

Friends of St. Olcan's Primary School

Chairpersons Report 2023/2024

Overview

At the end of my first year as PTA Chair, I look back with an overall sense of satisfaction and pride for what we have achieved as a school community. It has been an eventful but enjoyable year. As Chairperson, I have sought to be inclusive to all who serve on the committee and to parents who support the vital work we do to support the principal and staff at St. Olcan's Primary School.

The role of Chairperson is a busy, yet valuable one, I am hugely thankful for Kelly (Secretary) and Moira (Treasurer) for the valuable work they have done throughout the last year. I am grateful to all member of the PTA for their efforts this year also. You have given up your time to support our efforts in enhancing the school for the pupils. This is very much appreciated.

A word of thanks to Mrs Kennedy and the staff at St. Olcan's Primary School for their help and support in our fundraising efforts. The staff go above and beyond, the pupils greatly benefit from all our efforts. Special word of thanks to all the families and friends of the school. They have always supported our events and see the real benefit of PTA work alongside the school. I firmly believe that the whole community sees the work that is done here in this school setting. Their continued financial assistance allows the PTA to further support the schools ever challenging budget and give the pupils the best opportunities in Primary School.

Since this committee took on its tenure from the previous office bearers there has been huge efforts in our fundraising post covid. I want to thank the previous committee for their seamless handover last the AGM last year. The work carried out by the committee this year is a testament to their commitment in supporting our children to learn in the best environment possible. The success of fundraising events post covid can be built upon to enhance the work the school does.

Since last years AGM, our PTA have raised £3396.48. This is a fantastic effort and coming from several events throughout the school year. These events have included:

Christmas Bingo:	£2541.50
Christmas Colouring Competition:	£54.00
School Leaver Hoodies:	£144.50
Alpha graphic Cards:	£121.28
Spring Cake Sale:	£387.20
Bonus Ball Fundraiser:	£148.00

Concluding Remarks:

As my tenure as Chairperson comes to an end, I take great pride that as a committee we have increased volunteer participation. This in turn has increased the profile of the PTA. There are many other things I wished we had done this year. Ideas like cleaning the external parts of the school building, have an indoor Christmas market in the parish hall, come dine with me, coffee mornings in the GAA club or parish hall, the return of Christmas bingo, end of school year disco for all the children.

Perhaps these are ideas for the incoming committee can look at in the months/years to come. We have seen positive turnout for our AGM and throughout the year out committee meetings have been well attended. These are the best forums to continue the efforts of this PTA.

As a group we should continue strive to improve events we offer to the pupil and the local community. What we do adds significant value to the community both in school and at home. As a group of volunteers, there is always jobs to be done, if you are a friend or parent with a connection to the school, you are welcome to help the work we do. You don't always need to be part of a committee, there is no minimum or maximum time that can be offered, all support is gratefully received.

Thank you for all your support in 2023/24.



Gerard McIlroy

Chairperson

Friends of St. Olcans Primary School