



# Alexander Dickson Primary School PTA

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Principal: Mr RJ Lawther BEd. PQHNI

## **Alexander Dickson Primary School P.T.A Chairperson's Report** **September 2019 – August 2021**

I am delighted to welcome you all here this evening to Alexander Dickson Primary School's PTA annual general meeting and present my report encompassing September 2019 to August 2020 and September 2020 to August 2021.

An extra special welcome to those in attendance who aren't current PTA members - it is great to have some new faces and we really do appreciate your support at the AGM.

The PTA is extremely proud to be a part of Alexander Dickson Primary School which is held in such high esteem for the all-round education, support and pastoral care it offers the pupils of Ballygowan village and surrounding areas. Since the last annual general meeting we have again seen a lot of hard work from all staff, pupils and parents in raising money for the school, despite the constraints of the pandemic.

I have outlined below the activities organised and work carried out by the PTA to meet its main objective of advancing the education of pupils in school through raising funds to purchase educational resources and equipment.

The 2020/21 school year commenced as follows;-

AGM held in school on 10th September 2019

A new committee for the year 2019 was elected. The following nominations were proposed and seconded:-

Chairperson	William Page
Secretary	Victoria Gibson and Sarah Connor
Treasurer	Lisa Turkington
Committee	Natalie Page, Julie Quinn and Christine Drake
Teachers	Mrs Craig and Mrs Neill

Due to government guidelines as a result of Covid-19, it was not possible to hold an annual general meeting of the PTA in September 2020 in the school. In light of this situation it was deemed reasonable that the committee members would remain elected to carry-out the duties and

objectives of the Charity until plans to hold an AGM could be implemented as soon as reasonably possible after government advice on holding meetings changed.

This decision was recorded per PTA minutes and taken in response to the current health advice.

At this stage of the meeting I would like to pay tribute and thank Mrs Craig, our former principal for over 20 years' service as head of ADPS. Mrs Craig retired at the end of December 2020 and we will be forever grateful for her devoted service, teaching, guidance and inspiration to the pupils and their families who have been fortunate to be educated at Alexander Dickson.

Mr Richard Lawther took up the position of head as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021, and has been extremely pro-active in his role, including the launch of a brand new website which will be able to showcase the wonderful work of the PTA. We look forward to working together with Mr Lawther in the year ahead, hopefully being able to organise more activities with children and their families in school if restrictions allow.

We are grateful to Mr Lawther to enable this meeting to be held in school this evening.

#### Fund Raising Events during the period

- Tesco Castlebawn Bag Pack 14th September 2019 raised £1,065.83
- Halloween Disco 29th October 2019 raised £190.21
- Christmas Raffle and Children's Calendars December 2019 raised £1,032.00
- Movie and Munch Afternoon 31st January 2020 raised £248

After these fundraising events government lockdown restrictions were put in place which meant no further events could take place between March 2020 and June 2020.

At the start of the new school year in September 2020, restrictions were still in place so limited fundraising events could be organised. We did however still manage to hold our always popular Christmas Raffle which raised £900.

PTA also signed up to Amazon Smile at the end of 2020 to help boost funds, whereby if you select Alexander Dickson Primary School PTA as your chosen charity, a percentage of the sale is gifted back to the school. A total amount of £48.15 has been received to August 2021 since its inception.

The PTA was delighted to receive funding from DAERA of £1,477.20 to part fund the installation of a new outdoor adventure climbing frame at the beginning of 2021.

#### Chairperson's comments

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all members of the PTA for their hard work during these difficult times, with their constant enthusiasm and eagerness to do as much as possible. I would also like to thank the teachers, parents and most importantly the children who have all been brilliant in these trying times, consistently looking ahead to the next event to support the PTA and our wonderful school. We definitely follow our school motto – 'Helping small people with big ideas'!

I look forward to the new school year and fundraising events now that the restrictions have started to ease and the support we can continue to give to Alexander Dickson Primary School.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W Page', written in a cursive style.

William Page  
Chairperson

14th October 2021