

## **Chairs Report 2024 - 25**

### **Overview of the year**

TAFF have had another fantastic year, and it's been great to see some of the cash generated pay for some exciting new additions for the school. We ran less events than the previous year (23 for 23/24) which felt more manageable, however continued to keep things fresh with a new Christmas event and some themed sponsored fundraisers alongside the regular sales and discos.

### **Highlights of major achievements and successes**

We started off the year well with the £250 referral fee from McCarthy Holden – something we probably need to shout about more, and £114 from the Asda Cashpot – some great initiatives which cost parents nothing.

We introduced a couple of fantastic events, firstly the Jingle Bell Brunch which was a big hit with the families who attended and is something we can confidently promote this year and make even more successful! Also, the sponsored Pancake Flip generated a flipping marvellous £1,057, a great suggestion by Laura G which the children loved participating in and filled a gap in our calendar nicely!

We also changed up the Mother's and Father's Day sales with creativity in mind, and the feedback was great (the time and effort required from TAFF on the Father's Day sale was huge though) but it was great to introduce something different for the children to experience.

Finally, we spent a good amount of the fantastic funds raised on £7,337 and it is really lovely to see what and where the money has gone and to see the children enjoy.

### **Acknowledgements and thanks**

In our final newsletter we called out a number of people who have supported TAFF over the past year and I remain very grateful. As an additional mention I just wanted to call out Phil Pritchard who has made such a difference to TAFF and the funds raised by running the raffles for the past couple of years amounting to thousands of pounds raised. He and his wife Helen have also been regular helpers at TAFF events so will be missed. We wish them and their son Max all the best at All Saints.

### **Challenges and learnings**

Taking on the feedback of 2023/24 we have learnt to spread out and carefully plan out the calendar, which we will continue to implement moving forwards.

Christmas Cards through School Fundraising was very successful and earned significant commission, however we were late registering, and teachers were rushed to get artwork completed. This year we registered early so have already improved the position for this year.

We realised the MPLC license auto renews but didn't use the licence this year which is a wasted cost – we have taken note and will not be letting this auto renew again unless we are keen to run a movie night at least twice in the year to cover the cost (Mrs O may have a view on that one 😊).

Sponsored events which were fun for the children included Pancake Flip and Money Train – both excellent and could and should be adapted so they can be run again as they were low to no cost and minimal effort.

New starter picnic needs some thought as weather has hindered this for 2 years now -open to thoughts and ideas.

Glasses for the Father's Day sale – never again, need I say more! Time consuming and stressful.

### **Future Plans and Goals**

Repeating last year – we need to focus on seeking out easy fundraising opportunities. We will be looking to rollout the School Lottery this year and sharing a Matched Funding story which may resonate with parents who may not be able to give up their time, but their company could bolster our earnings with corporate initiatives. We might also get the Car Boot in this year!

This forthcoming year will also be about seeking out and handing over the reins to the future committee as Laura F and I will be leaving Tavistock next summer and we'd love to make that transition as seamless as possible.

TAFF will remain in close contact with Mrs O'Connor to ensure it can support the school in the most efficient ways, helping to bring the curriculum to life or providing well needed resources.

### **Call to Action**

TAFF always need more people to become involved, and this could be less time consuming than you think. It may be joining us on a wrapping evening, printing, emailing companies for prize donations, being a personal shopper or taking a turn as our mascot Taffy!

It makes a difference and really helps us to run a full programme of fun events for our children.

### **Closing Remarks**

It was another great year which included some really fun and profitable new events. It was also a great start for our lovely Treasurer Laura G who has been wonderful with her ideas, account mgmt. and gardening prowess! I continue enjoy being part of such a fantastic committee which truly enriches the lives of the children here at Tavistock and I look forward to hopefully see it grow with new faces over the next year with a clear succession plan for 26/27.