

# **WHSB Parents' Association Annual General Meeting 2023 Chairperson's Report**

As Chairperson I should like to thank you all for joining us this evening for the Parents' Association AGM. Over the last five years, the Parents' Association has donated over £50,000 to the School across several departments, most notably during its Centenary Year in 2020. Post-pandemic, we are resuming our momentum and look forward to another busy year raising funds for and supporting the School. Items and projects funded by the Parents' Association outside of Departmental budgets help the School to deliver a broad curriculum which is of great benefit to students. This year we have sponsored medals and badges for the PE and MFL Departments to the value of £850 which have been greatly appreciated by students as a visible reflection of both their individual and team achievements

Looking back at the last academic year, our first Parents' Association event held since the Pandemic was in September 2022, the New Year 7 Parents' Meet and Greet Evening – the first opportunity for parents and carers who are new to the School, to network and connect with fellow parents as well as us, their Parents' Association. As the autumn term drew to a close, we supported the School at Christmas by helping to decorate the Main Hall, running a bar and holding a luxury prize raffle at the Big Band concert. Bollywood came to Westcliff High School for Boys this June when members of our School and its wider community were able to enjoy an evening of dancing and Indian food, hosted by renowned and award-winning dance choreographer, Jay Kumar in the School's Sixth Form Building. The event was a tremendous success, and we hope to do this again in 2024. In July this year we supported the PE Department at the School's Sports Day by handing out complimentary water and fruit and by sponsoring the medals awarded to students on the day. Our final fundraising initiative for the last academic year was running a pop-up Pimms and Prosecco bar at the School's Summer Band and BBQ, another well-attended event in the WHSB Calendar. Seasonally themed, termly cookie and treat sales throughout the year also boosted our fundraising. This year the PA will be doing likewise, look out for more details in the termly issued School magazine, The Westcliff Diary.

Ten years ago, we introduced 'Easyfundraising' as an additional means of raising money for the School. Having now raised over £5,300 to date, Easyfundraising is one of the best ways for our School Community to support the Parents' Association. Just use the links on the Easyfundraising site whenever you shop online at many the UK's favourite shops and online sites, and at no extra cost to you, the Parents' Association will receive a free donation of up to 15% from every purchase you make – every penny counts!

In addition to fundraising, our Parents' Association Members have supported the School by serving teas and coffees and talking to parents at Open Evenings for Year 7 and Sixth Form admission to the School.

I would like to say a tremendous thank you to all our active Parents' Association Members – we have an excellent team. We meet regularly, typically twice each term, and hold our AGM yearly, usually in September. If any of you would like to become an active

Committee Member you will be warmly welcomed. Even if you can only help on an occasional basis, please do let us know. We keep in contact via email regarding our meeting dates, and details of events are advertised in the Westcliff Diary.

Finally, on behalf of the Parents' Association I would like to thank the Headmaster for his support and appreciation of the contribution that we make to the School. The Parents' Association would also like to thank Ms Fairfax, Third Deputy Head, Mrs Holley, the Headmaster's PA, Ms Lewis and the Premises Team and the School Finance Office for their continued assistance. I would also like to thank Sam Ghauri our Treasurer for keeping our finances in order and ensuring our compliance with Charity Commission regulations throughout the year and Devorah Levy our Secretary for ensuring effective communications have been maintained with our parents and carers.

Thank you everyone for your time this evening; please do feel free to ask questions.

Jemima Clarke, WHSB PA Chair  
18 September 2023