

Minutes of The Friends of Myrtle Park Primary School Meeting (via Zoom) on 3rd November 2020

Present:

Danielle Black (Chair), Hayley Moorhouse (Treasurer), Sian Giddy (Secretary), Rebecca Whitford, Becci Simpson, Caroline Harley.

Apologies:

Libby Glennon, Lorna Ratcliffe, Jeanne Hudson, Sarah Crowther, Katie Hill

Meeting notes:

Finances

Sarah- money required for books (£1000) and musical instruments (£200)

We discussed releasing money for books as a priority- Danielle will check with Sarah. At least £1000 is usually kept in the Friends pot as a contingency, and the amount may drop below this if we spend the full £1200 now. The consensus was that we were happy with this given the importance of purchasing books at this time.

Life caravan payment is still due- approx. £900

Need to confirm profit made on the Halloween trail- we took £1200 but the outgoings are TBC.

Christmas cards orders- £1270 total made (we'll get a percentage of that back as profit).

Non uniform day made £162.60

Happy bags

Happy bags still going ahead this Thursday afternoon and Friday morning- Facebook and text reminders to go out.

Christmas fundraising

We now need to err on the side of caution in terms of fundraising, due to the new Covid restrictions

Christmas Elves

The company have said they can still go ahead even in a lockdown. The elves would follow distancing/bubble rules, all activities will happen outside, the presents would be quarantined beforehand, and the elves would wear gloves to drop the gifts off.

We can't make the decision, so we need to take it to Anna, Sarah and the school governors.

It will take a lot of work to organise this, and it would be a great disappointment if it couldn't go ahead.

One suggestion was if possible, the elves could do the weekend after the original planned date instead, to give us more flexibility in terms of planning and purchasing the gifts.

Becci suggested that if the elf visits can't go ahead, we could offer the alternative of a Zoom meeting with the elves.

There is a free virtual session available for meeting Santa via Skype but it isn't interactive- we could set up something much more personalised and appealing.

Suggested ticket/booking prices for the elf visits, £8 plus £5 for additional goody bags.

For the virtual alternative, we concluded that if the Zoom meeting is unique and personalised to the child, we could charge the same, or have an optional goody bag- so people can choose whether to receive a gift.

Christmas shop

Hayley is converting the Facebook page that was previously set up as the school uniform sale page to a Christmas shop page.

We will be selling Santa letters, Reindeer Food, Santa's bells, existing secret Santa shop stock, and any other ideas are welcome. We will put a shout out to parents and carers to ask if anyone can donate or help make items for the shop.

We need to confirm how the stock will be collected- nothing can take place on school premises, so it's likely to be collected from people's houses (i.e. people who are making/selling the items). We could also offer to deliver items to people.

It was agreed that we should offer local businesses the chance to post adverts on our Facebook page for no fee (e.g. Martinez, The Loft, etc). These businesses have supported the school in the past and it was felt at this difficult time we can support them. Rachel had some information about the businesses that have previously supported us in the raffle and Christmas Fair.

We can start mentioning Christmas from WC 9th November (after pumpkin voting and Happy bags has taken place).

AOB:

Canva- Friends have free membership to Canva (<https://www.canva.com/>, for producing flyers, posters etc) as we are a not for profit organisation. Contact Danielle for the login details.

We have had a letter of thanks from the governors, thanking Friends for the continued fundraising efforts at this difficult time.

Date for the next meeting: TBC