

Chesterton Community College PTA Minutes

Meeting Date: Wednesday 15th May 2019

Venue: Library

Time: 7:30pm

In Attendance

Teachers/Staff/Guests	Donna Hubbard-Young, Carl Humphries, Amanda Gibson
Parents	Eve Toomey (Chair), Tracy Beales (Secretary), Stuart Aitken (Treasurer), Judith Harrison, Rimma Belotserkovskaya, Nick Beech, Joe Studwell
Apologies	Denise Oyamada, Simone Castello, Kath Hutchinson

1. Carl Humphries – Presentation: Climbing Wall

- Mr Humphries shared some footage of students using the new climbing wall which was installed in September 2018 in the school's gym.
- This is a low-maintenance piece of equipment requiring annual safety checks.
- 6 members of staff have been trained to-date: 3 teachers from the PE department and 3 from the Sports Centre.
- The climbing wall is currently being used in the Key Stage 4 curriculum with the aim to extend to other year groups in due course.
- There is to be a Key Stage 3 after-school club introduced in September 2019 which will be starting as a beginner's class with a view to moving to an advanced class. Classes will be in 6-week blocks.
- The climbing wall is being used during Enrichment Week on all 3 days.
- The Sports Centre is running courses too and has reported that the children's group is currently over-subscribed. The uptake for the adult classes has been slow and they are reviewing other ways of delivering the adult course (e.g. weekend classes).
- To avoid repetition, the climbing wall can be re-routed to make other trails and has the option to be extended, although additional funding to purchase the extra equipment would be required.

2. Treasurer's Report – Stuart Aitken

Stuart Aitken provided the following breakdown of the PTA accounts:

- The PTA account currently has £9,350 of funding available which takes into account all requests that have been committed to already.
- The second-hand uniform stall remains consistent and has made a surplus of £535.
- The quiz night held on March 15th 2019 raised just under £700 which is amazing. A big thank you to all those involved.

- Easyfundraising now has 100 supporters. The PTA will continue to promote the app during forthcoming parents' evenings and Heads of House are to promote to the students. A quick link to join Easyfundraising will be sent out to parents/carers via Parentmail.

Eve Toomey to provide quick link which will be sent out to join Easyfundraising

3. Funding Requests – Eve Toomey

- Donna Hubbard-Young and Lucy Scott requested funding for an outdoor PA system. The cost for the amplifier and speakers equates to £262.
The total cost of £262 for the PA system was approved.
- Amanda Gibson requested funding to attend a 4-day Mindfulness training course which would enable her to deliver in-house support to both staff and students. Following her training, Miss Gibson would work with the PSHE team and also students via lunchtime and period 7 sessions and with targeted students on a one-to-one basis to help raise their awareness. Mindfulness has varying benefits and, to name a few, claims to help improve concentration, build resilience, increase awareness of surroundings, help ease anxiety/stress and be good for memory too.
- Applications for the course must be received before 28th May to receive a 30% discount, bringing the cost of the course down to £625.
- For the next academic year, Miss Gibson will investigate costs for her to attend a Professional Award in Training the Trainer course so she can start delivering mindfulness training to other staff.
The total cost of £625 was approved for 4 days of Mindfulness training.

4. Future/Key Events – Eve Toomey

- Friday 28th June – End of Year 80s and 90s disco. Ticket price £10 to include welcome drink on arrival. The disco will be held in the marquee which is being used for the Year 11 prom evening on Thursday 27th June at no cost to the PTA. A food truck, DJ and bar will be available throughout the evening (the alcohol licence has already been applied for). Judith Harrison is coordinating the event and is to notify local residents of the timings. All monies raised shall go towards the purchase of a projector which will be used for an outdoor cinema from the Apex to the rendered wall on the new auditorium.
- Summer Fair is to be held on the last day of term, Tuesday 23rd July. Games, cakes, non-uniform day, all profits made will go to the school.
- Parents Evenings – refreshments continue to be provided by the PTA.

5. Next meeting

- The next PTA meeting will be held on Monday 1st July @ 19:30 in the library. This will be the last meeting for this academic year.