

Our Lady & St Joseph Primary School (OLSJ) Parents' Association (PA)
Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Wednesday, July 12th, 2023

Chair's Report

Welcome everyone and thank you for attending our first AGM.

As well as the official business, an AGM is a chance for us to review and celebrate the involvement the Parents' Association has had in the life of the school during, in this case, the period of September 2021 – June 2023. The objectives of our school PA are to enhance our school and its community by rallying the enthusiasm, energy and talents of us parents and carers to talk together, organise together and create together ideas, events and funds for our school's benefit. As parents, carers, grandparents, and friends of the children at the school, we are all automatically members of the PA and anyone and everyone is welcome to volunteer to help the PA at any time with whatever time they have and on any project.

The AGM is the PA's only formal meeting of the year, including the Chair's report, the Treasurer's annual financial report and committee elections. There is a full treasurer's report to accompany this report.

Before we get started with all the formalities, I'd like to take few moments to say thank you:

Firstly, thank you to the members of the committee (who have managed to pull together and hold together despite all the commitments they all have). It has been hard but we have done the best we can and I am proud to work alongside all of you. Further to the committee, we would like to thank all the teachers and staff, who have also assisted the PA at our times of acutest need as this too has been on top on their exhausting day-to-day commitments. Their support and enthusiasm and energy have been very much needed and very much appreciated. Thank you to Ms O'Grady, who is finally our new Head (although she's been doing the job since 2021) and thank you to her senior leadership team; we are extremely grateful for her continued support and enthusiasm for our ideas and projects. It goes without saying, that without all the helpers, who generously give time and bake, and run stalls and lend equipment, sponsor, donate and contribute, there would be no PA events or activities. We have also received many generous donations from local businesses, whom we've thanked individually, privately, but I'd like to thank publicly now. It's really gratifying and cheering to experience the goodwill of the wider community towards our school so I'm very happy to return that goodwill. Lastly, we are pleased to have been able to continue to support the Year 6 leavers - their Y6 play, their PGL excursion, their parting gifts and yearbook, all historic commitments we're proud to maintain. I hope this year that the PA will continue to deepen its role within the school and its community, gaining support and building upon what we've achieved.

Fundraising Summary:

We started off the 2021/22 academic year fundraising with the Fall Shopping Trail in the De Beauvoir neighbourhood and ended the 2022/23 academic year with the Summer Fair last Thursday, 6 July. In between were other De Beauvoir Shopping Trails, a Christmas Market, a couple of discos, a sing-along movie night, a quiz, and a fun run. Overall, from September 2021 to May 2023, we have raised over £25,000. We have disbursed funds for musical instruments, art tables, science and history teaching kit and excursions. We have maintained regular payments for extending and enhancing the school libraries and we've recently embarked on a series of regular payments to enhance the

school's design technology provision. We will shortly be giving the school almost £14,000, raised through our participation in the fun run, towards the school's new playground equipment. All these sums and disbursements are far above what the PA has ever managed before and, on the back of all this and with, we hope, our new charity status, we're hoping we can continue to increase our turnover even further in the coming year.

We have an elected committee to manage the PA. All the current members are standing down automatically and elections will take place shortly for the committee of the 2023/2024 academic year.

Our current committee members are:

Chair	Fiona Abrams
Secretary	Ana Cristiano James Melissa Gomez Marta Kloda
Treasurer	Fiona Abrams Luisa Strand
Inventory	Maria Grazia Savito Silvia Sazini Marta Kloda
School Communication	Kim Finer Fiona Abrams

Welcome and good luck to the new committee members and here's to another exciting and fun year for everyone involved with OLSJ.

Happy Summer everyone!

Best wishes,
Fiona Abrams
Current Chair