

# Newsletter

## Happy New Year

Welcome to the first issue of our newsletter in 2022! It seems like a dim and distant memory now but we hope that you all had a happy and peaceful Christmas and enjoyed spending time with your families and loved ones.

This is the second newsletter of this school year and it will update you on our achievements in the previous term, provide you with the latest news on our current fundraising project - the Outdoor Classroom - and will also give you notice of upcoming events for terms 3 and 4 as well as providing details of how you can get involved. Happy reading!

We raised an amazing **£4,736** in terms 1 & 2... thank you!



## FUNDRAISING NEWS

In spite of the ongoing restrictions, we were fortunate to be able to hold a number of events in terms 1 & 2, albeit that some had to be adapted to suit the current circumstances. We raised funds of **£4,736** in total - a fantastic achievement! This included the final pay-out of **£1,667** from the Co-op's Community Grant scheme, which ended in October.

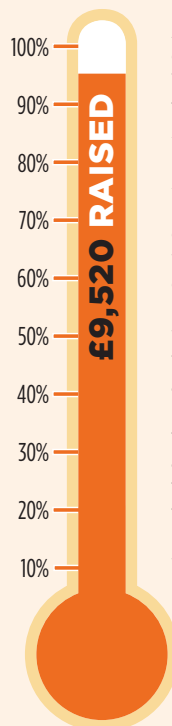
Our most successful fundraiser was the Christmas Hamper raffle, which raised **£568!** Thank you to everyone who was able to make a chocolate or bottle donation so that we could keep our costs to a minimum and to those who supported the event by purchasing a ticket or two!

Our Christmas-themed gift stall, Elfridges, was also a great event and raised funds of **£425**. This is a popular event with the children, who enjoy the independence of choosing their own gifts for their nearest and dearest!

The 100 Club - our version of a lottery - has also increased its subscribers during the past two terms, and we had one or two bonus prizes as a result! After paying out winnings, we earned **£201**. We shall continue the 100 Club in the future and it is never too late to join... the odds of winning a prize are far greater than those of the National Lottery!

Once again, we have been very fortunate to receive a number of

## We are almost at our target



As you are aware, our primary project this year will continue to be the creation of an outdoor classroom. This has been on the school's wish list for quite some time, but is now considered a priority to assist the school community in dealing with the impact of the Covid19 restrictions and to provide additional learning space. Outdoor education is proven to have a positive impact on the physical and mental health and wellbeing of children, and we believe an outdoor learning facility would be a wonderful boost for the school and the children.

We have set a target of £10,000 for this project and we are ecstatic to report that we are almost there! Our fundraising thermometer has reached just over £9,500 and we would hope that we can reach our target by the end of term 4 so that the school can arrange for the construction to begin as soon as possible thereafter.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our events, either by donating money, goods or even time! We cannot wait to see the children's faces when the outdoor classroom is up and running!

If you have any suggestions for future fundraising ideas, comments or would like to give us feedback, please email [StGeorgesPTA2020@yahoo.com](mailto:StGeorgesPTA2020@yahoo.com)

donations from local businesses. We were delighted to receive a total of **£177** from the PTA Collection Tins located in Cards - Flowers - Balloons in West Kingsdown, who have been supporting the PTA for nearly two years. Special thanks also go to Hardens in Wrotham village who have continued to support their local


primary school by housing a PTA collection tin in their shop.


In the four months to December 2021 we have funded a second annual subscription to the Sir Linkalot spelling app, as well as gifting access to two online Christmas pantomimes to every child in the school.



## Why not shop to help us!

Without even having to leave your seat, you could help raise funds for the PTA! There are two apps that can be used when shopping online and will donate a percentage of funds from purchases, with no additional cost to you. These are:

 **AMAZON SMILE** select us as your nominated charity by searching for St Georges Church of England School Parent-Teacher-Association or by using our charity number 1120201.

 **SHOP&GIVE** The Giving Machine have an app called Shop & Give that generates donations for charities if you click through to retailers from the app. Many of the major shops are on here - Marks & Spencer, John Lewis and eBay to name but a few. Select us as your nominated charity by searching for St George's CEP School. Note that Amazon does not participate in this scheme, which is why we have separately registered with Amazon Smile.

● If you need help with either of the above, please email StGeorgesPTA2020@yahoo.com and we will be happy to assist.

## How you can help

We are always on the lookout for new faces to join the PTA Committee. Even if work or family commitments mean that you are not able to volunteer to help with any events, there are many other ways that you could help...

- Making a one-off or small regular donation to the charity.
- Providing a skill that may be helpful to the committee, such as design or promotion.
- 'Behind the scenes' help - e.g. labelling raffle prizes or compiling orders for gifts.
- Donating goods or services for a raffle prize.
- Join our 100 club lottery - you might even win a prize!
- Linking the PTA with a company that operates a Corporate Match Funding Scheme - perhaps your own or your partner's employer?
- By far the most important way of helping the PTA is by supporting our events during the school year. Without this, we would not be able to operate!

Thank you to the Hodges family who raised a fantastic **£203** from their Christmas lights extravaganza



## VOLUNTEERS ARE WELCOME!

**Our committee for the current school year comprises the following:**

**CHAIR** Ragan Saunders (Yr6)

**SECRETARY**

Lucia Pope Sarova (Yrs 1 & 6)

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Laura Finley (Yr2)

**TREASURER**

Anna Watling (Yrs R, 3 & 5)

**TREASURER**

Michelle Colclough (Yr 3)

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Sarah Bell (Yrs 1 & 3)

**DONATIONS AND GRANTS**

Fleur Marais (Yrs 1 & 3)

- All parents are automatically part of the PTA at St George's, but if you would like to get more involved, please pass your details onto the school office, email StGeorgesPTA2020@yahoo.com or speak to one of the 2021/22 PTA Team.

## Events calendar

**During terms 3 and 4 we will be running the following events:**

**During February**

**The 'twenty-two sponsorship challenge' - in honour of the special date: 22/2/22**

We'd love to see what your children have been up to so far - please share photos on our Facebook page to inspire others!



**Friday 11th February**  
**Doughnut stall**

**Thursday 17th March**  
**Non-uniform Day**  
(chocolate donations)

**Wednesday 23rd March**  
**Mother's Day gift stall**  
In the school hall for children

**25th March**  
**Cake sale and preloved uniform sale**  
In the playground (plus the chance to buy last minute Mother's Day gifts)

**Friday 1st April**  
**Easter raffle**  
(tickets will be sold in advance)



**Queen's Jubilee**

If you like planning ahead, we are hoping to hold a Garden Party to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee in June. If you have any thoughts of appropriate activities that could be done as part of this event, do please get in touch to share your ideas!

## With thanks

As always, we are grateful to the teaching and support staff at St George's, who provide valuable support to the PTA. Thank you to you all!

