

**St Josephs Primary School PTA** Charity number 108594

**Trustee's Annual Report and Financial Statements**

**1 September 2023 - 31 August 2024**



St Joseph's PTA is a charity registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, CCNI (Charity number 108594 ). The organisation is governed by constitution and produces annual Receipts and Payments accounts. It is now three years since the PTA became a charity registered with the Charity Commission for NI on 17 January 2022. This is our second annual return.

The school year 2023/2024 was very successful for the PTA, in all aspects of social, educational and financial terms. There was also a welcome influx of growth into the PTA committee with parents who are new to the school.

The PTA committee are a group of parents and teachers who volunteer to raise funds that can be used to support and enhance the education and school experiences of the children attending the school. We are committed to raising as much money as possible through a range of events and activities for the school community. The PTA also aims to be a forum to enable the sharing of views on extra curricular matters between parents and teaching staff.

At the end of this year we said goodbye to several long-serving members of the committee. Our Deputy chair, Mike, former secretary Zita, DJ and IT specialist Rich, hardworking committee members Elizabeth, Aga and Suzanne also stepped down and we thank them for all they have done for the school. They have given so many years of service, kept the PTA running through COVID and we wish those who have p7 children all the best for their children in their new big schools!

The continued success of the PTA is due to the dedication and planning of the parents and teachers on the PTA committee, and especially the wider group of parents, teachers, and caretaking staff who assist and volunteer their time throughout the year to ensure the safety and success of all PTA events. The PTA would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved for their efforts.

In this school year, the PTA were delighted to be able to transfer **£18,000** in total to Mr Donaldson, school principal, and full details of funds raised and how the PTA spent its funds are found in the treasurer's report.

We were also happy to commission a new logo from our committee digital marketing whizz Tierna, who also designed posters for our events throughout the year, and applied for new grants and funding opportunities for the school. We ordered new donation boxes to be used for every event and have our qr code for donations printed on them. We also invested in new storage for PTA equipment.

The annual fundraising events are spread out throughout the school year:

We ran our welcome drinks event to welcome new parents for Primary 1 parents in September. This is a lovely way to introduce the new parents to the school community and also resulted in some signups to the PTA committee and to volunteer lists.

October saw our Halloween Disco, this fancy dress disco has a low entrance charge where the kids are supervised by volunteers and teachers and provided with snacks and drinks.. This year the p1-3 children had their disco in school and this worked well, the older children danced their socks off!

Christmas saw several big events in the PTA fundraising calendar. Our Christmas craft fair, led by Grainne, was well supported, and even though we had a massive panic when Santa pulled out on the morning, a grandfather saved us by offering his last minute services and Santa's visit was very popular with small kids. The Christmas Raffle is one of the biggest events of the year, and we had many generous donations from both parents and local businesses. The draw was drawn in school. We decided not to run commemorative Christmas items for all the school as these had proved quite time intensive previously, but we did organise class teatowels for the Primary one pupils, each with a self portrait of each child and teacher. These were very popular christmas presents for family and especially grandparents and thanks to Lorna who organised these.

2024 started with the PTA quiz which took place in Shandon Park Golf Club and was a great night for parents to get together and win prizes and buy raffle tickets - raising funds with banter on the night and a draw.

We ran a Car wash, mostly run by the Primary 7 pupils, in April for the first time. It was a challenge in logistics but Tierna and Jonny did a brilliant job on the day, coordinating everyone. Tierna managed to get so much sponsorship and support from businesses related to the school for water supply and for signage, and for supplies for the day such as sponges and buckets and cloths. The children had a brilliant time and there was great support from the local community.

In May we had lots of focus on the Marathon. The children did a Marathon relay in school and were sponsored by family at home which raised £3000 in addition to the money raised by the PTA throughout the year. In addition, the PTA sponsored a team of parents and a team of teachers for the Marathon relay, and money was raised by sponsorship by the school community.

Also in May, the PTA hosted the First Communion Tea - The school community donated baked items and volunteers provided a lovely event of tea and buns in the church hall for the First Communicants and their families. This is always very appreciated by all the families. Zita and Karen coordinated and cajoled baked goods which were very appreciated.

The biggest event in our calendar is our Community fun day in June. It involves the whole community with stalls, inflatables, BBQ, live music and outdoor games. Parents and the school community came together to volunteer to run stalls, and to support in their droves. We used pre-paid tickets again as well as bundles of tickets for sale on the day. Using tickets really helped streamline the entry to the event, and helped raised more money, as the tickets were mostly bought in advance. This year we branched out to new stalls such as candy floss stall, inflatable sumo wrestling and a Teddy tombola, all of which were a great success.

At the end of term we had our Summer disco. The junior school had their disco during the school day and the p3-7pupils had a great time .

An appeal went out to parents before the end of term for Uniform Recycling, the PTA take donations of good used uniforms- and in August PTA had a day where parents can come and make a donation and take away school uniforms for the next year - especially helpful for those fast growing kids and good for the cost of living crisis.

Chairperson - Claire Kennedy

Deputy Chairperson - Michael McMahon