**Gainsborough Primary and Nursery School**

**Parent Teacher Association**

**Registered Charity No. 116188**

**PTA Meeting: 22/4/21**

**Chair**: Natalie O’Neill

**Vice Chair:** Emma Hartley

**Teacher Rep:** Karen Spencer

**Secretary:** Helen Musker

**Attendees:**

Ruth

**Apologies:**  Tracey

Olwen

**Minutes:**

Natalie welcomed all to the zoom meeting and explained purpose of today’s meeting was to update on medals, wishlists and our new funding focus. Will also discuss Morrison’s donation, contact with Crewe Town Council and Express Yourself Day.

**Medals**

We have secured full sponsorship for the cost of the medals.

Emma - medals are almost ready to be posted to us.

Lanyards/ ribbons also nearly ready.

All agreed that a little certificate produced by PTA would be good to go with them – maybe presented as part of assembly or similar, with the message of “well done for working so hard during the lockdowns” etc.

Karen to ask if school can print certificates.

**Wishlists**

Mrs webster has provided KS2 wishlist of gardening equipment – but would benefit whole school e.g. compost, children’s tools, plants.

Morrison’s are donating a gardening bundle but we need to clarify what this will include.

Natalie contacted Crewe Town Council re grant applications but this is not open until May. The woman spoken with is also part of the project re growing food – she may be able to fulfil some of the wishlist.

Wishlist has also been emailed to Asda.

EYFS have requested hatcher on wishlist but concerns that they cost a lot of money.

But would be accessed by whole school and maybe could look at secondhand options.

Natalie has seen one on Facebook marketplace for example. She has also seen a farm in Sound that sell the eggs for a small cost.

Natalie will send the links to Karen.

All agreed that if whole school can benefit and access it -and we could potentially look at sourcing one for less money- then this could be supported by PTA.

**New funding focus**

Mrs webster has suggested improving the school forest area as a big project.

Natalie has looked into Tesco tokens in store – school fit the criteria to apply and could get between £1000 and £2000 if we won.

Karen to get more detail from Mrs Webster about end goal for forest work and what needs doing – this would be needed for applications.

A second suggestion for a big project is the playground outside of keystage 1 – bandstand, trim trail and benches in need of repair.

It was agreed by all that both playgrounds probably need attention.

Natalie and Ruth to go in and look at the current playgrounds – to be arranged with Karen.

Ruth has some professional experience and knowledge about this kind of playground design so could assist. She pointed out that play equipment can cost a lot of money. She can suggest ideas about using features and she will pull together some resources and plan ideas.

Emma suggested that it would be good to involve the children in designing. All agreed this would be a great idea – we could have a school competition to design a new playground or game designs / activities to be painted on the floor.

We could look at a grant application for the forest area and PTA can concentrate on the playgrounds.

Potentially there are 3 pots of money:

Town council – could cover gardening equipment

Tesco coins – could cover forest area

PTA Fundraising – could work towards playground upgrades

Emma asked Karen where Earth Day sunflower competition money is going and Karen will clarify which charity and perhaps put on newsletter.

Emma will design some playground competition graphics.

Ruth suggested that we may be able to acquire things like waste soil from developers which can be used for play features.

**Express yourself day**

The idea of “Break the Rules” day was not liked by school.

Emma and Natalie have adapted and amended the idea and “Express Yourself” Day will now take place on 21st May.

Parents will donate different amounts for their child taking part in different elements.

Emma will get some graphics for the newsletter.

First PTA newsletter to be sent out on Monday – Emma working on this. It will be sent to Mrs Nurse and office first.

Will include what we’ve raised – next fundraising focus - introductions to us – and information to join.

It will be termly.

Aim to send another before summer break - could mention up and coming fundraising ideas like Christmas cards to give warning.

**Next meeting:**

Weds May 19th 4pm

To feedback on grants etc and will be just before Express Yourself Day