

## **Chairman's Report PTG AGM 2016**

It has been a year since my appointment as Chair of the PTG and a good time not only to highlight our achievements but also to reflect on the year gone by. As I was part of the PTG many years ago, the goal and objective of the PTG was not new to me. However, every role comes with its own challenges, which we try our best to overcome and eventually settle into a positive working system. I feel extremely humbled and honored to be trusted to this position by parents and staff and have tried to carry out my responsibilities to the best of my ability. As always, we are committed to supporting the school for the well being of the students as well as to further strengthen our relationship with the parents, staff and school management. We have tried to build on the work done by the previous committees and will continue doing so in the future. I would genuinely like to thank Jane Wise, Malee Whitcraft and Siobhan Bland for their encouragement and guidance whenever I required it.

This year the PTG had the pleasure of working with the Student Environmental Committee, to make Fun Day environmentally friendly by encouraging the use of refillable water bottles and avoiding the use of plastic bags. These students have also encouraged us to look into ways of reducing plastic use in the Tiger Shop. We have been inspired by this group of students to think about 'our small steps' and as a result this year, we will not be printing out hard copies for our PTG AGM Reports, instead all the reports will be on the PTG Firefly pages under AGM 2016.

One of the main roles of the PTG is to strengthen the relationships amongst the Patana community, which we do by meeting and speaking to staff, parents and students. We participate in events planned by the school as well as organize events for our community, some of which I have listed below.

### **Welcoming Newcomers**

It is often inundating for new parents in such a big school and Bronwyn the Newcomers rep along with other PTG reps made parents feel very welcome. The PTG were present and involved with the Newcomers Induction in August and January where we spoke to many parents and this was greatly valued by many new families. The PTG also sponsor a pizza lunch for the new students which was greatly appreciated by the students.

### **International Day**

International Day is one of PTG's biggest and most colorful events. It is a day when students, parents and staff celebrate their unique cultures and have the opportunity to showcase their countries. As usual, we had the Parade, Expo Hall, Food Hall and Cultural Show. The International Day Coordinator, Vani Sharma worked tirelessly along with her team to organize this wonderful event. Thank you Vani and all the Coordinators and Country Reps who also helped make this event a success.

### **Parents and Teachers Social Evening**

The Social Evening organized by the PTG in November, was held at Snapper this year. It was a lovely informal evening and well attended by parents and staff. It was an opportunity for parents and staff, to meet socially outside of school, to further strengthen our community.

### **Fun Day**

Fun Day is the biggest event in the PTG calendar. The main purpose of this day is to provide a fun and enjoyable day for families in school, especially the students. This event was coordinated by our hardworking Fun Day Coordinator, Daphne Seiler who organized this event with great enthusiasm and she was supported by every single member of the PTG, which led to an extremely successful day. Thank you Daphne and all those that were involved in organizing this huge event.

### **Christmas Concert**

The PTG organized the food and drinks at this popular event. Another successful event which was enjoyed by many. Thank you, to all those that were involved with the organization as well as those who volunteered on the day.

### **Santa's Helpers**

Every year the PTG sponsors gifts given to the younger children in school by Santa and this year due to an increase in our budget we were able to provide better gifts for them. The children were very pleased to meet Santa and receive a gift from him. Thank you to all Santa's Helpers this year!

### **Thank You Lunch for Student CAT Clubs**

All the student run Community Action Teams (CAT) participated in Fun Day. They created awareness about their clubs within the school community by organizing games and speaking to parents and students. To appreciate their efforts and participation in Fun Day, the PTG held a lunch where the CAT Clubs were presented with cheques as our contribution towards the charities that they support.

### **Thank you Breakfast for Volunteers**

The PTG are unable to run their events without the help of our fantastic volunteers. To show them our appreciation, we organized a breakfast, which was well attended and enjoyed by all. A big thank you to all our volunteers who have been there to help us throughout the year.

### **Breakfast for Year 11 and Year 13**

The PTG sponsored a breakfast for the students of Year 11 and Year 13 to wish them well in their upcoming exams. This was a wonderful opportunity for them to spend some time with their year group before the start of their external exams.

### **Staff Appreciation Day**

Last week the PTG organized Staff Appreciation Day lunch to appreciate the 815 staff members in school who help our children throughout the year. Raffle prizes were distributed to the five and six day staff as well. Thank you to all those who sent in contribution, helped with the organization and volunteered on the day.

### **Fundraising**

Our biggest sources of income are Fun Day, Christmas Concert and the Tiger Shop. Tiger Shop Manager Andrea Chaplin has made a valuable contribution for the past few years in managing the shop independently. Due to everyone's efforts we have had an incredibly successful year and as always are keen to share this with our community. The Community Grants initiative started last year, was revised and currently we have removed the categories of the various grants making it one grant/wish list. A new pull down screen for the Sports Hall has been proposed for this year, which will be an advantage to all students, staff and parents in school, especially during big school assemblies. Additionally a budget has been created for student projects. They would be given opportunities to propose initiatives and solutions that benefit the school community. All Community Grant initiatives for 2015 are now complete.

Our aim has always been to support the school community in whichever way possible and this was well achieved by the dedicated and passionate members of the committee and year reps and I would like to sincerely thank each and everyone for their contributions throughout the year. The Thai Parent Group has been a pillar of support for the PTG and I am sincerely grateful for all the support provided by them.

I am truly appreciative to all parents who contributed generously, not only in donations and sponsorships but also in eagerly giving their time to volunteer for the events organized by the PTG including the Class Parents who are an extremely beneficial link between us.

The school staff have been extremely supportive as well and I would like to especially thank the Service, Marketing and Accounting Departments for their continuous assistance.

This is a brief overview of what has transpired during the last year and I am indeed very pleased with what we have achieved together.

Njah Khan  
PTG Chairperson