



Agenda



UNUSUAL IDEA: SAFARI SUPPER

Helen Davies, PTA Vice-Chair, Speen CofE School, Princes Risborough, Bucks (40 pupils) shared their unusual fundraiser:

'We are lucky to have an active and enthusiastic PTA, which is well supported by current parents, past parents and the local community. Our safari suppers started 14 years ago as a small fundraiser.

It was such a huge success it has continued annually and last year we hosted 90 guests!

The event involves a roaming 3-course dinner around the village of Speen. Guests are asked to collect their invitations from the local village shop (Speen Stores) on the morning of the supper. The invite will tell each guest the address of their host for the first course. The guests will not know whom their fellow diners are (the rest of their pride) until they arrive at the host's house! As the first course comes to an end,

guests are given another envelope telling them the address of the host house for their main course. All guests will be with different diners for this course.

Desserts are served back at the school, allowing all the guests to get together and catch up – where they can compare their dining experiences! The PTA provides a disco and bar – after all, everyone enjoys a good boogie on a Saturday night, especially when our Head is the first on the dancefloor!

The cost of the evening has increased over the years and we now charge £22.50 per person, which includes the 3-course meal plus wine served with each course. The hosts are provided with the wine from the PTA and are encouraged to claim expenses for the food (although no host has ever claimed yet!). Last year we raised

nearly £1,000, which is amazing for a school of just 40 children.

I would encourage any PTA to give this type of event a go; it is a great way of integrating a school and the community. While it isn't the easiest of fundraisers for the organisers, it is well worth it.'

» The aim of a safari supper is that guests meet as many different people as possible, so the trick for those planning this event is for no two pairs to eat more than one course together! Hold a safari supper at the end or beginning of a school year, with parents of new starters invited to attend.

» A TEN is required for an event involving a disco and a bar – get more information at pta.co.uk/licences.

