



## **Minutes of Anton Friends PTA Meeting, Held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

Attendees: Joanne Kelf, Kerri Culver, Angela Carter, Charlotte White, Karen Helsdon, Nikki Belbin, Stacey Smith

Apologies: Shev Saddington, Emma Kirkup, Leanne Hardiman-James, Gemma Newby, Lauren Kirk, Laura Skeates, Beth Trenchard.

This meeting was held at Anton Junior School. Angela opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their hard work and help last term with organising events.

### **Breakdown/Improvements**

#### **1. Junior School Silent Disco – 27/11/2025**

The disco was very well received and the children seemed to enjoy the event; in particular they liked having the choice of which music they listened to and at what volume. There was a small break out area for any children finding things overwhelming which worked well as the children were still able to be part of the disco and use the headsets whilst being away from the more crowded areas.

The amount raised was £542.81 for the school. Kerri will send out a questionnaire to families to ask for feedback on whether this would be good to repeat and also on whether families would also be interested in family silent disco for parents and children.

#### **2. Santa's Grotto – 05/12/2025**

This event was run during the school day on the day of the Christmas Fayre. There were some challenges with running the event this year, the use of Sum-up for payment caused some problems as it was difficult to match the information entered by parents with the children and therefore produce a list of which children had booked in for the event.

It was felt that Sum-up is useful for payments during events such as a fayre or the picnic but not so helpful for events which are paid for in advance.

There were some children who were missed on the first occasion but with the help of the school Santa was able to return and so no children who had paid missed out on seeing him.

It was discussed that at future events this should be organised as a separate event after the school day and on a different day to the Christmas Fayre. Parents can then bring their

children rather than children being taken out of class. Kerri offered to make the MADD room available as a grotto for this.

**3. Christmas Fayre – 05.12.2025**

The fayre went well. The weather was bad and there was still some queuing. It was suggested there might need to be more signage so parents are aware they are able to enter the building at both the front and back doors.

**Forthcoming Events**

**1. Infant School Stay and Play**

It was decided that the PTA would not be organising this event at the Infant School. As the event is largely run by the school staff it would be possible for them to still organise this without PTA support if they wished.

**2. Family Bingo Night – 11/02/2026 – 6 – 7.30pm**

There are crisps and some tombola prizes left over from the Christmas Fayre and it was decided to hold an event to prevent these going to waste. A Family Bingo Night was felt to be fairly simple and in-expensive to hold. This will be held in the Junior School Hall. Maximum capacity is 100 players and a minimum of 50 tickets will need to be sold in order to make the event viable. Payment will be in advance via Scopay. Angela will organise a form to be sent out in advance to families so they can register interest, the first 100 to respond will be invited to then purchase a ticket via Scopay with a reserve list held for anyone interested but not in the first 100 replies.

Sum-up can be used for payments for refreshments on the night. It was discussed that cans of wine, beer etc could be purchased to be available for the adults with suggested donations to Anton Friends. It was felt it may be worth adding a question to the form asking if parents would want to take up the offer of alcoholic drinks being available to avoid making unnecessary purchases in advance of this event.

There are left over presents from the gift-wrapping room at the Fayre which could be used as prizes for Bingo and bottles from the tombola which could be used for a bottle tombola alongside the Bingo. Crisps and cans can be made available to purchase as refreshments.

**3. Additional Committee Meeting**

There will be an additional committee meeting on Thursday 12/02/2026 to discuss the Summer Fayre. This will be held at 6.15pm at Anton Junior School.

**4. Bags to School – dates to be confirmed**

To be held after each half term, this event will be organised for the week beginning 23/02/2026. It was discussed that it would be ideal to have a small team of volunteers who could take over the running of this event. This would involve liaising with the company to book in dates, and then advertising to families via WhatsApp groups. On the day it would then require two volunteers to help with organising the bags for collection.

**5. Mother's Day Sales – 12/03/2026 and 13/03/2026 and Father's Day Sales – 18/06/2026 and 19/06/2026**

It was decided to cancel these events which have been running for a long time to allow for a more family inclusive event instead which will be held in April.

**6. Easter Raffle – 16/03/2026**

Dress down days will be held on Friday 13/03/2026 in exchange for donations of Easter eggs. The raffle will be drawn on 16/03/2026 to allow prize collection during that week in time for the Easter break.

**7. Break the Rules Day – 27/03/2026**

The date for the next Break the Rules Day was confirmed as Friday 27/03/2026.

**8. Spring Family Café – date to be confirmed**

This was suggested as an alternative to Mother's Day and Father's Day events. It would be held as two separate events for each school and would be a ticketed event. Parents would be invited to afternoon tea with their children during an afternoon in the school day. It was suggested that children could be involved in the organising, table decorations and serving of food.

The week commencing 13/04/2026 was suggested for this event with exact date to be confirmed. The time will be 2pm.

**9. Picnic – 08/05/2026**

The date of the picnic was altered to Friday 08/05/2026 – this would need to be checked with Laura Skeates to confirm whether this date is convenient for the Infant School.

**10. Summer Fayre – Friday 19/06/2026 (Dress down days – 22/05/2026 in exchange for raffle prizes and 12/06/2026 for in exchange for tombola prizes)**

It had previously been suggested that holding the Fayre on a Saturday may be better as this might increase attendance. This was discussed by the committee. It was discussed that the Fayre had previously been on a Saturday but was changed to a Friday as PTA events became smaller after Covid. It was discussed that the change from Friday to Saturday did not reduce the amount of money raised for the schools, but that it did reduce the pressure on volunteers, in particular school staff who may not be able (and shouldn't be expected) to give up their weekends. It was therefore, decided to continue with a Summer Fayre to be held after school on a Friday.

It was discussed that this should be well advertised and wherever possible should not clash with other schools' events.

This year outside stall holders will be invited to attend.

A separate Committee Meeting will be held on 12/02/2026 to discuss the details.

**11. Summer Disco – 09/07/2026**

Dates, timings and details to be discussed at a future meeting.

**12. Leaver's Hoodies**

These need to be ordered by 01/05/2026.

**Any Other Business**

It was noted that parents sometimes have overpaid for events (such as Santa's Grotto) and asked for the money to be used to allow another child who wouldn't otherwise be able to take part to join in. Whilst this might not be possible for Santa's Grotto, Kerri explained that we can keep

a “Hardship Fund” which we can use to support children to join in with school events where they may otherwise miss out.

Feedback had been given from parents that there were a lot of school events very close together during December. It was discussed that the Silent Disco was held later in the year than normal and that this could in future be held before the half term and not so close to Christmas.

Stacey informed the Committee that she will not be able to continue as Treasurer after this school year. She will remain in post until July to allow time to find someone else and so that Stacey can hand over.

Kerri has some funding requests with exciting projects including a sensory garden. She will liaise with Stacey for costings.

#### **Committee Meeting Dates:**

Sub-committee meeting (Summer Fayre): Thu 12/02/2026 6.15pm Anton Junior School.

Full Committee Meeting: Wed 04/03/2026 6.15pm Anton Junior School.

Full Committee Meeting: Wed 06/05/2026 6pm Anton Infant School.

Full Committee Meeting: Wed 24/06/2026 6.15pm Anton Junior School