

Friends Association of Great Chart Primary School Committee Meeting
Tuesday 12th March 2024- 7pm - Great Chart School

1. Present

Amanda Oliver, Kate Brown, Sarah-Marie Collins, Natalie Phillips, Paula High, Claire Tatton, Michelle Noakes, Shelly King, Alice Panagopoulos, Nicola Bellman
Jennifer Keen

2. Apologies

Khadija Hamid, Vicki Prigmore

3. Conflicts of Interest

Amanda Oliver – Chair of Great Chart & Singleton Pre School Committee
Nicola Bellman – Governor at Goats Lees Primary School, Trustee of Towers Tiny Tots

4. President's Report

Welcome to our March meeting. Sorry I can't attend this evening but I know you will be in the very capable hands of Mrs High.

Since our last meeting in February I know you have been very busy organising various events: coffee afternoon, book character hunt and the Something Special Sale.

It was so lovely to see an increase in numbers attending the coffee afternoon the other Friday. Moving the time to the afternoon was really beneficial so hopefully any future plans for further coffee afternoons can take place at a similar time.

The book character hunt was enjoyed by many families over the previous weekend. I had some really lovely feedback and the photos on FB demonstrated how much the children enjoyed the event.

Once again the Something Special Sale was a great success and I'm sure many special people were extremely touched by their gifts on Sunday.

Thank you to everyone involved in these events. The planning and then delivery of such events doesn't just happen. We appreciate all of the hard work which goes on behind the scenes. Which brings me on to thanking Sarah- Marie Collins. The work which she does for the Friends' Association should be commended. From advertising and sourcing prizes, Sarah- Marie works incredibly hard so I thought she deserves a special mention.

We are looking forward to the remainder of the year and all the events you have planned. Thank you for your support,

Mrs Pang

5. Chair's Report

Good Evening, thank you for attending this evening.

Since our last meeting, we've had our World Book Day Character Hunt which listening to feedback was well received by parents and children. At the beginning of the week, we were worried regarding the amount of maps sold, however towards the end of the week it picked up. I'm looking forward to hear exactly how much we raised.

A big thank you to Sarah-Marie who organised this event and a huge thank you to everyone else who helped sell maps, put the clues up, took the clues down and for printing the maps. Thank you also goes to Mrs Pang for sharing all our messages on class dojo. We definitely feel this helps us! We also had a book fair running alongside this, hosted by Usborne books, who very kindly donated a selection of books for the character hunt too. Sarah-Marie will update us on how we did later.

Our next event was the Someone Special Event which is always a fun event to take part in. I think it's safe to say the children all enjoyed choosing their gifts and getting them wrapped for their someone special. And dare I say, us who took part in wrapping also enjoyed ourselves?? Again, thank you to everyone who helped collect the donations and helped on the actual day.

Our next event is our Easter Raffle, we have had some lovely eggs donated. Hopefully this goes as well as last year.

We also have several more events over the next few months, so it's all go.

6. Treasurer's Report

Income since last report

Date	Event	Item	Incoming
26/02/2024	Book Week Hunt	Card sales	£15.72
27/02/2024	Book Week Hunt	Card sales	£7.87
28/02/2024	Book Week Hunt	Card sales	£7.88
29/02/2024	Book Week Hunt	Card sales	£11.79
01/03/2024	Book Week Hunt	Card sales	£19.68
01/03/2024	Book Week Hunt	Cash sales	£68.00
	Someone Special Gift		
08/03/2024	Shop	Takings	£812.27
		Ticket money/uncollected	
08/03/2024	Fireworks night	refund	£92.00
		Total	£1,035.21

Outgoings since last report

None.

Book Week Hunt

Thank you to Sarah-Marie for organising so many wonderful prizes. The event raised £134.94 after card transaction fees, so 68 maps sold. It was lovely to tie it in with Book Week, but next time we should consider moving back to the summer as the weather is more predictable and more families might participate.

Someone Special Gift Shop

Always a lovely event for the children and the volunteers. This year we raised a wonderful £ 816.27 (including £9 donated on gift collection day, plus 1 euro). It should be noted however that if we had not have had presents remaining from Elfridges, we would have been short for this event. This is our highest amount raised for an Elfridges/Someone Special Gift Shop, so it remains extremely popular, but we should discuss the best way of acquiring the gifts.

It was suggested that after Christmas we have a Christmas Present Amnesty to help boost Something Special donations. Alice is happy to store these.

Current Balance

£13,208.99 in bank, plus petty cash in treasurer's possession.

7. World Book Day Celebrations

The feedback about the World Book Day Book Character Hunt from parents was generally positive. There were a few grumbles about pushchairs getting muddy on the route. It was suggested that next time we have two routes – one of which is pushchair and wheel chair friendly.

Other suggestions included using Google Maps for the route, having more arrows on the route, numbering the pictures so it's easy to work out if you've missed one, inviting the wider community to participate and offering parents the chance to do it with other families.

Kate suggested having a nature themed scavenger hunt in the summer which would include a photo competition.

As well as the Book Character Hunt, we also held an online Book Fair. We sold £312 worth of books so the school are able to spend £93 on new books.

