

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL PTA Newsletter



Hello everyone and welcome to the Autumn PTA newsletter. Since this term started we have been busy putting together some fundraising ideas and events leading up to Christmas.

First of all **Thank You** to each and everyone of you who helped us last year with all the events that took place. Without your help and support we would have never have achieved such a successful year.

Last school year (2015/2016) with your help, support and generosity we raised a grand total of **£13,162.00**

Most of this amount (after costs) was raised through the following events:

Christmas Shop	£608
Quiz and curry night	£776
Mother's day bags	£480
Father's day bags	£680
Cake sales	£756
Movie nights	£1,678
Rugby parking	£810
Easy fundraising	£33
Disco	£797
Mini Mary's	£423
Happy Bags	£834
Tea Towels	£277
Glaxosmithkline donation	£500
Summer Fair	£4,692



What did we spend the PTA fund on last year?

Early Years equipment	£9,579
Year 6 leaver's presents and party	£980
Sports Day	£55
New parent's evening and AGM event	£283
Online Ticketing System	£99



Future ideas of where future PTA funds will go

We met with Mr Marsh and discussed his vision for the school over the next few years. With our help, he is keen to create a wonderful and inviting environment for all the children to enjoy in the playground with the addition of a forest school and seating area, learning pod and a Shepherd's hut. With every event we do and the money we raise this will bring us a step closer in helping to create areas where the children will want to go and explore.

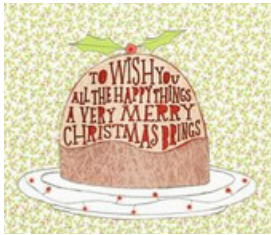
With your help this school year 2016-2107 our target is: **£15,000**



So far for this year we have got together and looked at ways not only to raise money but also to encourage parents to get together socially and to create fun and lasting memories for the children. The events and activities we will be working on this term are:

Design your own Christmas Card

Due to lots of requests, 'Design your own Christmas card' will be returning this term. The teachers will be facilitating the opportunity for the children to design their own card and you will then be able to order these as well as wrapping paper, gift cards etc. yourselves online. Please remember though, once you've seen the design you must return the original piece of work to school so we can send them all to the card company - this is really important. Full information will be sent home in your child's book bags very soon.



Christmas Pudding Competition

We have discovered a great Christmas Pudding company who also sells other puddings such as Chocolate, Lemon etc. and we will be running a competition for all the children to get involved by designing their very own Christmas Pudding label. Due to the different choices available we will be choosing the 4 best designs to appear on the puddings. This again will be facilitated by the teachers during class time. More details to follow.

Movie Nights - 10th & 17th November

The forever popular Movie nights will be held on the 10th and 17th November. The two titles this term will be 'The Secret Life of Pets' and 'Angry Birds'. More details to follow including on how to book tickets for the children.



Church Christmas Fayre - 26th November

This year we have been asked to help with the St Bridget's Church fayre. We will be running 4 stalls at this, all aimed at entertaining the children. We will also be organising 'Lunch with Father Christmas' and visits to his grotto on the day. We are talking to Father Christmas as we speak as he and his merry band of helpers are keen to make this event as magical as possible. We will of course be looking for extra elves on the day - more details to follow.



Cake Sales

Our intention is to hold 2 cake sales per term, an Infant and a Junior sale. Please watch out for the posters and mentions on the PTA Facebook page and school newsletter throughout the year. For these events we always appreciate you bringing along any homemade or shop bought donations. The first Junior cake sale of this year which we held just last week raised **£192** which is a great start.

Ladies night - 2nd December

This will be an opportunity to get together outside of school and enjoy an evening together socialising and getting to know other mums/carers from the school. We are currently looking into some options and will let you know more details soon.

Christmas shopping event for the children - 2nd December

This has been held in previous years and has been a great opportunity for the children to do a little bit of Christmas shopping just for you. This event will be held early December during school hours. More details to follow.



Happy Bags - 6th December

Happy School Bags is an easy fundraising scheme that helps us to raise funds for the school through the collection of unwanted yet reusable clothing. Please keep any unwanted clothing and bring it along to the school on 6th December. More details to follow.

Payments for future PTA events

Despite the issues we have had with the Online booking system we are still keen to keep events such as the Movie Nights, Curry Nights etc. online for payment and booking. After a lot of investigation and research we have chosen to go with a recommended online system called 'PTA Connect'. A big Thank You to Catalina Giglio who has offered her free time to getting this set up and ready for us to use very soon. More details on how to use the new system will of course follow.



Volunteering

After such a great success with the number of volunteers we had signing up to help at the Summer Fair using Doodle.com, we have decided to set up the same system every time we now need volunteers for all PTA events. Therefore when a request for volunteers is communicated we will direct you to a Doodle.com link specific to that event. A big Thank You to Becs Baker who has kindly agreed to manage the set up of these when required.

Please do volunteer if you have the spare time to help; it's a great way to meet other parents/carers and we are always in need of volunteers to help with the organising and running of all events - any contribution big or small really is appreciated and new faces are always welcome.

Facebook Group

For those new to the school, St Mary's PTA has its very own Facebook Group page where you can keep up to date with all the events we run throughout the year. We would love as many of you to join us; you can find us by searching 'St Mary's Catholic Primary School Isleworth - PTA' and requesting to join the Group.


Enjoy the Half Term

Best wishes,

Mell & Clare

MELL & CLARE

Joint-Chair

 stmarysisleworthpta@googlemail.com

NOTE: Next PTA meeting will be held on **Thursday 24th November, 7:30pm** at The Swan Pub.

The PTA Autumn Term Calendar

November						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1	Cheese & Wine evening for new Nursery & Reception parents		4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	Movie Nights		17	18	19
21	22	23	24	25	26	St Bridget's Church Fayre
28	29	30				

December						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1	2	Ladies Night and School Xmas Shopping Event for the children	
5	6	Happy Bags		8	9	10
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	Mulled wine & mince pies		21	22	23	24
26	27	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY		30	31	

