

News from the St Andrew's PTFA (Parent Teachers and Friends Association)

PTFA input at the parent forum

On Tuesday 7th Nov we spoke at the parents' forum about the role of the PTFA at St Andrew's. PTFAs are usually best known for their fundraising work. We have an active and thriving PTFA at St Andrew's and are keen for this to remain the case. All of our members and most of our volunteers are junior parents so it would be fantastic to get more infant parents on board too.

What do the PTFA purchase?

Funds raised by the PTFA, at an exciting and varied range of events throughout the school year, are intended to provide 'extras' not already provided by the school's main income. Often the 'fun things' that make learning more interesting and exciting.

So far this year the PTFA have funded class i-pads, sports equipment, Athletics and 'Timestable Rockstars' subscriptions, a wide range of outdoor learning equipment including a fire pit and a Dutch oven, and medals for each runner in our end of term 'Santa Dash'. We will also be funding leavers hoodies, a contribution to Y5 and 6 camp and an exciting summer party as the academic year ends.

It is important that everyone in our community has a say as to how PTFA funds might be spent, and we would love to hear your ideas. Equally we would love to hear from you if you have any great fundraising ideas or good contacts for us to follow up on! There is a sheet to collect ideas in the foyer.

How could you help?

We understand that life is busy and not everyone wants to become a PTFA member, but we would really appreciate any help that you could give us. Although we are a small school in numbers, the number of jobs that need doing are broadly similar to a large primary school - where there would be a far larger volunteer pool.

Volunteering opportunities:

We currently have sign up sheets in the foyer for help with

- Christmas shopping (Thursday 20th Nov in the afternoon - set up from 12.45pm) Could you come and help children select and wrap Christmas presents for their friends and family?
- Santa Dash (Friday 15th Dec 1.45pm – 3.15pm) Could you help by making gingerbread biscuits or mince pies / running a stall / setting up a tombola. Not all jobs need to be done on the day, many can be done at home in advance (e.g., labelling up tombola items).

How can you support fundraising efforts?

- Come along, enjoy and support PTFA events.
- Let us know if you have any great ideas / contacts / access to resources.
- Contribute to our clothes bank (on the left-hand side of the main entrance, by the bins). Last year this raised us £216, and this has been higher in the past. Good quality clothes only please.
- Use easy fundraising – there are instructions on the PTFA Facebook page. Most major retail, insurance and hospitality businesses are on there. For example, if you use 'go-compare' to switch car insurance this will earn us £15. We have raised £456.30 from easy fundraising since joining!

Christmas Jumper Day (on Christmas Shopping Day!)

Thursday 30th November 2023

We have the go ahead (thanks to Mr Pike!) for Children to come to school in their Christmas jumpers on the above date. This will make our Christmas wrapping even more festive! In exchange for this we would ask, if possible, for you to contribute an item towards our Christmas hampers which will be raffled off at the end of the Santa Dash on Dec 15th. They are always hugely popular and highly sought after. Items might include things such as wine, chocolates, biscuits, chutneys or panettone. You will be able to buy raffle tickets for the hampers during the Santa Dash.

Pre-loved uniform

We now have a spreadsheet which details all our pre-loved uniform stock. Please find it attached to this e-mail.

If you want to access anything, please do catch me at pick up - Andrea Helyar (Elsa and Tommy's Mum) any day, message me on Facebook, or e-mail me andeahickin@hotmail.com. Prices are only ever suggested, we are passionate that uniform should be accessible and affordable to all of our families.

Equally, always super happy to receive any uniform donations to ensure that there is a sustainable supply!

Many thanks for all the kind purchases, donations and support at the pop-up sale last term!