

Chair's Report to the AGM of The Friends of St Monica's School

14 October 2020

We have come to the end of our third term in office and sadly the end of most of the current executive committee's time on the St Monica's PTA. This is because our constitution states that incumbents cannot remain in their post for longer than three years. All four 'executive' posts are up for election and nominations will be put forward to a vote later this evening.

This has been a year like no other for the Friends as we had to abandon plans for all our Summer term events while the country continues to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic. However, for the most part fundraising for the Autumn 2019 and Spring 2020 term (up until March) continued as normal thanks to the huge support we have received from so many committed parents, teachers and children at the school. In total for the period 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020, we managed to raise approximately £43,000 to record a profit of approximately £23,000. This is down from last year by £18,000. Nacho, our Treasurer, will provide further details of the finances in his report.

The key events of the year have been the Christmas Bazaar, Quiz Night, Winter Ball and the School Disco. These events continue to be very popular and even though they are the mainstay of our fundraising activities they also play an important role in providing opportunities for parents and children of all backgrounds to come together and have some fun. We could not run our Summer Fete, Full Golf event with Summer Dinner and Dance, Spring Disco or our June Happy School Bag collection due to Covid restrictions. In previous years all of these events combined would have contributed significantly to our finances. Without them this year we are down on our profit (and therefore funds available to give to the school) by approx £15,000-£20,000.

Looking back, the Quiz night in October 2019 was a sell out event making over £1,500 profit. This usually would have had a £750 allocation from our main sponsor to boost this amount to £2,250, however, this was mistakenly taken in a prior year. The format and food options worked well and parents/friends continue to enjoy this night out. We hope to resume this similar format in October 2021. We are currently considering an online quiz, where people pay to participate, after the success of our free online quiz back in May.

The Winter Ball had another successful run last December and made just over £2,000 profit. We are extremely grateful to Nicola Pitcher and Sarah McGarvey who started this event several years ago now. This event is well attended by parents and has been a lovely addition to this time of year. Unfortunately we are not able to run this event in 2020 due to Covid restrictions. This will also be Nicola Pitcher's last year at the school so we hope new parents

may take on the task of organising and running this event in the future. As always we are keen to find new volunteers to help run our full calendar of events.

The School Disco in November brought in £1,300 profit. While not hugely profitable we feel the main value is in providing an enjoyable event for the children. We could not hold our Spring disco back in April due to the school closure and won't be holding our November Disco either due to social distancing requirements. We hope to be able to hold our Spring Disco in April 2021.

The Film night back in February made close to £600 profit. We are grateful for Maire McGuire and Kelly Egan and their volunteers for running these nights and hope to offer another Film Night later in the Spring (assuming no social distancing requirements are in place).

The shared Comedy night on March 13th with Hazelwood School was the last event of our school year before lockdown. This event has gone from strength to strength and has become a sell out event not to mention very enjoyable. St. Monica's hosted the event this year and we made just over £800 profit.

For the second year running we also put on a second hand book sale timed with Book week. This again was very popular and it raised close to £650! Thanks to Susan Smith and her team for organising this.

We were also able to partake in the green token giving scheme at Asda this year. With our parents shopping at Asda and putting a green token in the box for the Friends we were able to raise £1,000 for the school. A big thanks goes to one of our parents, Fionnula Heggarty, for organising this.

As the school was closed during the summer term we were unable to hold most of our usual events. We had an online Quiz in May for families to participate on Zoom. This event was free to attend and was well received considering most parents had been in lockdown for a few weeks by then!

We are also grateful to Angela Meade for organising a Golf event in August for the school. Both Angela and Nicola ran the event on the day and raised approx £600 for the school. This was a much paired down event compared to usual years without any golf hole sponsors or a raffle and of course no dinner option but it was well received. Based on feedback we may consider splitting this event up from the Summer Dinner and Dance in future years....most of the golfers were just happy to enjoy a few drinks on the terrace and then head home!

We have continued to see success with our smaller fundraising initiatives which are simple to organise and require little or no financial outlay. Happy School Bags (the clothes recycling programme) and the ice cream stall are two good examples of simple ways of raising money without the huge effort needed by some of our larger events. This year Happy School Bags has raised close to £2,300. We could not hold our June date due to Covid but will be continuing back in November albeit at the reduced rate of 50p per kg compared to our usual rate of 65p per kg. Ice cream sales were also minimal (small amount in October 2019) due to the school closure in the Summer term.

Funding through other sources would help to increase our revenue. Matched Funding continues to be a challenge and we look to continue to do more to get parents on board with this initiative. Perhaps a sponsored challenge - something that works in these social distancing times! EasyFundraising.com is another effortless way to raise money and we have seen this continue to be popular making £716 over the year. The Friends will continue to promote EasyFundraising across the school; it's free money, it costs nothing and yet provides the school with valuable funds. We have also started to push smile.amazon.co.uk for our school as well. On many purchases Amazon Smile will donate 0.5% to registered charities. So far this has raised less than £50 for our school and, considering many people shop on Amazon, more work is required here to continue to promote this.

