Ripponden J & I PTFA AGM- 11/09/23, 7.00pm, School hall
Chairpersons report by Isabelle Keyzer

The role of the PTFA is to raise funds for our school to aid in improving the resources for the pupils and staff, these are funds that we wouldn’t normally have access to from the Local Authority. The PTFA aim to do this by holding events for the pupils, staff and community to enjoy by asking for monetary donations. This year has been the first year since 2019 that we have been able to return to our usual in person events which has been lovely and much enjoyed by all. This year the PTFA, pupils, staff and school community have been able to raise a wonderful £5,757.90. I would like to thank the dedicated members of the PTFA committee, helpers, staff, parents and pupils for their contribution to our events. This would not have been possible without you. At last year's AGM it was agreed that our target for this year would be to provide 30 iPads to school, enough for one per pupil in a class. Midway through the year we were able to provide enough funds for school to purchase 14 iPads and we hope to be able to provide all or almost all the remaining funds for the 16 remaining iPads during tonight's AGM.

This year we have seen the return of many of our events in their true form of in person. We have held a Halloween Disco which the children thoroughly enjoyed. We held our physical Secret Santa shop this year which was as popular as ever and it was really lovely for the PTFA and Pupils to be able to engage in such a fun and exciting event together. This year we also saw the return of the much-loved Grandparents around the Christmas tree. We also introduced a new event of a professional magic show which was a huge hit with the pupils and their families. Our most successful event this year was the Secret Santa shop which raised £1,140.19, this was an increase on last year, as the shop was now back in its original form allowing the children to browse and shop, as usual, this event received positive feedback from the Pupils. Our School Lottery was also a successful fundraiser and brought in £932.60 which is slightly less than last year, we hope to be able to promote this more next year as it requires minimal effort but brings a good return. Our first Grandparents around the Christmas tree event since 2019 brought in a fabulous £877.85, the Grandparents and children thoroughly enjoyed being back together in the school hall to share festive songs. The Grandparents were able to purchase tickets for our huge raffle and enjoyed refreshments, we hope future years are as successful as this one.

Unfortunately, this year there have been a few events which were unable to go ahead due to low number of volunteers. We had hoped to be able to hold a Colour run event which seemed like it would be popular when doing market research, however, there was not enough volunteers to be able to run this event safely. We also hoped this year would see the return of a Summer Fair but again there was not enough volunteers to make this happen. At last year's AGM we had lots of new volunteers who were hoping to be able to help us throughout the year but unfortunately numbers again dropped significantly over the year leaving around 5 regular members at meetings and events. I have made the difficult decision to step down as Chair due to changes in my work and personal life, I have enjoyed my year as Chair and it has been beneficial to me in learning to take on a leadership role. I am intending to stay an active member of the PTFA just without a role and will attend meeting's when possible and help at as many events as I can. I hope we are able to recruit more members this year to make our fundraising even more of a success and we may be able to hold new and exciting events due to more volunteers.

Finally, I would like to extend my thanks to all of the PTFA committee, helpers, staff and our wider school community. The fundraising we do would not have been possible without you all and I am grateful for your dedication and effort. I hope we can continue to raise much needed funds for our school in the coming year.

Thank you again for all of your support.

Isabelle Keyzer
Chairperson 2022/ 2023