

# Chair's Report November 2025

## PTFA Focus

As the 24/25 academic year got underway, the PTFA worked with the team at school to agree upon a fundraising focus as always. It was agreed the PTFA would fund some needed playground renovations including a new roleplay cabin in the infants area, as well as some wet play equipment for each class and contributions to the allotments and school sports kits among other things.

## PTFA 24/25 Events

We're thrilled to say that our third year as a PTFA has been another absolute cracker! Thanks to the incredible support from our wonderful school community, we've once again achieved more than we could ever have imagined. We can't thank our brilliant volunteers, staff, pupils, and parents enough - every bit of help, big or small, keeps the PTFA magic going! Although the Y6 event underwent a danceathon style make-over, there were no brand-new events this year. Sometimes, you just can't beat the classics!

## Discos

This was our first year of hiring entertainers for every disco held. Although this unavoidably increased our outgoings, it is safe to say that both the infants and the juniors (as well as our young-at-heart volunteers) have completely embraced the change and thoroughly enjoy having Taz get the party started! A change of theme for the February disco created a lot of enthusiasm from children who didn't feel comfortable attending a Valentine's event. As always, our team would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of the volunteers who help us shop for, set up and run the discos.

- The Spooky Disco raised £1138.95
- The Beach Disco raised £1171.34
- The Neon Disco raised £1010.68

## Christmas Colour Stalls

Undoubtedly a firm favourite amongst the children and school staff alike, the Christmas Colour Stalls were a huge success as always. We simply could not run this event without your donations, for which we are extremely grateful. Each time we have a new volunteer at this event they comment on how wonderful it is to watch the children carefully selecting the perfect gift for their loved ones, and then have it wrapped by our team of Santa's helpers! With both selling and wrapping gifts to account for, this event does require a huge team of volunteers; a true collaboration of school staff and PTFA volunteers working together as they get into the festive spirit.

## Christmas Performance Refreshments

The energy and excitement at school as we step into Christmas together is truly magical. As we look back on our own time at school, we all remember our own Christmas performances and it is an absolute joy to be a part of the events that will undoubtedly go on to form our own children's school memories. The drinks and mince pies we had on offer during the performances were thoroughly enjoyed by all. Thank you to our supershopper for making the event possible and to our committee members for taking the time to volunteer.

## Gift Amnesty

Our annual gift amnesty involves a box being placed in the entrance hall of school for donations of any unneeded gifts. These donations form some of the raffle and tombola prizes for our events throughout the year; thank you to anybody who contributed.

## Easter Bingo

Year on year this has to be up there with the most popular events! As veteran bingo caller Guy Barker called "eyes down" for the final time in 2024, we welcomed a new host in the form of School Governor Adam Hayhurst. He had big boots to fill but his nerves went unnoticed; he proved himself to be a natural as he effortlessly created that same bingo buzz! As well as Adam, we would like to thank all volunteers who gift wrapped the plethora of bingo and raffle prizes and of course those who helped on the night. We must also extend our gratitude to all of the parents and carers who donated enough chocolate to rival Willy Wonka, without which the event would not be possible.

## Mother's Day Pop-Up Stall

The Mother's Day stalls gave the children a great opportunity to pick out little gifts for their loved ones - and what a lovely selection there was! Huge thanks to our shoppers who did a sterling job of making sure the stalls were packed with goodies, and to all our brilliant volunteers on the day who kept everything running smoothly. You made the event a treat for everyone!

## Y6 Summer Event

This year the Y6 event was transformed into an energetic danceathon! The children had a fantastic time showing off their moves! While the PTFA volunteers kept everyone fueled with refreshments and ran a raffle packed with amazing prizes, the Y6 children ran the classic stalls everybody loves to get involved with. The teddy tombola and bottle tombola never fail to bring in the crowds because of your generous donations. A huge thanks to all involved.

## Year 6 Performance Refreshments

The Year 6 "School of Rock" production was an absolute hit, and we had a fantastic time serving refreshments to the proud parents and carers cheering on the stars of the show!

## Sports Day Refreshments

For the first time ever, Sports Day got a rain check - and, of course, it rained again on the rescheduled date! But true to the Manor Road spirit, we powered through with determination and smiles all round. As well as another record breaking year of bacon butty sales, we sold out of hotdogs at lunchtime too! Thanks to brilliant teamwork, our volunteers were able to take turns cheering on their own children in the races, and everyone had a fantastic morning full of fun, food, and a little friendly competition!

## Uniform Stalls

We've run several preloved uniform sales throughout the year, and they've been a huge hit once again! If you're having a clear-out at home, we'd be thrilled to receive any school uniform donations - they always find a happy new home.

## Father's Day Pop Up Stall

The Father's Day Pop Up gives children the chance to pick out gifts for their loved ones. The event was a huge hit once again, and a big thank you goes to everyone who shopped, donated, or lent a hand on the day - you all helped make it a fun morning all around!

## Clayton Le Woods Summer Fair

This event is all about the local community coming together and having fun! We had a mix of games and crafts that went down a treat, and even though the rain tried to chase everyone away for a couple of hours, nothing could dampen our spirits. By the end of the day, the sun was shining again, and we wrapped things up on a high note - puddles and all!

## Break the Rules Day

This event is quickly becoming a firm favourite with the children! The buzz it creates around school is electric - from crazy hairdos to chocolatey treats, the kids are always in their element and having an absolute ball!

## Preschool Graduation

The PTFA were on hand to provide refreshments at this heartwarming celebration! It was a truly lovely morning, full of proud smiles, happy little graduates, and plenty of tea and cake to go around.

## PTFA Events Planning

After shaking up our events calendar last year, we decided to stick to the same schedule this year and it's worked really well! We always welcome feedback from anyone in our school community on our events or our fundraising, so if you have ideas or thoughts, please do come

along to one of our meetings and share them. Meeting times and dates are published in the school newsletter, on our Facebook page, and across the school WhatsApp groups. These gatherings are a great way to see what we're working on, have your say, and enjoy an open forum for everyone to get involved. They're attended by both the PTFA Committee and school representatives, so you'll always be in the loop!

## PTFA Volunteers

Volunteers are the engine that keeps every PTFA event running - we literally couldn't do it without you! We are blown away by how many people have been signing up to our events, and we hope this continues. Remember, every bit of help counts, so if you think you might have time for even one event, we'd love to see you there! If you're interested in helping, we can add you to the What'sApp group where the volunteer sign-up links are shared prior to each event.

## PTFA Spend

This year we have contributed £2061 to a combination of book donations, Christmas events, wet play equipment and Y6 Leavers Hoodies. In addition to this we contributed £1320 to the school allotment project and a much needed new sports kit. A total of £7602 was then donated towards the work needed on the infant playground, including the new role play cabin. Our running costs for the year (insurance and stock) were £508.

## Conclusion

We've been incredibly lucky to receive amazing support from the staff at Manor Road, the children, and their parents and carers throughout the year. Together, we've raised an impressive £12,050 for our children's school! We can't wait to see what the 2025/26 academic year will bring, should we be re-elected to continue in our roles.

Rebecca Walmsley (Chair), Yvona K-B (Secretary), Michelle Taylor (Treasurer) and Cara Hayhurst (Vice Chair)