

As we approach another school year end and with summer upon us, (long may the weather continue), I just wanted to write and share some highlights of our past year, and also look towards our next school year. So, whether you are departing, joining or staying for the next year, please read on about the fantastic things you have helped achieve for our children....



Our main achievement this year is the amazing **School Farm**. From the goat shed, the fencing, to the goats themselves, the ducks, chickens and the bees, along with some very generous donations of materials & time the PTA have funded a significant amount to enable the project to move at pace. The year 5 & 6 children are able to have special 'Farm Coordinator' roles, and all of the children get time in the farm be it as a class or in smaller groups. We will continue to fund the animal costs and care through our '**Hot Chocolate/Ice Pop Wednesday's**'. Your support here drives enough per week to cover these animal costs as well as providing new playground equipment on a regular basis. (balls, painting of new games, board games)

Our other events have included the 2 'all school' discos, the termly Friday film club, the Xmas Fayre and Secret shopping day, and the new Mother & Father's Day events. These events were planned with the children in mind, and whilst a small profit is made/costs are covered, these have been designed exclusively for the children to enjoy. They have been able to go ahead through the dedication and hard work of the parents who have been able to support in preparation and running of these events. Thank you 😊

Turning thoughts to September, I would like to encourage as many people as possible to attend our **AGM scheduled for Monday 16th September at 3.30pm** (Children welcome to stay). The rough agenda will be to cover Committee and role election, Finance, MRJS Events Planned and Dates, & HI-5 Responsibilities. I fully appreciate that the PTA can be an extra task for all of us and, in this already busy world, it is simply not possible to do everything. With that in mind, please consider that you do not have to join a committee/attend meetings. A team of parent helpers to call upon is where the success lies, be it helping in the preparation or at the event itself.

In September we will also continue to **TURN GREEN** and will be launching our project of '**Recycle Everyday**' in conjunction with '**Recycle Hayling**'. We will be purchasing 2 bins to support this launch and will have a dedicated school space to encourage children and us to recycle specific items such as milk bottle tops. More news to follow on this. We will continue to '**Recycle with Michael**' with our clothing bin in the car park and keep this as a campus project sharing profits with the Infant School

The role of **HI-5** will remain a continual focus and our PTA has now received a total of £4000 from this joint venture. Much more importantly, it has facilitated a fantastic community spirit among the Island and often other businesses are raising money and choosing HI-5 as their charity of choice. Whilst the HI-5 events are extra 'asks' of our parents, I do work closely with our school, the headteachers and as part of the HI-5 committee to plan and ensure that we minimise clashes. Following feedback from last year's HI-5 Christmas Market, we have amended this to a Fireworks & Early Christmas Market planned for **Saturday 9th November**. Something a little different!

Lastly, I would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to all of our helpers over this past year. Specifically to the parents that donate so much time to our PTA Events and preparation, the school office team who are always very supportive, and to this year's committee team; **Katie Williamson, Lynsey Gilmartin, Sarah Stradwick and Lisa Cox**. This will be a final farewell to Katie and Lisa as their children depart MRJS, though I am hopeful we will still have Katie's help through the school office, I have to say a special thank you to **Lisa Cox**, who stepped in to the treasurer role (almost willingly) stating she would only do it for a year 4 years later here we are 😊. Thank you Lisa.

Have a great summer!

Hayley

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