

Head Teacher's report to the MSPTA Summer 2018

The considerable efforts of the Minster School Parent Teacher Association make a significant difference to the students. On behalf of the leaders and governors of the school I would like to express my thanks and recognition for the work of the group.

In particular I would like to thank the officers of the group, namely Alison Hardwick, Tracey Cant, Sharon Burnham and Adam Brown who have given their time over a number of years to lead the organisation. I am hopeful others in the group or more widely from the parent population might take up the reins alongside them to continue with the sterling support offered by MSPTA.

This year has seen a number of successes for the group, very much recognised and appreciated by the school.

- The presence of the MSPTA on social media has increased considerably through the use of Twitter @MSPTASouthwell . My thanks to Lynn Preece for her efforts in this area. Raising awareness of the group's work will hopefully bring benefits through increased membership and showcases your efforts.
- The craft fair earlier this academic year was a great success, very well supported by the community. This annual event has become a successful fundraiser and an event which brings the community into school. Also fantastic for a bit of Christmas shopping of course....
- A stalwart team of committed MSPTA members provide refreshments at a wide range of school events, including at concerts, shows and open evenings. This enhances the experience of those attending the events and helps maintain funds.
- This year the MSPTA has left a major legacy to the school through funding the improvement of outside spaces. Additional sports facilities have been added. These are constantly used throughout lunchtimes, particularly the basketball courts.
- The new outside covered seating areas will be a long-term improvement to be enjoyed by students for generations to come. Your contribution of approx. £14,000 has made this development possible.

If I may be so bold, I would like to raise a few areas for future consideration. Certainly only questions, not demands :

- School finances nationally remain challenging. To what extent would the MSPTA be prepared to fundraise for subscriptions to learning services for students? E.g online revision resources.
- Could the 50/50 club evolve to bring in more funds and be refreshed?
- Will the craft fair continue to be the main annual event for the PTA?

My apologies I am unable to attend the AGM this year but instead I would like to attend your next meeting so that we might discuss your responses to questions and to consider how I can support you all in your ongoing efforts.

I thank all members of the group for their efforts, fundraising and support of the school. As much as material contributions are very much appreciated, the wider support for the school and its aims cannot be underestimated.

Matthew Parris
Head Teacher
AGM – 14th May 2018