We did not look to renew with our main sponsors in Summer as we were not able to hold the events they sponsor in the usual manner. These include the Quiz, Full Golf event, Christmas Bazaar and Summer Fete. We will look to confirm sponsorship in the Summer term when hopefully many of our usual events will return. We hope PDF Estates Ltd can continue to work with us when the time comes.

So, what has the money raised been used for?

It wouldn't be any use raising all of these valuable funds if we didn't spend it on worthwhile projects. As you are all aware, St Monica's is one of the least funded schools in the borough. During the year under review, among other things, the Friends were able to pay for :

- A Lego robot kit
- Curriculum week
- Creative writing scheme
- DSR reading books
- Site licences such as Twinkl, Mymaths and Timestable rockstars
- Year 3 Wednesday word and crosses
- Forest School maintenance and tools
- 32 new ipads and cases plus engineer time
- 30 new Chrome books
- New smartboard for 4G
- 10 new laptops
- Storage for reception

We hope that you agree that we have been spending funds raised wisely. It's also worth noting that parents should more readily suggest things they would like the school to have after all The Friends is a Parent Teacher Association.

Looking forward

We are being more cautious with our funds seeing as we are restricted on the events we can hold at the school until at least our Spring term. This term we anticipate missing out on approx £20,000 or so of funds.

The Friends hope to continue to provide approximately £13,000 of annual costs. These include site licences, Year 5 swimming transport, Year 3 Holy Communion crosses, EMS - strings and guitar club for the Summer term, Forest school maintenance and lots more.

We have started to ask for donations in lieu of attending our usual events and have received over £1,000 so far. We are registering for Gift aid to allow us to boost these donations.

We continue to look for volunteers to run individual events and help spread the workload that comes with offering lots of different ways of fundraising for our school.

To Conclude

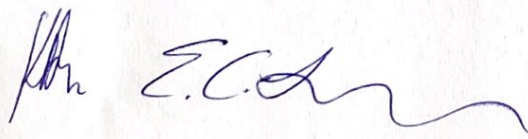

As mentioned earlier, the current executive committee of Nacho Nieto Garcia (Treasurer), Maire McGuire (Secretary), Elaine Heatley and myself (Chair's) and Susan Smith (Vice-Chair) all step down from our posts following this AGM. On behalf of us all, I would like to thank our fellow committee members and all those associated with the school for all of their hard work during the year and the support they have provided us. We would like to give a special mention to Mrs Baptiste who has always been hugely supportive of the Friends. She is keenly aware of the financial difficulties that are put on schools and it is because of this that she is extremely appreciative of the funds we raise and the work that goes into the fundraising activities. She attends many of the functions the Friends have put on and is rarely missing from a Friend's meeting, so a big thank you for the support you give.

Another special mention goes out to our caretaker, Tony. His willingness to open the school early so that we can set up for an event, to help us at the weekend, to stay late to lock up after meetings or do a final clean after an event, has been a tremendous support and we thank Tony sincerely for all that he does.

We think everyone would agree that you get a great sense of satisfaction and pride knowing that the effort we all put into our fundraising events, which now form such an important part of the fabric of the school, are appreciated greatly by the children and hopefully by you as parents. We feel that without The Friends, the school would be a much poorer place – both financially and socially.

We wish the new executive committee every success in their future roles!

Katie Donouzjian, Elaine Heatley (Co-Chairs)


 (Treasurer)

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EVENT COMPARISON

Event	2019-2020				2019-2020	2018-2019	2016-2017	2015-2016	2014-2015
	Income	Expenses	CY Profit	PY Profit	Total Profit	Total Profit	Total Profit	Total Profit	Total Profit
Prior Year	0	0	0		0	0	0		3,029
AGM	0	0	0		0	0	0	(17)	(61)
Quiz	1,886	(2,912)	(1,026)	709	(317)	2,138	2,170	1,858	1,171
Ladies Night	0	0	0		0	0	713	0	
Winter Disco	5,646	(620)	5,026		5,026	1,921	1,560	1,331	630
Christmas Bazaar	21,883	(4,208)	17,676		17,676	9,517	9,148	9,671	8,707
Talent Show	2,889	(1,563)	1,326		1,326	745	864	0	1,135
Spring Disco	0	(53)	(53)		(53)	416	1,504	1,138	1,364
Comedy Night	2,795	(2,504)	291		291	1,433	430	870	260
Golf Classic	1,020	(472)	548		548	4,816	9,997	4,554	3,568
Bags 2 School	2,304	0	2,304		2,304	3,508	2,705	2,670	1,430
Summer Fete	0	(94)	(94)		(94)	8,023	11,037	8,367	8,859
YR6 Production	0	0	0		0	315	430	312	427
Film licence	0	(72)	(72)		(72)	0	0		
Ice Lolly Stall	683	(50)	633		633	684	544	1,444	1,692
Winter Ball	0	0	0	7,975	7,975	3,259	2,119	3,775	0
YR6 Disco	0	0	0		0	0	(225)		(150)
Easyfundraising	815	0	815		815	967	451	202	601
Cashback	0	0	0		0	0	0		17
Virgin Giving	0	0	0		0	0	0		1,979
Misc	2,029	(156)	1,873		1,873	3,275	(938)	3,853	507
St Monicas	6,785	(56,213)	(49,429)		(49,429)	(29,506)	(24,000)	(49,000)	(26,000)
Total	48,735	(68,916)	(20,181)	8,684	37,931	41,016	42,508	40,028	35,163



