

Friends @ Belmont PTA

Reg Charity 1172082

**Chair’s Report for Year Ended 31 December 2022**

**F@B aims and objectives**

The main aims and objectives for Friends at Belmont PTA are to advance the education of pupils in the school by developing effective relationships between staff, parents and other associated with the school and engaging in activities and providing facilities/equipment which support the school and advance the education of the pupils.

**The F@B Team**

All parents/carers/teachers are automatically member of F@B.

Decisions on how finances are raised and spent are made collectively in agreement with the school and F@B team.

We have meetings at least once a month that everyone is more than welcome to attend and our current committee consists of:-

Ruth Hansell and Neil Rushen – co-chairs

Sarah Diamond – secretary

Carolyn Jones – treasurer.

Caroline Sexton is employed by the school with fundraising and finance, attends F@B meetings and acts as the main link between school staff, pupils and F@B. A HUGE thank you to Sarah, Carolyn and Caroline for all your hard work and support this year.

We also have a fantastic group of parents/family members/friends of Belmont who regularly attend F@B meetings and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them all personally:-

Jan Tee – for your continued enthusiasm, hard work and raffle prize collecting!

Anne Wilson – for keeping us in line and your amazing rotary club contacts!

Debbie Smith – for your dedication, straight talking and work as Mrs Claus!

Pam Lyons – for your great humour, coin counting and FANTASTIC cakes

Jess Kenny – for your critical eye and friendly support especially on coffee mornings/get togethers!

Kayley Chandler – for being our social media guru and contact!

Karen Williams – for your sense of fun and promise of a cheese and wine fundraiser 😉

Sally Lawrence – for being a fantastic Santa’s helper and a lovely friendly member of F@B

Amy Bartlett – our newest recruit! Thank you for your enthusiasm and for not being put off 😊

**Summary of the years fundraisers and spendings**

**Bennetts coaches**

At the beginning of 2022 Bennetts coaches very kindly donated £2,400 to F@B.

**Easter**

Last Easter we donated money for the pupils to have an Easter treat – something we will look to do again this year.

**Summer Fayre**

This was the first Summer Fayre (fun day) since covid and lockdown and a first for the newest F@B helpers – including new co-chairs Ruth and Neil. The theme was commonwealth games with sports activities to try such as cycling (cycle stars and goals beyond grass) as well as the usual favourites – teddy and bottle tombola, hook a duck, price is right, bouncy castle and soft play. It was a beautiful day and we had so many staff and families attend – a GIGANTIC thank you to you all. Including the Summer raffle we raised a fantastic £3011

**Sports Day**

F@B were present at both Primary and Secondary sports days this year – providing ice-creams and refreshments kindly donated by Wall’s ice-cream.

**End of year teachers gifts**

We spent some money on providing each member of staff at Belmont with a little end of year thank you goodie bag.

**Guinea Pigs – Peanut and Hashbrown!**

We have agreed to help fund the school guinea pigs food/bedding for the support they provide children in particular during thrive sessions.

**Coffee mornings/Saturday afternoon drop ins**

We held our first coffee morning in September and met some lovely new faces and have been providing refreshments at Saturday family drop in sessions at the school for the last few months. This has been a wonderful opportunity to meet other parents/carers and have a chat/share experiences.

**Christmas craft fayre**

In November was our first Christmas craft fayre and Christmas raffle. This was a wonderful festive event with our very own Father and Mother Christmas and of course Christmas wouldn’t be Christmas without some storm troopers! Again a MASSIVE thank you to all the volunteers, staff and families who helped or came and supported us on the day. We raised a lovely £1660!

**Father Christmas visit**

Father Christmas visited Belmont again when F@B were asked to judge the decorate a door competition. With a lovely donation from Lanes Health we were able to provide each child with a present from the big man himself – and also bought some new decorations thanks to

B&Q and a personal donation from Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs.

**ASDA Green token scheme**

We were successful in being voted first in the ASDA Green token scheme – and have been given £500. Thanks to all who voted.

**Key stage Christmas gifts**

We have donated £2000 to school to be divided within each key stage area to be spent on equipment and activities of their choice. We are enjoying hearing about what this money is being spent on including :- scooters, DVD drives, giant outdoor dominoes and jenga blocks, hula hoops, toy cars, a visit from a Theatre production company and an upcoming trip to Weston-super-mare.

**Atlantic Aviation Group**

Neil our co-chair was successful in getting F@B to be the named charity for his place of work AAG and thanks to their Christmas raffle and top up donation we were recently presented with a cheque for £2800! We really enjoyed a trip with Mr. Day and four Belmont pupils to Brize Norton to collect our cheque and have a look inside some massive aircrafts!

A massive thank you to AAG and Neil.

**Corporate thank yous**

A big thank you to some of the companies who have supported us this year

Lanes Health, Lockton Re LLP, Cotteswold dairy, Atlantic Aviation Group, Bennetts coaches, ASDA and Morrisons.

**The Future for F@B**

Going forward we have many exciting ideas and projects – including F@B PIES (parent/care information exchange sessions) Neil’s Camino de Santiago fund raiser (please sponsor on Neil Rushen’s justgiving page available on facebook page) and the Summer Fete.

We are currently in discussion with the school about donating money towards the cost of a new school minibus – something that is greatly needed and will see greater opportunities for pupils to get out and learn in a range of different environments.

We always welcome new faces and support in any way possible so please do get in touch [thefabpta@gmail.com](mailto:thefabpta@gmail.com) or on facebook Friends at Belmont – Warden Hill.

Lastly – a gigantic thank you to anyone who has supported us either financially or with their time this year – we simply wouldn’t run without the support from everybody.

Ruth Hansell and Neil Rushen – co-Chairs of The F@B PTA