

11th December 2019

Parents and Friends Association Officers Update

The Parents and Friends Association met for an officers meeting and AGM on **Wednesday 27th November** and discussed the following:

Project Fundraising

- Officers discussed the Primary Playground Development project. The PFA has now secured grant pledges of **£7,500** from the Garfield Weston Foundation and **£10,000** from the Edward Gostling Foundation and **£15,000** from Baily Thomas Charitable Fund towards the total cost of **£63,000**. A further **£11,350** had been raised and donated from the proceeds of a Golf Day at Romford Golf Club organised by last year's Club Captain John Fitch. Another fundraising Golf Day at Brikenden Grange Golf Club organised by Steve Eldridge raised **£9,500**. The remaining amount to be raised for this project is therefore **£9,650**.
- Funding for the purchase of an iSandbox, a multi-sensory resource costing **£6,750** has now been raised from a grant of **£3,750** from the Hedley Foundation and funds raised by parents who took part in a sponsored inflatable run and raised over **£2,000**. The husband of one of these parents was able to put the school forward for a **£500** grant from the Royal Mail Charitable Fund. The iSandBox is on order and will be installed shortly.
- London Taxi Drivers Charity for Children made a donation of **£819** towards the cost of replacing two sets of Blue Bot floor robots. These computing resources allow students to develop programming skills, creating and debugging algorithms and problem solving. BlueBots can be programmed using simple instructions. Through this approach, students at many ability levels are able to understand the concepts of sequences and algorithms and develop logical thinking and planning skills which has a huge significance in their lives.



Projects Funded by the PFA

- Arrangements for the PFA Christmas Gift Sale was agreed. This would be run again by parent volunteers and as always any shortfall in covering costs would be funded by the PFA. The gift sale gives all students at the main school and at the Avelon the opportunity to purchase a gift, or gifts, of their choice for their family or friends. The school is very grateful to the PFA for organising and guaranteeing the funding for this valuable activity and to the parents who take time to purchase the items to sell and for running the event.
- The PFA agreed to fund a Christmas gift for all of the students at the school up to the value of £20 each. This would be spent on gifts or trips around the Christmas period and would be decided by class teachers. We are grateful that the PFA fund this each year to benefit the children and make their Christmas experience at school magical and exciting.
- The PFA also agreed to fund the following Christmas activities and events:
 - Resources to transform the Solar Domes into a Christmas themed Gingerbread World
 - Decoration for the Christmas tables on Christmas Dinner Day
- The Summer Prom was also discussed. This would again be fully funded by the PFA, subsidised by the Romford Golf Club. The limousine had already been booked for the event.



Any parents or carers who have fundraising ideas, links with sources of external funding or would like to join future PFA meetings would be very welcome.

Kind Regards,
Eddie Fowles, PFA Chairman