Statement of Income and Expenditure for the period 1 October 2015 to 30 September 2020

	2019/2020		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£
Income			
Functions:			
Quiz night	1,886	0	1,886
Winter Disco	5,646		5,646
Christmas bazaar	21,883		21,883
Comedy Night	2,795		2,795
Talent Show	2,889		2,889
Spring Disco	0		0
Golf Classic	1,020		1,020
Summer fete	0		0
Year 6 Production	0		0
Winter Ball	0	0	0
Ladies Night	0		0
Year 3 BBQ	0		0
2016 Winter Ball			0
2016 Quiz			0
	36,119	0	36,119
Other income:			
Previous year related income	0		0
Bags2School	2,304		2,304
Easyfundraising & Cashback	815		815
Vigin Giving	0		0
Ice Creams	683		683
Other & Donations	2,029		2,029
	5,831	0	5,831
Total Income	41,950	0	41,950
Expenditure			
Functions and other:			
Quiz night	2,912	0	2,912
Winter Disco	620		620
Christmas bazaar	4,208		4,208
Comedy Night	2,504		2,504
Talent Show	1,563		1,563
Spring Disco	53		53
Golf Classic	472		472
Summer fete	94		94
Year 6 Production	0		0
Winter Ball	0	0	0
YR6 Disco	0		0
Ladies Night	0		0
YR 3 BBQ	72		72
Ice Creams	50		50
Other & Donations	156		156
	12,703	0	12,703
Profit	29,247	0	29,247
School requirements:			
B/F Donations Not Spent in Previous Year	(6,785)		(6,785)
Previous Year Expenditure			
Total Spend	56,213		56,213
Funds held by school for future expenditure			
	49,428	0	49,428
Other expenses:			
Previous year related expenditure			0
New parents evening			0
Annual General Meeting			0
PTA-UK	0		0
Lottery licence			0
	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	62,131	0	62,131
Surplus of Income over Expenditure	(20,181)	0	(20,181)
Balance brought forward	45,512	0	45,512
Balance carried forward	25,331	0	25,332
Represented by:			
Funds			
Bank - Current Account	25,330	0	25,330
	25,330	0	25,330

1.52

Denise Graeme
Treasurer

Summary Accounts for AGM

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the period 01 October 2019 to 30 September 2020

	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds*	Total Funds
Income from events / donations	41,950	0	41,950
Expenses for events	12,703	0	12,703
Profit	29,247	0	29,247
Funds brought forward from 1 Oct 2019			45,512
Funds held in the period			<u>74,759</u>
Donations to St Monica's school during the period 2019/20			49,429
Balance as per Bank Statement as at 30 September 2019			<u>25,331</u>

NUMBERS NOT CORRECT - JUST AN EXAMPLE

FOSM -Actual & Forecast Cashflows

Wednesday 18th October 2017

Bank Balance as at 15th March 2017	£ 16,782
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Cashflows

Golf Classic	9,997
Bags to School	1,826
Summer Fete	11,995
YR6 Production	430
Winter Ball 2017	7,865
Quiz 2017	709
Misc Costs - FOSM Flyer, Cake Sale (G Cosh), Lottery Licence	(535)
FOSM Donation	(15,000)

Total Cashflows	17,287
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Bank Balance as at 18th October 2017	31,659
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Forecast Cashflows

Current Bank Balance	31,659
Ladies Night Float & Expenses	(500)
Winter Disco Float & Expenses	(1,400)
Christmas Bazaar Float	(3,500)
 Cash to retain for future events	 (259)

Revised Cash Balance	26,000
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Proposed Donation to St Monica's	TBD
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Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Friends of St Monica's School

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Friends of St Monica's School for the year ended 30 September 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of The Friends of St Monica's School you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of The Friends of St Monica's School accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement I have completed my examination.

I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of The Friends of St Monica's School as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name:

MURRAY ROGERS

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): ACA

Address: 31 FELMLEIGH ROAD, LONDON N21 3AN

Date: 29/7/2022