

Chairperson's report

October 2019

This past year has been exceptionally busy for our PTA.

We kicked off the year with a brand new fundraiser, 'cuppa for kids', which proved to be very popular and got our fundraising off to a great start.

Another new idea followed with a 'Grassmen night' held in Dromore Community centre with an exclusive showing and release of Grassmen's new Dvd, with the generosity of Donkey and his team, a fantastic night was enjoyed by all and we raised a huge amount of money.

The time had come again for pupils to design a new school tea towel, which always proves popular and is a great keepsake for family and friends.

The Halloween and St Patrick's day discos are always well attended and enjoyed by the children.

The Christmas fair in November is always popular with school families and the community, it's a thoroughly enjoyable night and raises a lot of funds for our PTA.

The PTA helped the Anahilt and Magheraconluce community association at the switching on of the village Christmas tree lights. Our school choir took part, refreshments were served and each child received a gift from Santa.

The Christmas photo cards are so unique and a great way to raise funds.

Our 'movie and munch' night was very well attended and is always enjoyed by the children.

Each year we have a 'walk to school' week - this year the weather was great and we had a great number of parents and pupils joining us for 'the walking bus'.

Thank you to all those who helped.

In April we held another new and successful fundraiser 'The Big Breakfast', between school families and members of the community. The hall was packed to capacity, there was a great atmosphere, the food was great and we raised a lot of money.

Unfortunately, due to wet weather sports day was postponed and held during another school day, the PTA provided each pupil with a snack pack and medal for their participation.

Last year's fundraising efforts were to raise money to upgrade our playground. With the generosity of parents and the local community and funding from 'Awards for all', we achieved our goal and felt a great sense of accomplishment when on Saturday 8th June Councillor Gowan and Rev McFadden officially opened our new school playground. The new equipment has proved very popular with the children. We hosted a coffee morning to thank everyone for their support and although it wasn't a fundraiser, people's generosity shone through, and a lot of money was raised for PTA funds.

We concluded the year by organising and funding the P7 leavers party, with inflatables, a BBQ and lots more. Pupils and parents had a fantastic night and it was a great send off for our P7 pupils and something they will always remember.

At the end of term and during the summer we turned our focus to some school improvements including weeding, power hosing and the painting of the Key Stage 1 hallway, playground bars and school railings. A huge task for a small team, but with the commitment and support of PTA members and a number of parents we got the job done and I'm sure you all agree it looks great!!

I would like to conclude by thanking our treasurer Alison Wilson and secretary Amanda Brisbane for the huge amount of work they put in.

To our committee members, Eleanor Baird, Colin Donaldson, Andrew Gowan, Judith Houston, Gillian Patterson, Leon Toland and Rachel Vaughan for the huge amount of time and effort they give to the PTA. I've been very blessed to have been part of such a strong team, and they've made my job a lot easier.

Thank you to our last year's teacher representative Mrs Vonla Gregg, for all her hard work and support. A huge Thank you to our Principal Mr Reid for putting his trust in us and for his ongoing support and encouragement.

Thank you to our pupils, parents, family, friends, staff of Anahilt Primary school, members of the local community, and local churches who have all played a huge part in raising funds for our school.

Finally, and most importantly to you the parents, we are so thankful to our school community for your support. This year we will set about delivering our latest project, upgrading our ICT equipment, something which all our children will benefit from. Please continue to support us whether practically at events or

financially by sponsorship or donating raffle prizes etc. We look forward to another busy year, working together to raise fund for our pupils and our amazing school.

Thank you, Janet Patterson