

Welcome

A warm welcome to the Anahilt Primary School Parent-Teacher Association's Annual General Meeting (AGM). We are delighted to welcome you via zoom as we come together to reflect on our achievements, discuss future plans, and strengthen our commitment to the improvement of our school and community.

Your presence at this AGM is a testament to your dedication to our school and our children. It is through your active involvement and collaboration that we can continue to make a positive impact on the educational experience of our students.

PTA Objective

The objectives of the Anahilt Primary School PTA is to organise fundraising events and activities where possible and make these as much fun as possible, to involve as many people as we can, and to access funding and grants for the benefit of the school.

As staff, parents or guardians of the children of Anahilt Primary School, we are automatically members of the PTA.

Committee

We have an elected committee who manages all aspects of the PTA. Current committee:

Chair	Janet Patterson
Treasurer	Jonathan Bell
Secretary	Carol Kirkpatrick
Committee Member	Lynda Brudenell
Committee Member	Helen Pratt
Committee Member	Andrea Walker
Committee Member	Andrew Gowan
Committee Member	Leanne Spencer
Committee Member	Meaghan Sinclair
Principal	Andrew Smyth
Teacher Representative	Amanda Humphreys

Regrettably, I must announce that after serving on the committee for seven years, five of which I held the position of Chairperson, I have decided not to seek re-election. This decision comes after an incredibly successful year of fundraising and our involvement in some of the PTA's most outstanding events. This is due to external factors beyond my control, and I am deeply saddened that I cannot continue to contribute to the modernisation of the school and, at least not in this role, enhance the children's day-to-day enjoyment of their school experience.

Grants

Since the last AGM we benefitted from three grants from Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council (LCCC) the first to enhance the school's front façade, providing a vibrant and inviting entrance for our students and visitors. The second grant, generously provided by Grandchoice, funded our fantastic new and dynamic sports kit for the children. Go Team Anahilt PS! Finally, we were awarded the Kings Coronation Grant which started the 2023 school year in style with ice-cream and balloons!

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Andrew Gowan for his invaluable assistance and the countless hours of effort he dedicated to secure this funding and the many other grants we have received throughout my tenure. These grants have had a positive impact on our school and greatly benefit our students.

Fundraising & Deliverables

Our key aim for 2022/23 was to create amazing spaces for our pupils through our School Transformational Programme.

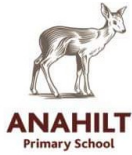
We all know Anahilt PS to be one of the best schools in the area, a traditional rural school that nurtures our kids and sits at the forefront of the village community and has done since 1801!

Every child deserves to be educated in pleasant surroundings and with squeezed school budgets we need to work together to modernise the school and allow them to comfortably fulfill our vision, "Helping Children Think for Themselves".

These fundraisers enabled us to meet our 2nd Key Aim of the school to "Provide a bright, stimulating and welcoming environment in which the children take pride by":

- Modernising each classroom
- Through projects such as painting walls, new floors, blinds and new smartboards

Fundraising	Deliverables
AMCA events	P1 room painted & new flooring
Harvest disco	P2 room painted & new flooring
Christmas fair	P3/P4 room painted
PTA Gala Dinner	P4/5 new blinds & new smartboard
St Patrick's Disco	P6 new blinds
Peak Challenge	P7 new blinds
	Corridor painted and new Anahilt wall branding
	School front painted



Finally

In conclusion, I would like to express my profound gratitude to several groups and individuals who have played pivotal roles in the success of Anahilt PS during my tenure as Chair. First and foremost, my heartfelt thanks go out to our students, parents, families, friends, the dedicated staff of Anahilt PS, and the members of the local community. I must also extend special recognition to AMCA for their exceptional efforts in raising funds for our school.

I wish to thank all the Committee members I have worked with during my time as Chair, not only for their hard work and dedication to the PTA but also for the support they have given me in particular to my two Principals, Mr Reid and Mr Smyth. They have been so supportive and trusting in me "to get on with it". Mr Smyth has been a great asset to our PTA, a Principal who can help paint to midnight - need I say more!

I would also like to acknowledge the Teacher Representatives and school staff who have worked alongside me and supported the PTA at so many events, with a special mention of Mrs. Brush, whose behind-the-scenes efforts have been indispensable.

To the numerous Secretaries and in particular to my two Treasurers Alison Wilson and Jonny Bell. I know how much work goes on behind the scenes as Treasurer and I am very thankful for all the time they have dedicated to the school and for being my biggest supporters.

I also extend my heartfelt appreciation to Mr. John Harshaw for his unwavering support over the past several years. As the Chair of the Board of Governors, he has consistently been a staunch supporter of the PTA, and I am truly grateful for all his contributions. Furthermore, thanks to Rachel Vaughan who stood down from the Committee this year after numerous years of service to the PTA.

Lastly, but certainly not least, I extend my gratitude to our wonderful pupils. While my involvement in the PTA initially began as a way to enhance the educational experience for my own four children, my role within the school has given me a deep-seated interest in the well-being of all our pupils. Consequently, I have invested my heart into improving life at our remarkable school.

As we look ahead, I am eager to observe the new initiatives and enhancements that the incoming PTA Committee will introduce.

Janet Patterson
Chairperson