

CHAIR REPORT - JUNE 23rd , 2015

Welcome to those of you attending today's AFS Meeting, the last in this Academic Year.

I would also like to thank all those parents who support the AFS both financially and with their time.

With the monies raised in this current year, the Art Department purchased a much needed DSLR camera, the music department bought tabla drums, the PE department bought exercise bikes and the physics department purchased physics stop watches. We also helped buy rugby tour trophies, chess clocks, a quiz kit and the AFS paid, as it always does, for the printing costs of the school magazine, the Chronicle. In addition, we funded a number of bursaries so that individual boys could take part in ventures and projects organised by themselves outside school. As you know, the school has suffered a very large cut in its income and we try very hard to raise monies for extra curricular items and activities so that the boys learn more at school than just how to fly through their exams.

This term the AFS organised and ran the very successful Summer Party on May 16th at the Kitchen Garden Cafe in Kings Heath. We were entertained by a blues band, Steve Ajao and the Giants, by the comedienne Barbara Nice and by a jazz quartet of sixth formers organised by Mr Palmer. Year 7 boys also entered a bake off competition and the first prize of £15 Amazon Vouchers went to Zachary McGuire. The cakes were then shared out at the party and were all fantastically tasty!! Well done to those boys in year 7 who decided to have a go!

A staggering figure of almost £1000 was raised from a combination of profits from ticket and raffle ticket sales. There was a huge range of excellent raffle prizes such as ballet tickets to the Birmingham Royal Ballet, 2 tickets for the CBSO and a £100 voucher to a leading restaurant chain as well as many, many other good quality prizes. Thank you so much to all those generous parents who contributed in this way to the success of the party. In addition, we were very lucky to have had a generous donation of sparkling wine and chocolates from Waitrose in Hall Green. I think everyone had a great time even if the music was a little loud for some.

Thank you, especially, to the parents who helped out on the night!

This term we have a range of events :

June 27th - Familiarisation Morning was introduced last year for the first time so that parents of pupils who are thinking about sitting the 11+ exam can come into school and see what the exam and the school is like. We will help with some light refreshments.

June 30th - New Year 7 Parents induction evening for which we have prepared the Welcome Packs

July 8th - Sports Day (with a reserve day of July 15th if it rains) - the AFS sells refreshments and sweets etc to the boys

July 8, 9 and 10 - Senior Drama where we sell refreshments and sweets in the interval.

July 11th - this is the **Alumni Day** where the AFS assists the teachers with cream teas and some other refreshments.

In general, I am rather concerned by the falling numbers of parents attending the AFS meetings and the falling number in those offering to help on a voluntary basis at the various regular events each term. Without helpers these events will not be able to continue. There is a small core of

regular parents who support each event but our sons will leave in the next year or two and it is vital that we have replacements to carry the AFS forward.

You are all incredibly generous but if each and every parent, mother or father, helped just once at ONE event in the 7 years that your son(s) is/are here, we would have enough helpers. Everyone is busy and it's easy to assume someone else will do the work. We have about 10 regular events each year and there are about 700 boys and therefore approximately 1400 individual parents if my rather weak maths serves me well.....if someone wants to draw up a rota chart please contact the school! That's a joke - but you get my point!

Next term's first **AFS meeting** will be, subject to confirmation, **Wednesday, September 16th**. There are a couple of events early next term for which we will need helpers - the **11+ Entrance Exam Morning** on **Saturday 12th September** and the **Open Evening (Friday , September 18th) and Open Morning (Saturday,September 19th)**.

If you can help at any event this term or next term, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Helen Felton at the new email address for volunteers:

volunteers@afscamphillboys.org.uk

We hope your son is having fun this term despite exams. Enjoy the summer and see you all next term or, if you can help, then at one of the remaining events this term.

Anjum Stuart

Chair of the AFS