



**BRIGSTOCK LATHAM'S  
SCHOOL**

***'Forward thinking and creative, valuing faith, tradition, community and achievement.'***

**PFA REPORT SEPTEMBER 2019**

First of all...THANK YOU FROM ALL THE STAFF AND CHILDREN!

We asked for a lot last year, to get started on a huge project for our school- developing the garden space. Over the summer a huge amount of work took place, and the first phase of the building project has been completed. We are really delighted that the area has been so transformed and we know that this area will have such an impact on the education and well-being of the children.

From this...



...to this...



There is still a lot more work to do and we would like to continue to focus on the redevelopment of this area over the coming year. As a school we will also be raising some money to develop the outdoor reading area through a 'sponsored read' event, and our Day 10:10 project this term involves developing the garden as a place where we can develop skills, knowledge and understanding across a range of curriculum subjects. I have attached an overview of the unit, and hopefully this confirms how well-spent the PFA money will prove to be. We have funded all the resources for this unit through our Lost Words Gallery event.

**LEAVERS**

Our leavers had a really good send-off at the end of the last academic year, and we want to thank the PFA for providing refreshments and buying books, and supporting their end-of-term events. It really did make a difference to our Year 6 children, and provide them with some lasting memories of their time here.

**RESPONSE TO THE SUMMER FAYRE** has also been overwhelmingly positive. It was a huge amount of work, but it was a fantastic community event, enjoyed by everyone.

**THIS TERM:**

We have already welcomed our new Reception parents and we want to thank the PFA for providing and serving refreshments and for being so welcoming.

We have a number of events in the school calendar:

**OPEN AFTERNOON**

We would welcome some refreshments being served from 1.15-1.45pm as parents arrive on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

**GARDEN-OPENING:**

We want to share all the amazing outcomes from our 'Great Outdoors' unit, at 2.30pm on Tuesday November 26<sup>th</sup>, and we will be having an opening event. We would love to have some refreshments served...in our outdoor classroom?

**BOOK QUIZ and ADVENT WINDOW:**

We have booked December 3<sup>rd</sup> for the Advent Window and we are hoping to run a Book Quiz as a fun family event prior to the opening. Families will be asked to make teams and enter the quiz, and we will then open our window, which will have a book-theme to link with our focus on Reading as a school. We ask for PFA involvement in refreshments for the Advent Window, and if possible some money towards the window itself for outdoor paint, wood panels and lights- approx. £65. This is such a special event for the school and the village as a whole and we are really proud to take part each year.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS**

PFA involvement is always appreciated in the selling of the cards- date to be confirmed (middle of October). We make £1 profit from the sale of each pack of cards.

**ART ATTACK**

...possibly a date at the end of November/ start of December?

Our pupil leadership team are also looking to improve the playhouse on the school playground- 'Rachael's Cottage'. This house was donated by the family of Rachael Capper who was a TA at our school. It has fallen into disrepair and the children have led an assembly to share their ideas on improving it. They might need a small amount of money, and I suggested that they write to the PFA.

[INTO THE FUTURE... We would like to get started on some 1620-2020 planning to commemorate 400 years of education here in Brigstock. We have a suggested meeting date of 6.30pm on 17<sup>th</sup> October to get started on some planning for this important school and village event.](#)

*We are keen to promote the PFA on the website more widely and to celebrate and share the things that go on for our children. We would welcome a volunteer to liaise with Mrs Schofield and myself to keep that section up-to-date- thank you.*

***As with many schools, our budget continues to be very tight, so we might also request some funding for school resources through the year and we thank you for supporting this- and for providing so much for our school as a whole.***

**Thank you all again, and we all look forward to working with everyone over the coming year,**

*Sandy Ettridge*

and the staff of Brigstock school