

PTA Meeting on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 1pm held at the Treasurers House.

Present: Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary.

The Chairperson called an informal PTA meeting to discuss the agenda for the Open PTA meeting to be held at Branton Community First School on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015 at 6pm.

Firstly the Chairperson asked the secretary to write to all Parents and Carers inviting them to the meeting. The Secretary agreed and the format of the letter was discussed.

The Chairperson suggested that at the '**open**' meeting we could put forward a number of suggested fundraising events which could be open to discussion. The secretary said that hopefully people will come forward with more suggestions, ideas and offers of help. The treasurer asked if we should form a Social Committee at the meeting with willing parents/carers so that we can call on help to run these events as well gathering more ideas from a wider field of people. It was agreed by all that a Social Committee should be formed.

The Chairperson suggested a **School Fete/Open Day** in the summer. She wondered whether an Open Day combined with a fun Fete for the school would be beneficial in promoting Branton School. It was agreed that this sounded a nice idea. The Chairperson wondered about advertising in some of the local press prior to the event. It was agreed that we would need to ask the Head Teacher whether she felt this was a good idea to combine it with an open day but that we would like to put forward a Summer Fete.

The Chairperson asked if anyone had any suggestions of where we could hold the **School Shop** this year as the Charity Shop in Wooler is no longer available. The secretary wondered whether we could have a section in the Antique Shop in Powburn but it was agreed that there was not enough through flow of traffic and people to make it successful. The treasurer wondered about Railtons just off the High Street in Wooler or in the old Farmway next to the garage. Again it was thought that this may not work as there is not the steady flow of people coming 'down the street'. The secretary said that this may work if we put up lots of posters advertising it. The Chairperson agreed to ask Alice Landale if she could investigate using either of these facilities.

The Chairperson said that she had spoken with Lisa Chisholm and there was a possibility that she could hold a **Pub Quiz** in the Queens at Glanton. She had heard that there was a person in the village who would write the quiz for it. The treasurer felt that for this to be a success we would need to encourage the families of the pupils to bring a team.

The Chairperson wondered about asking some of the supermarkets to do '**bag packing**' as this has been a success for other charities and schools. It was agreed this was worth looking in to.

The Chairperson had read in a PTA magazine about giving a packet of **Smarties** to every child and then asking them to fill the packets, over a number of months, with 20p pieces. This could then possibly fund some of the Christmas celebrations for the children e.g. Santa presents etc. It was agreed that it was worth putting forward.

The Chairperson said that she would love the pupils to design **Christmas Cards** and have them printed, as other schools, nursery's etc. do, and raise funds that way. It was agreed that the costs of this should be looked into.

The Chairperson said, based on the above events, providing the Head Teacher is happy with these, we will put these forward for discussion at the Open Meeting.

The secretary wondered if we should discuss the Canopy that the School would like to add to the Classroom, following the disappointing news from the company we were looking at, that there was to be a minimum spend of £10,000. The secretary thought it may be an idea to ask a number of local builders/joiners to have a look and quote for the job. A number of local tradesmen were suggested and written down by the treasurer who agreed to give a contact list to the Head Teacher to contact.

The Chairperson also asked whether she thought we should look to have another 'community day' at school in the spring/summer time to tidy the hedges, grounds etc. It was agreed that the Chairperson would ask the Head Teacher if she would like to do this again and the PTA could organise it.

Meeting Ends 3pm.