

MEADLANDS UNITED

Parent Teacher & Friends Association

Issue 12/2023
Tuesday 19 December 2023



PTFA Termly Round Up

It has been a busy term for the PTFA. At the heart of Meadlands United, our core objective is to foster community engagement and involvement, whilst raising money to benefit the children of Meadlands.

*Since September, we have held a **Welcome Tea Party** (including a second hand book and uniform sale), **Harvest Craft Workshops** and helped the school organise the **Scholastic Book Fair** and **Harvest collections**.*

*We also organised the **Christmas merchandise** through a new company, **Cauliflower Cards**, and had over **100 children participating in this project**. Their artwork was proudly displayed at the Meadlands Winter Fair. Well done and a huge thank you to all the children involved and their families.*

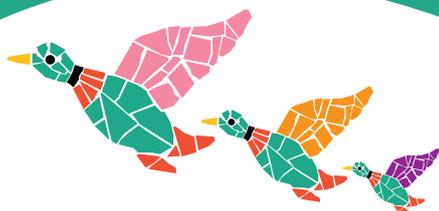
*On 28th November, we welcomed **Julie from Palms and Violets** for our first **Wreath Making Workshop**.*

A lovely evening was had by all who attended and we hope to make this an annual event.

*The hall was transformed on Thursday 30th November with lights, decorations, the arrival of our Christmas tree (kindly donated by the Palm Centre) and the displaying of all the **Angels made for the Angels of Peace Project**. A huge thank you to all our hall decoration parent helpers and to the children for making so many beautiful angels. We are extremely grateful to Mrs White for leading on the project in school - thank you very much.*

With the hall giving Winter Wonderland a run for its money, we welcomed December with a Christmas Jumper MUFTI day. Thank you for all your generous donations to the tombola and for supporting our Amazon Wishlist.

meadlands.united@gmail.com



MEADLANDS UNITED

Parent Teacher & Friends Association

Issue 12/2023
Tuesday 19 December 2023



On Saturday 9th December we had our Meadlands Winter Fair. The Reception classroom was transformed into a beautiful Christmas scene, perfect for our youngest and future Meadlands children to have a special story with Santa. Huge thanks to Santa for making time for the story sessions and to Mrs Claus and Katie Schulkes for all their hard work and preparation to ensure the children had a magical experience.

This Fair saw the introduction of a stamp card system and a move away from giving individual sweet prizes to children and instead offering them the choice of a book as an overall prize.

We were so pleased to be able to celebrate some of the cultures and traditions observed by families in school through our Festivals From Around The World.

We are extremely grateful to Lena, Zakia, Vivi, Sabine, Yaara, Alicia, Mariann, Natalia, Chloe, Adam and their families for sharing delicacies and cultural activities.

Huge thanks to the incredibly talented Bea, Nadia and Tiziana and their teams for their fabulous creative workshops, to our stall holders from the school, parent and local communities and to all the class reps and their teams of parent volunteers who did a fantastic job of running the activities and stalls and ensuring we were all well fed and watered.

Thank you to Tiziana and Roberto for cooking all the food and ensuring everything ran smoothly in the kitchen. Thanks to Ping and her Waffle Team and to all the parents who lent us their waffle makers and provided toppings. Special mention to Lisa for ensuring that children with food allergies were still able to enjoy a waffle.

We would also like to thank all the staff for giving up their time to support the Fair and for running the tea and cake stall. A special mention to Mrs Kelly and

Mrs Devins for the fabulous balloon arch (and for blowing up all the balloons) and decorations and to Mrs Birthwright for leading the transformation of the Yr 1 classroom.

We are extremely grateful to Mrs Frank for all the admin support and early opening up of school and to Mr Eckford for all his advice and support and for always being willing to help us when we have needed it.

Thank you to Mrs Taunton-Johnson and the Senior Leadership Team and especially to Mrs Gee for all her help and support.

We are incredibly lucky to have such talented, helpful and supportive parents, without whom we would not be able to run events. Events take a lot of communication and advertising and we would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to Nadia, who volunteers hours of her time to jazzing up our newsletters, creating event signage, marketing and promotional material and for being our creative inspiration.



