bags to welcome reception children to the school

Water coolers in each class

Ice lollies at the trip to Cullercoats

Crackers at the school Christmas lunch

£50 per year for each teacher to use for class activities

Refreshments at new parent's evenings

A Year 4 leavers' event

Juice and biscuits at the school sponsored run

Treasurers Report

Once again we have had an amazing year of fundraising. With your support we have raised a grand total of £6855.33 this year!

<u>Breakdown</u>	<u>This Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Easy fundraising	£ 92.20	N/A
Coffee Afternoons x 2	£ 558.88	£ 300.00
Cake Sales x 10	£ 896.23	£ 260.00
Summer Fayre	£1490.75	£1396.00
Discos x 3	£2371.01	£1982.00
Christmas	£1254.01	£1181.00
Pub Quiz	£ 192.25	£ 131.00

Historically the PTFA has funded the classroom water coolers, However the school will cover this cost from September, which is great news for the PTFA as we will now have more funds to spend on other items.

Other new activities include the PTFA covering the cost of a Year 4 leaver's trip and some new outdoor play equipment for the kids. We have also been asked to help with upgrading the school's IT facilities as detailed in this newsletter. All the kids will hugely benefit from additional IT equipment and this is a great focus for fundraising in the new school year.

Thanks again for your unwavering support.

Mare Allen, Treasurer.



YOUR PTFA NEEDS YOU!

As you probably know, you're automatically a member of the PTFA when your child comes to school. Any help in the organisation and setting up of everything is really appreciated – and any new ideas you have are, of course, more than welcome! If you can spare any time to support our school and attend the odd meeting, please contact any committee member for further details, via the office.

What exactly do we do?

We hold social and fundraising activities throughout the year. The money raised is used for a whole host of extras for the benefit of the children and sometimes the local community. We also fund and run the school library which allows the children to borrow books on a fortnightly basis and other volunteers sort the fruit for the children's daily snack.

The PTFA is a registered charity.

The current PTFA committee members are:

Chair: Zoe Shaw

Treasurer: Marie Allen

Secretary: Joanne Dolezal (outgoing)

Looking ahead to Next Term

PTFA meeting	- Friday 28 th September 1.30pm tbc
PTFA AGM	- October
School Disco	- October
Coffee Afternoon	- November
Christmas Evening	- December

Specific Help Needed for Next Year

Class Reps

What's involved? Coordinating the monthly cake sale for your class. Organising social events for parents in your Class or Year group to get to know each other better. Act as a point of contact between parents and the PTFA.

Helping Hands

At any of the events we organise, often the hardest part is setting up and clearing away within the restricted times we have for access. Even if you can't stay for an event but can move tables and generally help out we would be very grateful. We always need help at the coffee afternoons which run from 2:30 – 4:00pm and even 30 mins of your time really helps.

Mary's Meals Backpack Project

A new venture for the PTFA, to provide backpacks filled with basic essentials to enable children in Malawi to attend school, where they will also receive a free meal. We hope to run this in the autumn term to replace the shoebox appeal and need someone to coordinate it. Please contact Zoë Shaw if you can help.

Disco Coordinator

Would you be able to coordinate a team that runs the termly discos? The role includes liaising with the DJ, ensuring refreshments and toys are purchased, recruiting helpers for the event and setting up and breaking down. Please contact Joanne Dolezal for more details.

PTFA Secretary

Volunteer needed. What's involved? Attending meetings, taking minutes, distributing to all email contacts, sending notices out on behalf of PTFA from time to time. Please contact Joanne Dolezal for more information.

If you would like to put yourself forward for any of these roles, please contact Zoë Shaw via the school office or in the playground.



LEAVERS LAST WORDS

“My favourite memory at Archibald was going to Hawkirst with all my friends. We did kanooing, absailing, night line and lots of other things.”

“I enjoy going to the Discovery Muesem in Year 3. Also I enjoyed learnt about Emgreyc Services in Recpiton.”

“I remember when I started school I made lots of friends that was my spetil day”

“My favourite memory from Archibald was dancing at the Sage with Miss Scott and everyone else. We danced to All that Jazz and performed in front of hundreds of people.”

“My best memory is joining this school and meeting all of my friends”

“Another one of my favourite moments was when we found out that we were performing “All that Jazz” at the Sage with Miss Scott”

“The most memorable moment in Archibald was when I met my two best friends and there still best friends now with me.”

“In Year 3 my favourite teacher was Mrs Jackson because she was very nice to everybody. We learnt about the Tudors and we also did a play about the Tudors. In the play I was King Henry V11”

“When I was Noah in the reception and we were doing a play and I was really scared about it”

“One of my favourite memories is when I was in Year 1 and we were trying to make sircuts and we spent ages trying to figure how to make it.”

“A memory that stood out was when we went to Hawkurst. It was really fun every day you did at least 6 activities. It was so tiring. My favoret activity was night line!”

“My faveroute memorie is when we celebrated when Archibald was a hundred years old and we had sports day.”

“We went to the sweet shop and we saw a man making delicious pinapple drops.”

“My favourite moment at Archibald First School is playing at euro 2012 mini tourtement because it was so good because it was fun. We got to the semi finals but we lost on penalties.”

“My favourite thing about is how we went to Hawkirst. I liked Hawkirst because it was the first time I went to school over three days. At Hawkirst we did loads of activities like absailing. Nearly all of my friends went there and we had a really good time.”

“My best memorie was when I came into nursery and bilding up until now I am in Year 4 and I am looking at nursery children now and it gives back memorys.”



“My favourite memory of Archibald First School was the Year 4 trip to Beamish. I also liked the school euro football tournament.”

“My favourite memory in school is when I started school in reception and I met lots of people and the teachers in the school.”

“My favourite memory of Archibald was when we went to Hawkirst Scout activity centre to do lots of great activities, like the crate staking and the water sports. My favourite water sport was the raft race.”

“I liked it when we went to Beamish and I like the Christmas party. I like it when we went to the farm in Year 3.”

“When I went to my first trip in Archibald to Centre of Life and used the plasterseen and went on the ride.”

Thank you for all your comments and we hope you all have a great summer holiday before starting your new schools.