Chair’s Report 2018

Welcome all

Thank you for coming tonight, it good to see some familiar and new faces. And for the new faces amongst us this is my story behind why I became chair of the BSPTA. I have two boys aged 20 and 17 and spent 7 years on their primary school PFA committee climbing the ranks to chair and another 3 years before that, on a Playgroup committee. So, after 10 years very engaged in the organising of fundraising events I decided to step down and let someone else have a go. It was exhausting.

When my eldest son attended Woodroffe school I found I had very little time to help out on any committee, but when my second son George decided he would rather go to Beaminster school, a school that I attended many years ago, my interest in helping out started to flicker. Unfortunately work commitments dampened my interest again but after a plea for help to organise the Christmas Fair 3 years ago I decided to volunteer, and I’ve now found myself back in the middle of a brilliant committee, even though I no longer have children at school! However, due to work commitments I’m planning to retire from the group at some point in the near future, so get your thinking caps on for someone to replace me.

We have lost a lot of our stalwart members who stepped down over the past few years as their children have gone on to pastures new, their knowledge was unending, so as a new committee I’m hoping that we all move forward and continue their ‘legacy’.

Kirsty has been a rock in the past year pulling this team together, and with Sarah stepping down after taking over from Billy, Sam and Geoffrey have now stepped forward to take over the treasurer’s role together. Apologies for my absence in the summer term, it was a busy time for me.

So thanks to all of you who have volunteered to make tea, coffee, at parent evenings and academic monitoring day, the bar at the summer concert, helping at the Christmas fair, and all the other events I’ve forgotten about!

Thanks to all our members, from the senior management who support us, Mr Hales, Mr Withers, Mrs Chalkley who comes up trumps every time we ask anything of her and Kellie Poole for her help with the finances. Thank you for your commitment to the cause, for doing such an important role in supporting all of us to provide the much-needed extras for our children.

Being part of this amazing team with its wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm is fantastic, lets continue to thrive and with everyone’s help we can continue to support Beaminster School.

Thanks, everyone.

Heather Upham