We welcome feedback on what worked well with the Fair and what we could improve on for the Summer Fair (Saturday 13th July). Please do email, message or speak to one of us. We will send out a link to a feedback form and we would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to share your experience of the Fair.

meadlands.united@gmail.com



MEADLANDS UNITED

Parent Teacher & Friends Association

Issue 12/2023
Tuesday 19 December 2023



NEXT TERM

We are already in the process of planning events for next term.....



To build on the success of **Festivals From Around The World**, we will be hosting an **International Night** on Thursday 22nd February. More details next term!



We are also keen to hear your views on a Disco / waffle night for the children. In order to make these events happen we would need a few volunteers to lead on organising it, so please let us know if you would like to get involved.

We are always looking for ways to improve our event planning and organisation. Next term we will be **trailing an electronic 'volunteer sign up system'** that has been successfully implemented in other schools.

NEXT TERM

AGM MEETING
APRIL 2024
Please do consider nominating yourself to be part of the MU Committee or events planning

HAM FAIR
HAM COMMON
SATURDAY 8 JUNE 2024

SUMMER FAIR
HAM COMMON
SATURDAY 13TH JULY 2024

FUNDRAISING GOALS

We are delighted to have made our first purchase for the school: an art drying rack, which will benefit children across the school. The drying rack will be stationed in the Art Studio but it is portable so it can be moved around as needed.

Thanks to one of our parents, the PTFA were able to purchase the rack for £100 (50% less than the RRP).

We are fundraising to re-vamp the art studio and to introduce a lending library, so that all members of our school community can promote a love of reading.





MEADLANDS UNITED

Parent Teacher & Friends Association

Issue 12/2023
Tuesday 19 December 2023



FINANCE UPDATE FOR AUTUMN 2023

Please see below figures for the events we held in **October - November - December**. (Income from September events can be found in our Newsletter Issue 9 online).

Cauliflower Card: updated figure for income is £279.30 (they previously quoted a higher commission fee). They will transfer this in January.

Easyfundraising quarterly commission: £30.53

Please remember to register and start your online purchases on EF app or webpage to earn our charity cashback.

Harvest workshops: 22 children took part in two sessions. They all came away with a beautiful harvest door hanger.

Total Expenditure: £29.88

Total net revenue after SumUp fees: £107.27

Total net income: £77.39

Wreath making workshop for adults: 16 spaces sold out in a couple of days for this fantastic 2-hour workshop led by Julie, local florist.

Total expenditure: £672

Total net revenue after SumUp fees: £782.50

Total net income: £110.50

Meadlands Winter Fair

Incredible turnout on the day! The fair was busy throughout and we hope you had lots of fun with your friends and family! Thank you for supporting us by using the Amazon wishlist for tombola items, for donating on mufti day, for creating angels and putting them up, for bidding in our auction, for having a Mervyn Smith board, for creating a fantastic atmosphere in the hall and for all the community spirit shown for making it all happen.

Total Expenditure: £1,079.77 (including Jumblebee fee)

Total net revenue after SumUp fee: £3,349.60 (including Auction and £290 from Mervyn Smith advertising boards)

Total net income: £2,269.82

We are grateful to all our sponsors who donated the auction lots, which thanks to you, bid winners, generated £761 revenue!

Breakdown of payment methods:

Total cash payment (on the day): £1,074.40

Total card / online payments (before and on the day): £1,224.20

Meadlands United PTFA current bank statement balance: £8,692.47

Not reflected on bank account:

Outstanding revenue: £290 Mervyn Smith + £279.30 Cauliflower Cards

Outstanding expenses: £12.30 + £12.00

Starting figure on 1 September 2023: £6,507.58



Wreath Making Workshop



Harvest Workshops



Cauliflower Card



Angels of Peace Project



MEADLANDS UNITED

Parent Teacher & Friends Association

Issue 12/2023
Tuesday 19 December 2023





**MEADLANDS
UNITED**

Parent Teacher & Friends Association

Issue 12/2023
Tuesday 19 December 2023



COMMITTEE UPDATE

We are sad to announce that Varda Kaplan, our colleague and friend, has resigned as Treasurer. We want to thank her for her ideas, creativity and all her support with this year's events.

if anyone is interested in fulfilling the role of Treasurer from January until the April AGM, please contact us on meadlands.united@gmail.com or approach one of us. Thank you!

**Thank you all for your support this year,
we really do appreciate it!**



WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS, HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A HEALTHY,
HAPPY AND PEACEFUL 2024.

