

Friends of Lyndhurst Minutes: Friday 4th October, 9am

Committee members present:

Robert Hickson (Co-Treasurer)
Kate Koczwarra (Co-Treasurer)
Carly Hamilton-Smith (Co-Secretary)
Emma Fung (Co-Secretary)
Mrs Nowakowska (Co Head Teacher)

Apologies:

Richard Leeming (Chair)

Minutes below. As always all action points are in bold. Any comments, suggestions, answers to requests for volunteers please sent to Lyndhurst.pta@gmail.com or please reach out to the parent responsible directly either in the playground or on Classlist.

1. Brainstorming session on 'What is FOL and what would you like FOL to do?'

Led by parent Kathryn Beatham the meeting opened with a session to brainstorm what people believe FOL is for and and what they would like it to do this year. The results of the brainstorming are as follows:

What does FOL do?

- Fundraise, to support the school
- As a discussion forum
- To get people together and establish strong community bonds
- To support our children
- To communicate events, ideas and concerns, and help facilitate school and parent communication through Class Reps

What should FOL do this year?

- Outreach: helping everyone know their opinion matters and we want to include everyone
- To help set up more groups for parents and the school community, such as the dad's football group
- Run the school fairs, ensuring that the whole school community is represented
- Through class reps improve the flow of communication and ideas from teacher to class rep to parent and back again; give class reps more visibility in the playground and at school/PTA events
- Help parents make contact with parent governors
- Support the school with its library plans
- Run a staff appreciation event

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

- (i) **Publicise and fill new committee posts to help with outreach, running PTA events. The new committee posts we would like to create and fill are:**
- Communications & Publicity officers (responsible for the FOL newsletter, Classlist and publicising FOL events via posters/flyers/etc)**
 - Community officers (to ensure the whole school community is being represented by FOL and to increase the diversity of FOL)**
 - Green officers (providing a bridge between FOL, the Green Group, school management and parents to raise awareness and action green initiatives)**
 - Events officers (overseeing the FOL events calendar, so isn't directly responsible for running all events per se, but for planning them out across the year, working with school on dates and access/ permissions, collating ideas and getting teams together to action them)**

-Fundraising & grant officers (responsible for promoting easyfundraising, match-funding, and identifying other sources of fundraising outside of the fairs such as Virgin money giving, local and national grants, etc.)

- (ii) Emma to communicate list of newly appointed Class Reps to all parents and staff;
- (iii) FOL to continue to work closely with Mrs Baldwin on the school's library plans – please look out on the FOL newsletter for how and when parents can help with the library
- (iv) Staff Appreciation Day will be the Wednesday of Parents Week (Wednesday 16th October) and, in liaison with Class Reps, we will be asking for donations of home cooked food (think chilli or stew, soups, salads, dessert and cakes) to feed staff dinner on the evening they need to remain at school till 7/8pm. More information will be shared via Class Reps shortly.
- (v) A WhatsApp group for a proposed Lyndhurst Parents Netball team has been set up that might meet from 7-8pm on a regular day each week on the MUGA. Please email Lyndhurst.pta@gmail.com if you would like to be added to the group to receive more information as plans take shape.
- (vi) If anyone would like to set up other social groups that meet regularly renting school premises (perhaps crafting/singing/etc) then please do get in touch. Lyndhurst.pta@gmail.com

2. Call for Volunteers

We couldn't run a successful PTA without more parent support and are not only looking for volunteers to fill the committee posts listed in point 1 above but also need volunteers to help with the following:

- Xmas4Schools design a card/mug/calendar scheme – thanks to Alice Young for volunteering to oversee this again. Order forms and letters explaining the scheme will be in book bags before ½ term.
- Winter Fair – we need volunteers across all stalls and activities which class reps will communicating soon but also need help sourcing raffle prizes by email/letter/phone/door stepping local businesses. We have a list of suggested donors – but are always looking to add more and refresh – and help could be in the form of offering to send 5 emails out and follow them up in your own time, to offering to walk Lordship Lane or Denmark Hill and rustle up prizes in person. If you can help please email Lyndhurst.pta@gmail.com
- Committee posts for 2019/20 – please see list of available posts above and in the FOL newsletter of 04/10/19.

ACTION: If you can help with any of the above please get in touch by email at Lyndhurst.pta@gmail.com

3. Reminder about Sarah Whitehead's Cookbook project

When we get together at Lyndhurst, we celebrate with wonderful food cooked by pupils, families, friends and staff. We would like to acknowledge and share some of the recipes that we all enjoy with our very own Lyndhurst recipe book to be sold at the Winter Fair.

ACTION: we need your help to do this! Please can those who would like to, share their favourite recipes with Sarah Whitehead, who is managing this initiative, at (sle.whitehead@gmail.com).

4. Winter Fair update

Our thanks to Hunters for continuing to support us with sponsorship of the fair. The Southwark Concert Band has been booked for the first 2 hours of the fair; additional live music is still needed for inside and for the last hour of the fair. Banner artwork publicising the event needs to be worked on next. Emma and Carly to brief a designer and aim to have banner installed the week after half term. Kate is organising the TENS license. Raffle prizes need to be sourced next and tasks shared out amongst classes/Class Reps. The cost of attending the fair was raised. Free activities are always on offer but we will work to increase the number of free things and publicise them better, though are very much dependent on volunteers to run them. We will also look at reducing the cost of some stalls (such as the Tombola) or splitting it out to an adult tombola and children's tombola.

ACTION: Emma and Carly will be meeting on Wednesday 9th October at 3.35-4.25pm in Ortus to fair plan and anyone wanting to get involved, learn more, suggest an idea for a stall/activity/etc. is more than welcome to join us. Alternatively send an email to Lyndhurst.pta@gmail.com

5. Update on action points from last meeting:

- (i) Being sugar smart

ONGOING ACTION: Rosie to set up a Sugar Smart parent group to share sugar-light/free recipes (and share some recipes with Sarah W for the Lyndhurst Cookbook); and look at running a 'healthy' cake sale with sugar free baking, fruit-kebabs, etc.

- (ii) Non-sporty after school club with emphasis on art and creativity.

ACTION: Mrs Nowakowska has spoken to those parents who have shown interest in running art/creative clubs and set in motion the required DBS checks. In addition, she confirmed two members of staff will be running an after school art club after half term.

- (iii) After school homework clubs

ACTION: Beverly reiterated her desire for this and the suggestion was made that she take the suggestion to her class teacher and phase leader and class reps to see if something could be set up initially for that year group.

- (iv) Swimming for KS2

ACTION: School are in urgently in need of parent volunteers to accompany KS2 children to their swimming lessons on Friday mornings. DBS checks will be required. Mrs Nowakowska will sent out more information on how to volunteer for this and other things at school (such as reading with children, school trips, etc) in the school newsletter. If you can help please speak to Mrs Nowakowska and the school office who can facilitate the required DBS checks.

- (v) Reselling second hand PE Kit:

ACTION: Alison Hoskins is willing to get this off the ground again. A brief discussion was started about how to organise this and needs to be picked up again. If anyone else is keen to help/lead, please get in touch with Alison or FOL.

End.