



Great Sampford Primary School PTA (Registered Charity Number 1165342)

## **AGM Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

### **Great Sampford Parents and Teachers Association (PTA)**

Co-Chairs' Report 2024-2025

Prepared by Lois Donaldson

We went into the school year with Kelly and I taking on the Co-Chair role, never having previously been in this position before. Sue taking on the vital role as our treasurer and with three new committee members so firstly I would just like to say I am proud of our achievements this year.

We started the year on a high note with our first fundraising event in October, the school disco, which is always a firm favourite with the children. Followed by a successful sale for our Christmas colour hamper raffle. We continued to run the Christmas cards signing up with a company that also offered other options such a Christmas tree decorations as we felt this might have more appeal, however on reflection we felt parent interest was limited and the uptake was lower than expected. Having unfortunately missed the deadline with this company for this coming year and looking into the prices to parents against commissions earned for companies that do have availability we have decided to not partake this year and will investigate running this again Christmas 2026.

Early this year we organised another successful school Disco and ran a book sale to coincide with world book day. Our "dare to be different" non-uniform day was a success with children arriving for school in pyjamas, fancy dress, crazy hair and all sorts of fun outfits!

Our most successful fundraiser of the last school year was our "Challenge 25" we ran through the Easter holidays contributing £2211.76 to our total raised for the year. It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm and creativity in the children finding ways to support their school.

When it came to the Village Flower show this year Miss Reis very kindly offered to take an active role in turning this into a village event not only pulling the community together but giving the children the responsibility and involvement of running their own stalls. It was truly wonderful to see how well the children did and the effort they put in to support their school. I'm told there are even more children that would like to run a stall next year and between us I feel we can make it an even bigger, better and more profitable event.

This year we also introduced running an end of term tuck shop which I would like to continue through the next school year, although not big profit events they have proved popular with children, and they are a nice way to end the term.

Thanks to everybody's efforts Last year we raised a total of £6606.31. This enabled us to continue to fund the pantomime trip for years 1-6 and for Robin class trip to Audley end to visit Santa. These trips have already been booked for this coming Christmas, and we hope the children continue to enjoy them as much as they have in previous years.

We also funded Maths week back in January which was a big hit with the children. We again funded our year 6 levers with hoodies to remember their time at Great Sampford, ice lollies to all the children at the end of sports day and most recently before we broke up for summer, we purchased a new all weather outdoor table tennis table. We also have our in school visit this month from the Kapla workshop which Kelly and I will be attending and will provide feedback to you all on that.

One of the main challenges we still face is time committee members can contribute especially during the school day which does limit us on events we can hold that require a lot of set up or are time heavy. This can't be helped due to work and family commitments and is totally understandable but does mean we need to think outside the box as to fundraisers we can do to reach our minimum target of £3000.00 or above. We have already some dates in the calendar for upcoming events, however with us dropping Mothers and Father's Day gifts, Christmas cards and the fact we won't be running the book sale we had last year it is important that we now explore fresh fundraising ideas for the year ahead.

I would like to thank you all for your input, help and dedication you give being part of our PTA. It takes each and everyone of us to make things happen intern enhancing our children's time at school.

A Heartfelt thank you goes to Miss Reis and her partner Scott for all their hard work they put in out of school hours, weeding, planting, clearing rubbish and literally watching paint dry! We really are so very lucky to have a headteacher who puts so much into our school and has a genuine passion for making it the best place for our children. She is always supportive of new ideas we bring forward, and we are truly grateful for her support.

As most of you are aware Kelly has made the decision to step down as of today from her Co-Chair role, although still remaining an active committee member. I would like to thank Kelly for all the hard work she has put in over the last year. We have had many conversations outside of PTA meetings standing in the playground, sending emails and messages backwards and forwards, so I know just how much time, effort and dedication Kelly has put in. From myself and on behalf of the rest of the committee, thank you Kelly.

Finally, I would just like to say I have agreed to continue in the role of Chair and will do my best to fulfil the role, but we are a team, and it takes all of us working together to make a difference. We're all here for the same reason and that is to play an active part in making our children's time at school as enjoyable and enriching as possible.

With our PTA mission in mind "To Widen our Kids World" I look forward to what we can offer for the children in the future.