



COLLABORATE . ENRICH . SUPPORT

10th February 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Teachers,

We write to update you on some important changes to Oaklands Schools PTA and ask for your continued support in 2021.

In January 2020, your small PTA committee of three began our 2-year term. We had high hopes and big plans to continue all the much-loved events in the PTA calendar, plus add some new ones too. We had a jam-packed events calendar with something pencilled in for almost every month of the year. Events that would bring our school community together through shared experiences, with the added benefit of raising much needed funds for both schools.

Our first few months saw a successful school disco, a sell-out quiz night and the auditions for Oaklands Got Talent showcasing our brave and talented Oaklands children. Unfortunately, like so many things last year the pandemic put paid to the rest of the year's event plans. Despite this, the PTA still managed to run some fundraising activities from Oaklands Personal Challenge, a virtual book fair, uniform sales, doorstep photography, to a Christmas raffle and the children's fabulous Christmas cards.

After reflecting on our past 12 months, we now look to the future optimistically. We see those glimmers of hope for the future, when we will be able to restart events that give our children and the whole school community an opportunity to share in experiences together, without the need for screens and video calls! To achieve this, we will need the continued support of the school community.

It is with heavy hearts that we announce that Kathryn Pierce will be stepping down as PTA Chair due to a change in personal circumstances. Kathryn has been the driving force behind the PTA in the past year; her passion, enthusiasm and commitment will be sorely missed, and our grateful and heartfelt thanks go out to her.

Our optimistic plans will not be possible without support from the school community. As a committee of just two, what we can achieve is limited. To plan and organise events that will bring our children joy, laughter and fun with their friends in a time when it has never been more desired, **we need your help!**

There's never been a better, or a more important time to join – you can help us shape our school community as we move out of this pandemic. We've all recognised the importance of coming together and supporting each other. As Secretary and Treasurer, we plan to remain in post until the end of our term and will welcome new members to the committee with open arms and support. If you would like to put yourself forward to become the interim PTA Chair or join our PTA Committee, please email oaklandschoolspta@gmail.com by 28th February 2021.

Committee members and trustees from previous years have offered to support the new Chair and team, and we are lucky to have a comprehensive compilation of notes detailing how to run all of the “usual” events.

We will be holding a virtual Annual General Meeting on 3rd March 2021 at 8pm. The purpose of this meeting is to provide an update on the activities and fundraising of 2020, outline plans for the future and vote in a new PTA Chair and new committee members to serve out the remainder of the 2-year term, ending January 2022. Please join us using this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88073682646?pwd=ejcrcWFJTjR4WINPZXV5aWZXSzVHQ09>

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter to the end. We thank you for your continued support and end with optimism that later this year we will be able to celebrate this fantastic school community together.

With very best wishes,

Annabel and *Gemma*

Annabel Parker
PTA Treasurer

Gemma Grundy
PTA Secretary