

## HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE PTA!

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year break and are looking forward to a slightly less hectic term on the PTA side of things!



I'd like to start by saying some "thank you's", because whilst last term was extremely busy for most of us, it was also hugely successful in terms of fundraising, and that is thanks to everyone who volunteered their time to organise and run these events or helped in some way, shape or form, whether it be, donating, selling/buying raffle tickets, or volunteering for a slot on a stall - we thank you all! You're Awesome!!

### Fireworks Night

Thank you to Helen Clark, Nicola Johnson, Catherine Miller-Bassi and Colin Best (and his team of dad helpers). After initial worries about gale force winds (!) and "sausage-gate" cooking problems, the weather could not have been more perfect by opening time, and allowed the night to go off with a BANG! Raising a record breaking £5400!



### Shopping Evening

Thank you to Rachel Calder and Hayley Ross for helping to organise what turned out to be a lovely atmospheric evening. This is the first time the PTA had run such an event, so we were very happy that lots of shopping, chatting and drinking of Prosecco took place, and at the end of the night we had some very happy stall holders, and lots of happy shoppers! This event raised £337 for the PTA!



### Christmas Fair

Thanks you to Aimee Mills and Lucy Watkins for running the show, along with Melanie Firth and Sue Kemp for sourcing the raffle/auction prizes, Amelia Morris and the many other helpers that took on roles to make the Christmas Fair a success. A special thanks must also go to the Butterflies parents/helpers that made the Grotto an amazing and beautiful place for the children to visit Santa. Many people commented on how wonderful it was, so thank you team! Also a big thank you to the teachers that were elves and face painters! Left over mince pies (kindly donated by reception parents) were donated to St Mary's church the following Monday contributing to the Christmas meals that they provided to people over the festive period. The Christmas Fair raised an amazing £3279.

### Cauliflower Cards

Always very popular, these personalised cards raised £129.50 this year. I'm sure friends and relatives were thrilled to receive them.

### Christmas Tea Towels

I hope everyone loved their tea towels! Thanks to Lea Hamaker for helping me put these together, I think the resulting T-towel was superb and had some very memorable portraits .... especially some of the teachers drawn by the children! The tea towels managed to raise £636.



### Nativity DVD's

These lovely mementos brought in £220 in profit for the PTA. There were clearly some budding stars in the making.... so if you missed out and would like a copy, we can still get hold of a limited amount of these, so please get in touch.

### Uniform Sale

Thanks to Ali Baldock and Chrissie Purdy who have taken this job on - last term raised over £40



## *How we are spending the PTA money.....*



•Over the past term we haven't spent any money on one large project. Instead we have decided to partially support the new Read Write Inc phonics learning which by all accounts seems to be going very well. We are purchasing some new home readers and books to support the new roll out, and also some equipment to make the teachers' lives a little easier, such as the phonics aprons to hold the Read Write Inc cards and some storage .... a nice to have rather than a necessity, but small things that make the teachers life easier.



- “He’s Behind You!!” ..... The Children will probably have told you about the Cinderella pantomime they experienced the first week back at school. A lovely ‘back to school’ treat that the PTA pay for each year.
- Espresso renewal. Each year the PTA pay for Espresso membership. Espresso is internet based learning and the cost of this is just under £1150 per year.
- Gazebos - last term we purchased some new gazebos. These will be useful for our outdoor fundraising events and sports day sun cover for the children.



- Chinese dragon workshop for Reception children - coming up in February
- Materials for Art Week
- Payment for RE day in March



- Updating the library - another BIG thank you should go out to Lea Hamaker who has coordinated the updating of the library with the help of, Catherine Miller-Bassi, Rosie Mehmood, Andreia Knaggs and Chrissie Purdy. This has consisted of removing old and tattered books, sorting and relabelling into new categories, following a new colour coded system.

Future wish lists will be discussed at the ***PTA meeting TONIGHT*** with Mrs Davis, so if you would like to come along and see what we have planned for the PTA money raised, please feel free to pop along for a glass of wine!



## *Events coming up....*

### Friday 12th February - Valentines Disco.

Grainne Walker has kindly volunteered to organise the disco this year. This is held on the last day before half term and the children thoroughly enjoy it. Please look out for details soon.



### PTA Quiz Night - Look out for a date after Easter!

Get swotting for our very popular Quiz night. All variety of questions to test the brain and get those little grey cells working, along with a fun evening spent making friends. Look out for a "save the date" and get your friends together (or join a team on the night) and show off your general knowledge, all while raising funds for the school!

Cake Sales - Look out for these after school this term!



### *Volunteers, Volunteers, Volunteers!!*

*After such a successful term we are now looking ahead to Summer events, the main one being the Summer Fair. We'd love a team of lovely people to take this on. It's a fab event, and raises lots of money that our children benefit from. If you think you can help, please get in touch.*

*If you have any other fund raising ideas, please feel free to put them forward or come to the PTA meeting tonight to raise them :)*

***Don't forget.... The next PTA meeting tonight at 8pm in the school hall*** and everyone (as always) is invited! Please come along if you wish to discuss any ideas, get involved in some way, or simply would like to just sit and listen and gain more of an understanding of what we do. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions, but we hope to see lots of you there!



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