



Friends of Ballynahinch PS Annual Report

What a year it was last year for our PTA with so many events and fun times that the children enjoyed. As well as providing experiences for the children we raised a massive amount of money for the school – just under **£18000!!!**

October - The first event of the year was our Monster Mash Halloween Disco.

The children loved dressing up and dancing with their friends and they all went home with a trick or treat bag too. Almost **£350** was raised.

December - Christmas quickly approached and we had our Christmas Fayre with special guest appearance by none other than Santa himself! Over 20 local crafters showcased their Christmas gifts and food. **£980** was raised.

We had a Christmas movie night in school, complete with popcorn and juice which raised **£200!**

March - The New Year was a quieter time for us until Easter when we ran a colouring competition where the winners in each class got Easter chocolate. **£75** was raised from this.

April & May - Then we had two new evenings for the children to enjoy; Girls Night In & Boys Night Out.

The girls enjoyed an evening of Yoga, bun decorating, face painting, nail painting and dancing! Finished off with pizza, garlic bread and juice!

The boys had an evening of Lego building, assault courses, golf, football and superhero fun! Not forgetting more pizza, garlic bread and juice!

Both nights were a great success as the children had a great time and we also raised **£460** over the both evenings.

May - Our annual sponsored walk in Montalto was a great success. It was a beautiful spring morning and all classes enjoyed the colourful gardens of Montalto. Almost **£1600** was raised in sponsorship.

June - The summer fete was the last event of the year and it was a warm one! Bouncy castles and BBQ were enjoyed by all and **£1200** was raised.

Throughout the year we had “Penny Wars”. All classrooms had a jar that the children would bring in their 1p's and 2p's in. The class with the most coppers every term won themselves a week off homework! Unbelievably we collected a whopping **£519** in coppers!

With these events we are able to give **£5000** back to the school to go towards the purchasing the following:

- Buses for each class to go on a school trip;
- New desks and chairs for P1 & P2;
- A mud kitchen, Graduation gowns and hats and outdoor play equipment for the Nursery;
- PE bags for P1 and leavers T-shirts for P7;
- Accelerated Reader novels and the school licence for the programme for P3 – P7;
- The annual school licence for Education City;

We were also able to secure 2 grants for the school this year.

One was for the Gym Buddies after school classes, which was offered **free** to children on a Friday afternoon. The total grant was **£2900** and it was used to promote physical education and wellbeing in the school.

The second grant was from The Lottery Fund for **£10,000!** This was for the new Adventure Trail beside the lower playground that was installed in June, much to the children's delight! No doubt it will be well used and enjoyed by all.

Thanks to everyone who has helped throughout the year, either by volunteering your time in helping out or by coming along to our events, it really is appreciated and means so much financially to the school. We are always looking for new ideas for events that would be fun for the children as well as raising funds, so if you have any thoughts or suggestions or can help in any way, please come along to our **AGM on 12th September 2018 at 6.00pm**. We will be electing new committee members and setting out a calendar of events for the upcoming year.

Thanks for all your support,

Brian Truesdale

Treasurer