

LE ROCQUIER SCHOOL PTA

Chairman's Report for 2015/2016

It never ceases to amaze me how quickly it comes around to the next A.G.M!

It doesn't seem so very long ago that I was starting work on my Report for 2014/2015, yet here we are already thinking about what happened during the School Year 2015/2016.

I am pleased to be able to report that it has been another successful year for your PTA, with the hard-working Committee having once again raised significant funds for the School. More to the point the Committee - on your behalf - has also made significant and much-needed contributions to school-related activities/projects, most of which are referred to below.

Car Boot Sales continue to be the PTA's main source of income. We have kept to the well-established 'first-Saturday-of-the-month' (and extra mid-Summer month events) programme, and we've settled on the main School car park as the best and safest venue given that it separates stallholders and their stalls from moving vehicles! [*see attached photograph of the event held on 6th August 2016*]. Access arrangements to the car park are such that we cannot safely utilise any portion of the area unused by stallholders for parking. However, visiting customers are well-provided for in the both bus lay-bys and the smaller of the 2 ball courts. If necessary, the larger (slightly more distant - but not by much) ball court can also be brought into use for 'overflow' parking.

Whereas the Car Boot Sale events in September and October 2015 were well-attended, sadly this was not the case in February (albeit a somewhat earlier start than usual) and March 2016. The weather on Car Boot Sale Saturdays since then has been relatively kind, with the only other event 'abandoned' (we never 'cancel', and only abandon if no stallholders turn up) being in early May. We still have lots of 'regular customers' - many of whom have become 'friends' of the school - who are keen to participate in what is, in effect, a form of recycling. In support of the general principle of 'recycling', the PTA's recycled school uniform 'Shop' at Car Boot Sales proved popular in the early days, enabling good quality items of uniform to be purchased at reasonable prices. However, our 'stock' became depleted and few replacement items have been forthcoming. Consequently, the PTA would be grateful for further donations of items of uniform at any time if this venture is to have a chance of continuing.

On the 'Community' front, those of you who are residents of Grouville, St. Clement or St. Saviour may have seen occasional articles in the respective Parish magazines ("*Grouville Gazette*"; "*L'Amarrage*"; and "*La Cloche*") during the year which featured Le Rocquier School and/or PTA activities.

PTA Car Boot Sales cease once the winter months arrive, although we will once again be in operation until the beginning of October, after which we will take a break from Car Boot Sales until the Spring of 2017 - hopefully the first Saturday of either February or March - weather permitting. However, we are still working hard on your behalf, as you will see from the note below about the forthcoming "Race Night" event!!

It did not, after all, prove possible to hold a Cheese and Wine evening during 2015/2016, although this remains a possibility for the new School Year – subject to support from parents and friends prepared to purchase tickets! Do keep an eye open for further information on this in due course!

A big “thank you” from me goes to all Committee members, and co-opted members, for their efforts in supporting the School. In particular, the Committee has been pleased to welcome Jenny Richardson as Treasurer, who has been keeping our finances in order and ensuring that the PTA remains solvent! We continue to have the benefit of parents of current and former students, as well as a number of members of the School’s teaching staff. In particular, the PTA owes a huge ‘thank you’ to Stewart Elston, until recently Assistant Head Teacher with responsibility for Community, who has played a major role in supporting the PTA, particularly in respect of Car Boot Sales. Stewart has been the PTA’s main link with the School, but thanks must also go to the Head Teacher and the School’s senior management team and all the staff at the School for their continued efforts towards your children’s education. I was honoured to be nominated by the Head Teacher for the Jersey Evening Post ‘Community Awards’ and thank all those who kindly voted for me.

By way of assisting the School’s good work, the PTA continues to provide funding for projects which might not otherwise have secured money from the normal budgetary process. For the year 2015/2016, the PTA has made the following contributions totalling £3,306 –

- £500 to the Performing Arts Faculty for a performance drum kit;
- £490 towards the Years 10 and 11 football cup finals;
- £500 by way of a contribution to a new storage facility at the rear of the School – a small area of which is dedicated to PTA paraphernalia;
- £500 to the P.E. Department towards the ‘expanding’ Sports Day/Sports Awards;
- £250 to Careers: Pastoral Lifelong Learning towards ‘Record of Achievement’ folders for Year 11 students;
- £366 towards the hire of an extension to the stage for the prestigious 10th Anniversary Dance Show’ presented by the School’s Creative Arts Faculty;
and
- £700 towards the Year 6 Author Visit.

The work of the PTA is all clearly to the benefit of the students and the School and, although it could not have been done without the PTA Committee, it also requires support from YOU, the parents and friends of Le Rocquier School. There is much you can do to help. As well as attending functions, parents and friends can also support the school by participating in the various ongoing schemes, such as donating items for the second-hand uniform ‘Shop’ referred to above; through membership of the 100 Club* (monthly draws – *see below*); and by using the PTA’s own C.I. Co-Operative Society account number (313660) – even if only occasionally.

A 100 Club is run every School Year (with special thanks to Sam Ennis, our 100 Club Co-ordinator) and, with membership at only £12 for the year, this is a great way of supporting the School! [** Don't forget that it's still not too late to join the 2016/2017 100 Club - and you could win a prize of £50 at tonight's A.G.M, not to mention the possibility of £100 just before Christmas – see below!*]

As referred to above, consideration is to be given to holding a special 'Christmas Bingo' evening in either late November or early December 2016. Although subject to confirmation by the new PTA Committee to be elected at the A.G.M., if it does go ahead the doors will most likely open at 6 p.m. for a prompt start at 6.30 p.m. All are welcome and, in order to attract as many players as possible, the big prize game will guarantee at least a whopping £50 for the winner - and it could be even more, because the more people that take part the bigger the prize will be! There'll probably be no entrance charge, so – once confirmed as proceeding - do please tell all your friends, neighbours and relations, and get them to pass the word around about the free entry and that Le Rocquier School is the place to be for Christmas Bingo! [** And doubly-so because the Bingo event will probably also be used to draw the magnificent December 100 Club prize of £100! 100 Club membership will be on sale during the evening so why not come along and get yourself and the family another number or more for extra chances to win!]. ALTERNATIVELY: If the Christmas Bingo does not go ahead, there are also plans for a 'Race Night' event! It is possible that we might not be able to fit this in before the end of the year, but if that's the case, look out for further announcements in 2017!*]

I urge you, please, to support the School and the PTA, and help to give all students at Le Rocquier School the best that can be provided.

Thank you for your continued support. Contact us through the School website (www.lerocquier.com) or on Facebook: lerocquierpta or e-mail us at pta@lrs.sch.je. We look forward to seeing you all at future events.

Peter Monamy
October 2016

P.S. And please don't forget that the PTA's C.I. Co-Op Society Share No. is 313660 and that this can be used at all Co-Op stores throughout the Islands. Thank you.

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I would like to purchase ticket(s) for Le Rocquier School PTA 100 Club. Tickets are £12 each.

Membership runs from September 2016 - August 2017. Monthly draws of £50 to be won, with a £100 prize in December.

*I **enclose** a cheque in the amount of £ payable to "Le Rocquier School PTA" (or cash) [n.b. A Standing Order mandate is also available].*

Please complete in block capitals:

Name

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Address

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Postcode.....

Telephone.....

**PLEASE RETURN APPLICATION FORM AND CHEQUE OR CASH TO:
Mrs. Samantha Ennis, 41 Le Benefice, Le Marais, St. Clement JE2 6BF**

