

WESTVIEW TERRACE
Sion Mills
Co Tyrone
BT82 9HP

Annual Trustees Report

Financial Year: 1/09/24 – 31/08/25

The purpose of the Sion Mills Primary School, Parent, Teacher and Friend Association is the advancement of Education for the benefit of the pupils, parents and the local community connected with Sion Mills Primary School.

Events & Fundraising

During the period indicated above there were a number of events run by the PTFA which were open to the public and advertised through school social media channels. These included The Halloween costume swap shop and disco in October 2024 (Raising £1,155), The Easter Raffle (Raising £215) and the Sweetie Jar Challenge (Raised £215). The Benefits that flowed from these events were direct to the pupils as money raised was used to fund equipment and resources for their use (which will be further outlined below), but there was also the indirect benefit to parents and the local community who attended these events and benefited from the social aspect enhancing their own personal well-being through social interaction and forging better parent/teacher relationships which benefits communication and school experiences. Pupils were able to attend the Halloween Disco and this acted as a social event for them as well. The Costume Swap shop aimed to support parents financially as they did not have to purchase new ones if they wished. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen inclement weather, the summer fair was postponed and then cancelled for this year. However, Bingo took place for the first time and raised £580 which provided funds for student rewards throughout the year but also allowed parents and local community members to come along to the school and engage with staff and each other. This was of social benefit to local people in line with our Charities aims and purposes.

Further fund raising included the Tuck Shop which was offered once a month as a treat to students in school (Raising £1,445). Also the school benefited from the ASDA school's cash pot of £481.78.

Service Provision & Benefits

An identifiable, positive, direct educational benefit to pupils from PTFA fundraising efforts was the continued payment of a Twinkle Subscription (£600.58) for staff in Sion Mills Primary school. This provided a direct educational benefit to students in the school as it enabled staff to develop high quality teaching and learning resources for use in the classroom. This also had a direct positive benefit to teaching staff, reducing their time spent on resource development which could be spent in more productive ways with pupils, fulfilling our goal to advance quality education.

The Santa's Grotto at Christmas was another free activity for pupils and parents to attend. Providing a free alternative to many expensive Christmas outings, with all children receiving a free selection box. While at Easter every pupil received an Easter treat and movie day. Therefore having a direct positive financial benefit to local parents and the local community.

The PTFA provided funding for Sion Mills Primary to purchase full class sets of new Phonics reading books for KS1 (£1,280). This has the direct benefit of enhancing the educational outcomes of our students and will be used for years to come. They also provided funding for a new water tray, 2 gazebos to enable outdoor school events in foul weather and a PA system for use at school events such as sports day.

The PTFA donated funds to purchase additional seating for the nemo nook and sensory play space. This has the direct positive benefit to students of experiencing appropriate stimulation and play and enhancing their educational experience, which is in line with our charitable purpose. It also has the indirect benefit to parents of providing their children with coping mechanisms for their various needs, reducing frustration and leading to improved mood and interaction in home settings.

In line with our charitable purpose to promote education, the PTFA have funded several initiatives to reward achievement and promote a love of learning throughout the year, these have included: prizes for Accelerated reading and Mathematics, Ice-cream van visits, a christmas movie morning and a bouncy castle fun day.

To promote healthy lifestyles and the physical wellbeing of pupils, the PTFA have purchased fruit for pupils break every Wednesday as part of the healthy eating campaign. This has a direct benefit to pupil health but also enables them to try new foods and fruits which their parents may not be able to provide or afford. Thus there is an indirect benefit financially to parents.

Risk of harm and private benefit

There is no harm flowing from any of the purposes or activities which the PTFA have undertaken. The beneficiaries are the pupils who attend the school as their education is enhanced by the purchasing of resources that help their education. Parents also benefit as they are given the opportunity to get involved in their children's school and social aspects of wider community events.

There was no private benefit perceived through our activities this year as we had no external educational service providers.

In addition to advertising activities and events on Facebook throughout the year, many are also signposted on the website for additional information and through the Seesaw app for parents and carers.

At all times the trustees have had regard to the NI Charity Commissions Public benefit requirement statutory guidance to ensure that the activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the PTFA's objectives and provided public benefit.

In regard to the financial position of the Sion Mills PTFA, the charity began the financial year with a balance carried over of **£7,236.20**. During the period (01/09/2024-31/08/25) the organisation's income totalled **£6,168.40** and had expenditures totaling **£9,362.51** resulting in a balance of **£4,042.09** at the close of the financial year. At no time has the organisation been in deficit during this period. Further details of the Sion Mills PTFA finances are available in the end-of-year receipts and payments report.

This report has been prepared by the trustees of the charity: Leanne Speak, Sara Stewart, Kristel Cunningham, Catherine Harkin, Lindy Millar & Ruth Brolly.