

**Montbelle School PTA Annual General Meeting
Chair's Report, 11th March 2016**

The PTA at Montbelle Primary School organised many successful events during 2015-2016. Thank you to all the PTA committee, PTA members, parents and staff for their ongoing enthusiasm and hard work throughout the year. I would also personally like to thank everyone who has supported me during my time as Chair of the PTA.

EVENTS:

Raising funds to support the school is one of the PTA's main aims, which we try to achieve in ways which include as many children and their families as possible. The PTA needs the support of all parents, whether as members of the committee, occasional helpers or as supporters of our events.

We have been very pleased and thankful for the parent support of our events and fundraising activities during the year in terms of attendance at the events, and the feedback we have received has been positive. As usual the biggest PTA fundraisers last year were the Christmas and Summer Fairs. In addition, the increasingly popular Informal Concerts, organised by Edit and Angie, have been very successful. The Treasurer's report goes into further detail on the amount of money raised at various events.

SPENDING:

This year has seen the installation of a sound system in the lower hall for use during assemblies, concerts and shows, paid for by the PTA. We also funded the Christmas Pantomime, Christmas presents and crackers, and bookbags for all Reception children. The Treasurer's report shows that the PTA has a very healthy balance as although resources have been allocated for planned larger items for the school, spending has taken longer than expected. I believe that allocation of PTA funds is a process where parents, staff and children should all be involved. After consultation with parents, teachers and pupils the money we have raised this year will help in three areas: forest school via a new set of waterproofs for Infant and Junior children, reading via a library phone box in the KS2 playground, and developing music across the Key Stages which will include replacing or reconditioning the school piano.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE PTA:

I would like to make special mention of Yvonne Hanson-Nortey, who will be leaving Montbelle at the end of the year. Yvonne was a founding-member of the PTA and has been invaluable ever since - nothing is too much for her. This year, even with her increased work commitments, she has continued to be a great support, cake baker and all round help whenever her schedule has allowed. Thank you Yvonne, I know you will be a huge loss to both the school and the PTA. I'm also grateful for the on-going support and guidance of our acting head teacher, Elspeth Geden. I understand that the balance between school priorities, teachers' schedules and PTA requests can be challenging but your door has always been open to us.

I have very much enjoyed being the PTA Chair and I look forward to being involved with our school for years to come. However, it is now time for me to step down from this role and I wish the new Chair and committee the best of luck continuing through 2016.