

PTA Meeting 23rd April 2024

Attendees: Claire Heaton (Chair) Rachel Holtby, Becca Bratley, Janet Firth, Rob Williams, and Andy Haigh.

Apologies: Caroline Simms, Danielle Hargreaves, Mel Huntsman, Darren Pickering

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Heads report

The Challenge Rewards Programme:

It is an important time for Years 11 & 13 and a balancing act between “supporting & pushing” students therefore the Challenge Programme has been introduced to encourage revision for an 8-week duration. Points are awarded for:

1. Revision sessions attended
2. Providing evidence of independent revision
3. Good behaviour & punctual attendance

For every 20 points gained - names are entered into a prize draw. Over 100 points gained will result in automatic entry to the PROM for each student. (it was discussed, the life lesson that action have consequences). It has led to more engagement and will be rolled out at an earlier date next year. It was acknowledged that Years 11 & 13 dominate teacher time during this part of the academic year.

Vape Detectors & CCT:

The school had invested time & research before installing this system (many parents had voiced concern regarding vaping) The installation of the system has removed large groups (often intimidating for lower year groups) from congregating in the toilets. It is not a total cure but it has liberated the toilets for their designated purpose! The CCTV only films the vape alarms to protect them from damage, nothing else in the toilets is filmed. Only one parent contacted the school with concerns and Mr Williams was able to address these immediately.

Recruitment:

New teachers have been appointed in Maths, English and French/Spanish.

Interviews for Assistant Head and Geography will commence this week. Two new Music teachers will join the school in September.

Trips:

Last term saw successful trips for Years 8 ,9 , 10 skiing and Year 9 Paris trip. The Battlefields trip commences on Wednesday 1st to Sunday 5th May. Unfortunately, the Year 7 French trip was forced to be cancelled due to circumstances out of the school’s control. It must be noted that many schools no longer run school trips.

Multi Academy Trust update - Malton School will join the Pathfinder Academy on May 1st.

Other News:

Four admission appeals are scheduled for the 7th May with twenty more pending. Admission appeals are conducted by the local authority not the school. Admission and appeals will remain in local authority control when the school joins the trust.

Rob expressed his disappointment regarding the outcome of the transport consultation. Although families will be entitled to apply to their nearest school they will not be entitled to free school transport if they are not in the allotted catchment. E.g. Sand Hutton.

Treasurer's Report:

Over £4000 was raised in 2023. All successful bids from last year have been provided to the school now and invoices paid. Rachel (Treasurer) has spent a lot of time on the Banking Mandate regarding signatories and it was decided to close the current account and reopen a new one to enable the PTA to be able to pay money into the account in Malton post office, as well as being about to bank online.

It was proposed and agreed to up the Prom donation from £100 to £200. Claire will inform the head of Year 11 following this meeting and Rachel will arrange for a cheque to be sent to Jane Richardson.

Parents Forum:

It was noted on the list of topics the PTA had submitted to the school most of them were "pastoral" subjects therefore we need a wider mix of topics. Claire informed Rob and Andy that they PTA would welcome Parent Forum topic ideas from the school and governors.

There will be transition events this term for Year 7,10 &12.

Bids:

Bid applications are to go out earlier this term to give the staff more time to submit. Claire will liaise with Janet Richardson regarding this.

We also need photos for the items the PTA have recently purchased for the school (Trampoline, 3D printer etc) – these will then be added to the PTA area of the school website, as well as the school's social media pages. Claire would also like to update the Year 6 induction evening PTA Powerpoint presentation, with these photos.

Events Planning:

- Year 6 induction evening is on 3rd July – Claire to present / promote the PTA at the event.
- Sports Day 16th July with the reserve date being 17th July – Volunteers needed to run refreshments and cakes required to sell.
- Summer Concert 16th July – Volunteers needed to run the bar, bar licence to be organised and drink order required.

Claire will send out an email in coming weeks asking for volunteers for the above events.

Claire will also contact Janet Burrows, nearer to the Sports Day date, to organise communications to be sent to parents / carers asking for cake donations, refreshments and volunteer helpers.

The next PTA quiz night will be Friday 11th October. Rob has agreed to be quiz master again and we hope to build on last year's success, a planning meeting will be held this term.

Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 17th September at 7pm (usual room in the Humanities Block) This will also be the AGM meeting where new PTA officers will be elected.