

Friends of Fir Bank

2014-2015

The group has had a steady year. In terms of funds raised and money spend the situation has remained similar to previous years.

The meetings are attended by five to six regular members. Mrs McKay and all the staff are very supportive of the PTA. They are giving up their time to staff events and Mrs Bunting and Mrs Millar help the group with administrative tasks.

Highlights

Looking back, the highlights of the last year in terms of fundraising were the Christmas Market and the Summer Ball. Both events raised over five hundred Pound and were well attended.

The Christmas Market is very popular with the children because Santa is visiting. Each class has a table at the market where items handmade by the children are sold or activities are arranged to keep the children busy while waiting for Santa. The private stalls don't seem to be selling a lot of items and the consequent take up at the summer Ball was very low.

The children enjoyed the themed Summer Ball and the Oscar nominations. The tombola is the biggest fundraiser. There were also many good raffle prizes which raised a considerable amount of money. We were blessed with good weather which meant the children could enjoy the Bouncy castle. It was suggested to advertise the event more to ensure more people attend.

In May we tried Bags for School as new fundraising event. The scheme was received very well and many families kindly donated bags of clothes and shoes etc. We will repeat this fundraiser.

Lowlights

It had been our intention to vary the type of events we offer to foster a greater sense of community and social life in the school. With this in mind we organized a bingo night in April. The interest in taking part in such event was very low and not many tickets had been sold which led to the cancellation of the event.

Attendance at meetings remains at the same level and we are struggling to keep people interested if they do attend. One reason may be that the group profile is kept fairly low and more work needs to be done in terms of advertising and communication.

Spending & banking

Contribution to Visits/Visitors	1400.00
Xmas Gifts	252.53
Sports leader kit	150.52

Banking with the HSBC in Oldham has been slightly difficult as they keep on reducing face to face services. The cash desk is not open on Saturdays. It is felt that it is fairly out of the way. It has been decided to move the account to NatWest Bank in Royton.

Communication

In order to improve the interaction with parents and carers we plan to set up a facebook page and improve the content on FOFB page of the school web site.

Janett Morton
Chair – September 2015