

Highshore School Parents Group – End of Year Review – 2016/17

Dear Parents

This is just a summary of a very busy year by the **Parent Group** supporting a variety of activities at Highshore school.

The **autumn** term involved supporting school visits, market stalls, parent evenings, resource making meetings, successful school **Reunion disco** in **November** and school Christmas plays. We also had a lovely **meal** at the end of term arranged by the **staff and pupils** which was much appreciated.

In the **spring** term we had our first **Parents Group Meeting** on **16 January 2017** which was followed by our **Parents Resource Meeting** on **30 January** which were both very productive and enjoyable.

In a response to promoting reading/ literacy in school the **Parent Group** supported a new **Parent Volunteers Reading Programe** which has been very successful throughout the year.

In addition, we had our second **Parents Group International Evening Event** on **10 March 2017**. This surpassed all expectations even beyond that of last year with an attendance of around **126** people, lively music throughout, entertainment from Highshore's gifted and talented pupils (including a show stopping performance by our guest entertainer, **Simba**) and a wonderful banquet of food from parents reflecting a variety of flavouring from around the world. The pictures also captured some of the fun and excitement of the evening too.

This was followed by supporting a successful Market stall sale at Southwark Offices.

In the first half of the **summer** term the **Parent Group** returned to a busy activity agenda commencing with Highshore's first ever **Scholastic book fair** on **15 May** where members of the **Group** sold books to pupils and parents throughout the day on a rota basis helping to raise over **£400** of much needed school funds which was a very impressive achievement. This was followed by **Highshore Get Moving** sports and activity day on **17 May** and involved a variety of activities which were both inspiring and enjoyable and then another **Market Stall** sale in **Camberwell Green** before the end of half term.

In the second half of the **summer** term, the **Parent Group** began by attending the **Year 6 Parents** intake evening on **13 June** and meeting prospective parents for the next **Year 7** pupils of which there is a record number enrolling. This was very productive and the Parent Group invited these parents to a coffee morning in which there seven new members confirmed with several more showing interest for the start of the **autumn** term. We also supported the school's **London Day Out** on **23 June** which was a very enjoyable event.

Last, (but by no means least) was our **Leaver's Prom 2017** event held on the **7 July**. This was quietly being prepared whilst supporting all the other activities during the summer term. This was a huge success and I would like to thank the SLT and staff for their support in helping us to produce a fantastic **Prom** evening that even surpassed last year's event.

Thanks also to **Just Hospitality** who provided a wonderful array of food which made all the difference.

We had a large attendance totalling over **130** and the parents and guests had a very enjoyable time.

Thanks to the administrative organisation in helping the evening to run so smoothly with the lovely hall and table decorations, photography, catering, presentations, slide show and music which were all superb. The presentation of the personalised autograph books and T - shirts for signatures by **Eileen** to each leaver was a very special moment and received enthusiastic applause from all present.

Thanks also to the staff and governors who supported the event and took part in the celebrations. The dancing went on after the scheduled finish time with the floor still full!

Lastly, a big thank you to all the members of the **Parents Group** for their tireless dedication, passion and inspiration and it has been a pleasure for me to lead and to our fantastic **leavers** (who looked so smart!!) to whom this event was in recognition and wishing them all the very best for the future ahead.

Although I will now be an ex parent at Highshore we have already built strong links between ex and current parents over the past couple of years and would like to thank you for supporting our events over this time and contributing to helping us to support the school and pupils. Please continue to do so in any way possible and the **Group** is always pleased to welcome new members which you can indicate to **me** or **Eileen** (through the office).

Hope that you have a good summer break and the **Parents Group** will definitely do so ahead of what should be another busy, but rewarding school year in the **autumn**.

Regards

Don
(Parent Group Chair)

