



Alban City School Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is a registered charity in England and Wales no:  
1198271

**Danielle Brawn**

**Chair of Alban City School PTA**

**22 November 2022**

## **Alban City School PTA**

### **Chair's Report: January 2022 – January 2023**

#### Introduction

In January this year, Hazel Eccles and I answered a desperate plea from the PTA and, with only a few hours to think about it, we volunteered to be Co-chairs so that the PTA could continue to raise funds and run community events for the school.

#### Status and Banking

Shortly after our appointment, the PTA was registered as a charity with the Charity Commission and I would like to say a big thank you to Helen Page, our Treasurer who worked incredibly hard to complete the enormous amount of paperwork required to achieve this registration. Helen also led the transition from Metro Bank to Lloyds Bank which required yet more time-consuming administration but which was, in our view, in the best interests of the PTA.

#### Events

As you all know, the last year has been the first "normal" year since the Covid pandemic. After two incredibly challenging years for both the school and the PTA which saw many cancelled events and which required creative ways to fundraise remotely (which the previous committee did an incredible job of running), it was great to finally hold in-person events without restrictions.

The first event of the year was Crazy Hair Day and the children (plus Mr Edwards) did not disappoint. In the spring, the Children returned to the dancefloor and all year groups had the opportunity to attend a disco with DJ Mole throughout the year. We also held in-person coffee mornings with a pop up nearly new shop, a bake sale and a film night for the older year groups. Thanks to the help of Rob Crick, in the summer term we held a successful and entertaining in-person Quiz for the adults with the incredibly talented BAFTA winner Mike Davis as quiz master.

At the end of last term, we saw the return of our summer fair and raffle which, thanks to the generosity of parents and carers (who gave up their time to volunteer and/or donated goods and services), we saw the whole school community come together for a truly fantastic day and our most successful raffle ever.

In September, we introduced welcome packs for parents and Julie Fernandes-Tansley did a fabulous job of making up the packs so a very big thank you to Julie. We also began the new 100 Club year and in October, we saw some frightful hairstyles and costumes for Scary Hair Day and the Halloween Disco.

More recently, Jenni Malcolm and Kate Davies led the Christmas Card creation and sales so a very well done to them and a big thank you from us all.

### Use of Funds

As a result of our fundraising activities, we have been able to treat the school to lots of books to support the changes in the curriculum for phonics (with a value in excess of £5,000); fund gardening activities for the younger children; fund drama workshops for all year groups; subsidise the year 6 end of year trip; and subsidise the upcoming pantomime trip for all year groups for the a tangible benefit for all of our children.

### Inclusivity

Inclusivity is at the forefront of our event planning and, as we go into the next year, we appreciate that times are once again very tough for families. We have therefore introduced “pay it forward” and “zero cost” tickets for some of our events so that children who might have not have been able to participate because of the cost, can join in with the fun.

Thank you also to Lizzi Hodgkinson and Julie Fernandes-Tansley who are once again organising the Salvation Army Toy Appeal on 9 December 2022 for those families in need of support. And another big thank you to Lizzi for continuing to plug Easyfundraising which has again allowed us to buy lots of books for the school library.

### The Committee

Unfortunately, this year has seen a committee which has reduced to just three in size. At the end of summer after two years of incredibly hard work, it was time for Amy to step down as Secretary. We then lost Hazel at the start of term and we would like to thank her for her valuable contribution, especially in helping to organise the summer fair. Sadly, Helen will also be stepping down as Treasurer in January 2023 after two years of acting as Treasurer and so much more beside.

The one person who will be staying on with me next year is Lucy Cooper. Lucy joined the PTA as Communications Officer in January this year. However, she has done so much more than communications and, in reality, she is very much acting in the capacity as Co-Chair. For this reason, we hope that Lucy will be formally appointed as Co-Chair at the AGM. I would also like to say a big thank you to Lucy and Karen Francis for their hard work in organising the Christmas Fair and we hope to see you all there on the 3rd December.

### Thank You

A big thank you to every one of our class representatives for getting all of the messages out there and for all of your help with events throughout the year.

A special thank you to Gizem Erdem for helping with our social media accounts and to Julie Fernandes-Tansley for helping with our website.

Of course, I cannot forget to mention the incredible team who run our nearly new shop and website. So another big thank you to Amy Leary, Helen Page, Ayanna Rezulska, Corrina Preston, Julie Fernandes-Tansley, Marta Skotnicka, Laura Presland, Lucy Griffiths, Miriam Ramirez Castro and Mercedes Luena. They really are a credit to the school and their hard work is appreciated by us all.

Finally, thank you to Mrs Stray, the teachers, the support staff, the office staff, Mr Edwards and to everyone who has helped with our events and attended these meetings.

We look forward to an exciting new year and we hope to welcome more people to the committee soon.

**Danielle Brawn**  
**Chair of Alban City School PTA (January 2022 – present)**