Mr. Birch and Miss Cadman will let Sarah-Marie know which books they'd like to purchase.

8. Easter Raffle

We have been extremely fortunate to receive some amazing donations from parents of prizes for the raffle. We also have chocolate prizes from Marks & Spencer, Waitrose, ASDA and Tesco.

We have an enormous Easter Bunny which we will put on the table to encourage children to buy tickets, as long as the weather is nice.

Tickets will be £2 / strip and Natalie will bring the raffle tickets.

Volunteers to sell tickets:

Monday – Amanda and Vicki

Tuesday – Amanda and Sarah-Marie

Wednesday – Michelle, Amanda and Sarah-Marie

Thursday – Amanda, Sarah-Marie and Kate

Friday – Jennifer and Vicki

9. **School Disco**

To be held on Friday 17th May.

We have a new DJ who has kindly price matched our previous DJ. She is also booked for the Leavers' Disco and Christmas Disco. She will do games as well as dancing.

Tickets to be sold via Arbor.

Natalie to purchase drinks and crisps.

Helpers:

Year 1 & 2: Amanda, Sarah-Marie, Kate, Shelly, Claire, Nicola

Year 3 & 4: Amanda, Sarah-Marie, Kate, Shelly, Nicola, Jennifer

Year 5 & 6: Amanda, Sarah-Marie, Kate, Shelly, Jennifer and Mrs. Elliot

10. **Leavers' Disco**

To be held on Saturday 13th July

Our usual ice cream van has ceased trading. Natalie will look for a replacement.

Nicola will speak to Pizza Hut about donating pizzas.

11. **Christmas Events**

Elfridges will be held on Friday 13th December

Christmas Disco will be held on Friday 6th December

12. **Doughnut Fridays**

To be held on 3rd March and 24th March.

Krispy Kremes offer charities a dozen donuts for £7.50

Natalie showed the doughnuts from Brakes:

36 Iced Ring Doughnuts - £10.12 → 28p each

36 Glazed Vegan Doughnuts - £15.95 → 44p each

100 Gluten Free Chocolate Slices - £23.43 → 24p each

Natalie to order from Brakes and will collect on Thursday 2nd March.

Natalie will also order 1000 paper bags for £7 to doughnuts to go into.

13. **Coffee Afternoon**

Following the success of our last coffee afternoon, we are going to hold another one on Friday 19th April at 2:15pm in the Community Room.

Amanda will sell uniform.

Alice will bake cakes.

14. **Father's Day Event**

So the parents do not need to donate items so close to the Summer Fete, we will buy chocolate bars to be the gift for the Father's Day Event. The children will be given a

wrapper to decorate. The Friends volunteers will attach the wrapper and wrap the gifts.

Friends to provide a blank template for the children to decorate.

15. Summer Fete

We have requested for the Fire Engine to attend.

We will have an entertainment arena. Linda Hurcombe School of Dance and MG Dance to perform. Alice will ask SAMA Karate, and Irish Dancing if they would like to perform. Natalie will speak to The Yoga Man to see if he'd like to run a session.

Outsider catering vans will be on the playground. Friends refreshments to be on the field, near the bouncy castle.

Khadija to investigate catering vans which offer a wider range of dietary options.

Natalie Hubbard provided some feedback from the previous fete:

- Ping pong ball game was not very popular
- Very few crisps were sold
- Sweets which are for prizes need to be vegetarian
- Welly throwing needs more space
- Coconut shy needs something behind it to catch stray balls

Kate is looking into bouncy castles

Nicola will run Little Music Stars sessions for younger guests

16. Any Other Business

Khadija is setting up an Amazon Wishlist for the school. The teachers have begun to suggest ideas for this such as glue sticks, feathers, tissue paper etc.

Natalie to check the Charity Commission has the correct details of our current trustees.

17. Important Dates - Future Events

Mon 18th- 22nd March - Selling raffle tickets for the Easter raffle

Mon 25th March - Easter Raffle Draw

Fri 19th April - Coffee Afternoon and Pre Loved Uniform Sale 2:15pm

Fri 3rd May - Doughnut Sale after school

Fri 17th May - Discos

Fri 24th May - Doughnut Sale after school

From 7th June every Friday (Term 6) - Frozen Fridays

Fri 7th June - Someone Special Sale- chocolate/sweet sale (no donations needed)

Fri 14th June - Non Uniform Day - donations for the fete

Sat 22nd June - Summer Fete

Sat 13th June - Leavers' Party

Fri 18th Oct- Movie Night

Sun 3rd Nov - Firework Event

Fri 6th Dec - Discos

Fri 6th Dec - Donations for Elfridges (Non Uniform Day)

Fri 13th Dec- Elfridges

18. Dates For Future Meetings

Meeting Dates for 2024-25 7pm

Tuesday 23rd April

Tuesday 21st May

Tuesday 18th June

Tuesday 9th July

Tuesday 24th September

Tuesday 22nd October

Tuesday 19th November

Tuesday 10th December

Tuesday 14th January AGM

Tuesday 11th February

Tuesday 12th March

Tuesday 29th April

Tuesday 20th May

Tuesday 17th June

Tuesday 1st July