PUTTING THE 'fun' IN funDRAISING

What a success 2023–24 has been for Lymm High School PTA!

It was fantastic to see new faces at our AGM at the start of the academic year in September. We have had another successful year of fundraising thanks to all the efforts of the PTA, volunteers and parents who have supported the events.

We have stocked and manned the bars at the school productions of *High School Musical* and *Matilda*, school concerts and at Lymm Festival nights, which have all been very successful. This has enabled people to get refreshments at the events, enhancing their night out with a well-stocked bar at reasonable prices!

We held a well-attended in-school quiz in February. This was a hugely successful evening thanks to Mr Hayes and his tricky and funny quiz questions, and for the burrito supper which went down really well. This year, to capture the darts fever sweeping Warrington, we even included a mid-break darts competition!

As well as internal fundraising in school, we have also been out in the wider community collecting for the Santa Float in December and volunteering for Transport Day in June. Both of these important dates in the Lymm calendar rely on volunteers to run and raise a huge amount for local charities. Everyone who volunteered on behalf of Lymm High PTA remarked on how rewarding these events were and, without people volunteering to

help, these fantastic village events could not run.

Our infamous 'Doughnut Day' has been well received yet again – with hundreds of doughnuts flying out at break time to lots of smiles and 'thank yous' from the students! Our next one is already in the calendar for the Autumn term!

The party night at Lymm Golf Club in May saw a fantastic band playing a variety of numbers which got the dance floor packed. This was followed by Lymm High School dads (Dead Good Disco) DJing until late. All the dance tunes from the 90s meant the dancing continued until late.

A new event for the PTA last month was High Legh Teas. This was a fantastic event and so many were complimentary about it. It was great to see so many Lymm parents and students get involved, either waitressing, washing up, baking cakes or coming to support the event. It was a fantastic day and one we hope to repeat next year.

With our fundraising this year we have

been really pleased to purchase items for departments to help enhance student experiences at school. These have included VR headsets (see box), a modular synthesiser to enhance music lessons, mini whiteboards and an app for the Maths department, photography equipment for the Visual Arts faculty, and a 3D printer for Design Technology.

We have lots more planned for the next academic year and would love more families to join us. We have a meeting once a term, but if you can't commit to this, but would still like to get involved, just let us know. This year some parents did not want to commit to meetings but volunteered to help at events when they could and this has been a huge help! Any help at all is appreciated. Whether this is helping us count money after events, volunteering for the Santa Float collection or Transport Day, manning a PTA event bar, buying stock, helping us market events or helping us with match funding. If you have

any other fundraising ideas, please let us know at pta@lymmhigh.org.uk.

Lastly, we would just like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has helped out with the PTA this year. For those who have volunteered, you have made a difference and without you we could not continue! The purchases we have made for school have been really beneficial to students and we hope to be able to continue with this next year. Our first meeting of the new academic year is on Monday 16th September. Look out for social media and Class Charts notices for more details. All are welcome!

Have a fantastic summer!

Clare Martin and Kerry Spink (PTA Chairs)

VR PHONE SETS HAVE ARRIVED

VR phone sets have arrived at Lymm High's coding club! The headsets are providing immersive, interactive learning experiences that make abstract coding concepts tangible and engaging. With VR, students can visualise complex algorithms, interact with three-dimensional data structures, and participate in virtual coding environments that mimic real-world applications. This hands-on approach helps demystify coding by allowing students to see the immediate impact of their code in a dynamic, visual context. The students are testing out the VR headsets with some VR apps in order to get used to the environment before coding projects for them.