

West Monkton School
Parent Teacher Association
Registered Charity No.277944

Annual General Meeting Minutes

27th September 2024

West Monkton School 7.30

Attendees: Michelle, Hayley, Kelly, Lisa S, Claire U, Lisa L, Claire M, Jess & Tracy

1. **Apologies:** Natalie, Jenna, Helen and Amy
2. **Headteacher requests for this upcoming academic year:**
 - Priority is helping fund school trips/coaches as these are proving very expensive.
 - Oxford reading books need replacing as a lot are missing or damaged. Estimated cost would be £2000.
 - More bins are needed for the playgrounds to encourage the children to recycle their rubbish.
 - Learning environment money to furnish rooms such as the flamingo room to make them more accommodating and comfortable for the children.
3. **Chairs report for 2023/2024** – document attached
4. **Treasurer's Report** – Academic year 2023/2024
 - Opening balance September '23 - £19,380.15
 - Income - £19,033.19
 - Expenditure - £24,507.34
 - Closing balance - £13,906.00
5. **Elections**
 - Tracy Bird to stay as Chairman
 - Kelly Dunn to stay as Treasurer
 - Jessica Cox to stay as Secretary
6. **Any other business** –
 - KS1 shed needs to be chosen and bought
 - Contact Men in Sheds to get a final figure on what we owe them
 - Christmas wish list per class
 - Update our Constitution
 - Add Jess to the charity commission
 - Clare U to start advertising for new treasure at the beginning of next year to allow Kelly to stand down at the end of the next Academic year,

Next meeting – 11th October 2024 at The New Mill Pub at 7.30

Chairs report – summary:

Over the past year, we've seen consistent growth in our existing popular events, such as the Christmas and Summer Fetes, and Easter bingo which continue to bring our community together. In addition, we introduced some exciting new activities, including Christmas wreath-making workshops, which were warmly received.

We've also been incredibly resourceful in securing various grants to support our fundraising efforts, helping us achieve even more for the school. One of the most exciting developments has been the progress on our main focus project: the installation of classroom shade, which has now been completed, after years of talking about it. This is just the beginning, and I'm excited to see what more we can achieve together in the coming months.

This year's fundraising efforts have been truly remarkable. Our two major events, the Summer and Christmas Fetes, were standout highlights, raising approximately £4,000. We were also fortunate to receive around £2,000 through various grants and match funding, which significantly boosted our efforts.

Community-focused activities, such as Challenge 2024, quiz nights, bingo, and Christmas wreath-making workshops, brought in an additional £2,500. The children themselves played an important role too, with their weekly visits to the tuck shop and participation in the Christmas, Easter, and Summer discos, raising approximately £3,400.

In total, we were able to generate just shy of £12,000 in profit for our cause.

We contributed approximately £1,900 to support school trips, we also organized the Year 6 leavers' BBQ with the help of a generous parent and provided Christmas crackers for the festive school lunch.

Furthermore, we allocated around £2,000 to replace classroom chairs, ensuring our children have comfortable and updated seating. These contributions have made a meaningful impact, and we're excited to continue supporting the school in the year ahead.

One of our ongoing challenges is ensuring our events remain fresh and engaging for both the community and the children. To address this, we are exploring new ideas, such as changing our annual Challenge 2024 to a vibrant and exciting colour run. This will help maintain high levels of participation and enthusiasm. The quiz nights have been slow sellers, so I am keen to hear your ideas on revamping them or taking a break from them this year.

We've also been actively listening to feedback from attendees of events like the Summer and Christmas Fetes. We aim to implement as many of these suggestions as possible to improve the experience for everyone.

Additionally, we recognize the potential for further growth through grants and match funding. We're eager to explore more of these opportunities, so if anyone is aware of schemes we could apply for, we would love to hear your suggestions.

Looking ahead, we already have several exciting events lined up for the upcoming year. These include our much-loved Christmas Fete, the wreath-making workshops, the Christmas Disco, and, of course, the Summer Fete.

Our primary goal remains the same: to continue fundraising for additional shade for the classrooms facing the field, which requires significant effort. We also aim to address any further needs the school may have, such as replacing chairs and supporting school trips.

For a full list of other planned events and activities, please refer to the copies of the agenda that have been provided. We're looking forward to another fantastic year of community involvement and school support!

We are also eager to welcome any volunteers who can assist us in running stands at our larger events. Having more support allows us to host additional activities, ultimately leading to more fun and greater funds raised for our school. Your involvement makes a significant difference, and we would love to have you join our team.