

Helping Hands of Rosa Street

AGM Report 17.9.18

The academic year of 2017/18 was a great year for Helping Hands, thank you to each and every one of you who lent a hand over the year with discos, present wrapping, cake baking, making tea and coffee, manning stalls, reading with the children and generally being awesome. I know the school really appreciate all that we are able to do in school.

We were incredibly sad to lose our dear friend Maureen Stirling earlier this year. She used to do a phenomenal amount for Helping Hands and the school generally and has been very much missed by us all.

The committee

These are the positions currently held by people on the committee:

Chair – Kate Tarling

Treasurer – Lynda Kelley

Secretary – Joanne Wakes

These are some of the activities that we have been involved with in school over the last academic year:

Fundraising events

Discos: Last academic year, we organised and supported the Halloween, Valentines and Summer term discos in school.

Shows: We sold sweets at the Christmas performances and then at the end of year performances in school. We even branched out to ice cream this year!

School Calendar: We produced these ourselves and sold them at Christmas time.

Sports Day refreshments: We sold cakes and drinks to raise funds.

School Fair: We sold sweets, toys, second hand uniform and indoor refreshments at the school fair for Helping Hands funds and also supported the school in labelling up tombola prizes, pricing up toys, organising year 6 games, gathering raffle prizes and putting together the wine and water stall.

Bags to school: We organised a collection of second hand clothes for weighing in.

Revisit Rosa: Although this was not explicitly a fundraiser, we did raise a good amount from the raffle. This was a hugely successful event that drew in a lot of people from the wider community who appreciated the chance to look around the school and enjoy old photos.

School events we have supported or organised:

We organised a beautiful gift stall at Christmas that allowed children to bring £1 and buy a gift for a parent or carer. It was appreciated by children and adults alike.

Parent open afternoons and parent assemblies

Lost property sorting

Year 6 Leavers disco at the end of the academic year that we paid for and organised. We bought them a t-shirt each this year with all of their names on the back which proved popular.

We also thank the staff in school by buying each a mini bottle of wine.

Volunteering and Information sharing

We have been using the whiteboard in the playground over the past year as well as the facebook page and the school app to get information out to parents and carers.

We would love to encourage more parents to come into school and volunteer their time to help the children. This is still a bit of a challenge with a small group of parents.

Opportunities include:

- Helping at breakfast club one morning a week
- Listening to children read in school
- Helping with classroom displays
- Helping with cutting and preparations for Christmas craft and Easter craft events
- Encouraging conversation with small groups of children by sharing about your own job or skills.

It would be great to build on these again this year.

Future projects

We are always open to new ideas for fundraising and building support so please do bring your ideas to meetings! As chair, it is lovely to work with other parents in supporting the school but it is often frustrating to see how much more could be done with more help. It continues to be a goal of mine to make our group more well-known and to encourage others to join us.