

Newsletter

Welcome to the first issue of our newsletter for the school year 2021/22. We extend special welcome wishes to the new children in year R (and their parents) who have recently started their primary school journeys at St George's.

For those that are new to

the School, the purpose of the PTA is to raise funds to enrich the lives and education of the children that attend St George's. As parents of these children, you are automatically members of the PTA, and we encourage your involvement and participation!

We aim to publish three

newsletters per school year and each publication will update you on our achievements and provide you with the latest news on our fundraising projects and targets. It will also give you notice of upcoming events and provide details of how you can get involved. Enjoy!

FUNDRAISING NEWS

We faced many operational challenges throughout the previous school year, including the school being closed from January until March, plus limitations in the events that could be carried out even when the school was open due to the ongoing Covid19 pandemic. Despite this, we managed to co-ordinate a number of events which raised funds of **£4,784** in total.

Our most lucrative event was the

The Sponsored
bleep test raised
an amazing
£1,135
thank you!

Special thanks

We have also been very fortunate to receive a number of donations throughout the year. Special thanks go to: **EGN Plumbing & Heating for their kind donation; Cards & Flowers in West Kingsdown, Hardens in Wrotham village and Abacus Security Services Ltd who have been collecting donations on our behalf via collection tins in their shops; Asda (Kings Hill branch) and McDonalds (Otford branch) who have provided product donations.**

sponsored bleep test, which raised **£1,135** – and was further enhanced by **£173** of reclaimed gift aid.

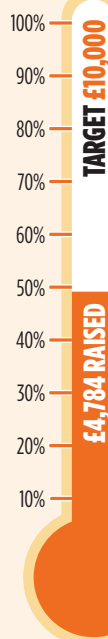
We also held two raffles during the year, raising **£656**, plus a number of events to involve the children, including sale of their artwork and the Smarties Challenge!

Towards the end of the school year, we launched the 100 Club – our

version of a lottery – where monetary prizes can be won each month. We are steadily increasing our subscribers and will continue the club in the current school year.

During the past year we have funded subscriptions to Athletics, Sir

Linkalot and Big Cat eBook Reading. We have also purchased badges for all the children and staff in celebration of the School's 50th anniversary, pens for the Year 6 leavers, bibles for Year R and an Easter gift for every child.



Half way to our target!

Our primary focus this year will continue to be the creation of an outdoor classroom in the quiet garden. 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 almost half way to our target!

The PTA will continue to be one of the Co-op Community causes until 23 October 2021.



Raise funds while you shop!

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



Sign up to our lottery and win monthly cash prizes! Message us on Facebook or email StGeorgesPTA2020@yahoo.com to request an application form

Volunteers are always welcome

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.
- Linking the PTA with a company that operates a Corporate Match

Funding Scheme – perhaps your own or your partner's employer?

- Donating goods or services for a raffle prize.

■ 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!

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

BE PART OF THE PTA TEAM

Our AGM was held on 23rd September and the following members were elected or re-elected:

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

This term we will be running the following events:

OCTOBER

Friday 22nd October

Own clothes day

(£1 optional donation)

After school Doughnut and cake sale, plus pre-loved uniform and dressing up clothes stall

NOVEMBER

Friday 26th November

Christmas-themed Gift Stall

Held in the playground.

Pizza and cookie kits

Orders taken in advance and will be available to collect from the gift stall on 26/11.

DECEMBER

Wednesday

1st December

Christmas Gift Stall

A chance for the children to buy gifts for others.

Friday 3rd December

Non-uniform Day

Chocolate/bottle donations.

We also plan to sell tea towels featuring the faces of all children in the school – watch this space for more information.

Finally, there will be a raffle before Christmas!

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!

