

PTA Newsletter,

Hi everyone,

We thought it would be good to give everyone a quick update on what we have been doing. It's a long one but there is so much going on!!

Firstly, a BIG thank you to everyone who ordered Christmas cards. Mrs Jeffery said we got loads. The kids' designs were amazing, and I hope you will be pleased with the finished articles. As soon as we know how much we raised, we will let you know.

Mrs Jeffery and Nic Buswell have been working hard on arranging the Bag2School initiative. In short, if you haven't seen the poster, it's an opportunity for you to do a clear out of things you no longer want or need. The poster is at the end of this newsletter and sets out what can be included in your bag. If on 14th December, you bring your bags to school and leave them in the porch at drop off, this will be brilliant. They are then collected, and we earn £/Kg for the school PTA fund.

We are currently working on planning a Family Christmas Quiz as it seems there was some interest. We will let you have the date ASAP. I think the teachers may look to join as well. We would love to get as many families involved for a little bit of fun.

The Christmas Party for children, due to the pesky coronavirus, cannot be held in the village hall as one school, and the PTA cannot do all the work as normal. So, we have agreed to give each class their own budget and they will spend it on what they wish. The PTA is currently speaking to Santa and trying to find an acceptable socially distanced solution for the children, so he can still attend and hand out presents while still ensuring everyone (and Santa!!!) stays fit and healthy for Christmas Eve!

The wonderful Hannah Sager, Margret Mead, Vanessa Putt and Hannah Carter have taken on the task of co-ordinating the collection of prizes for a Christmas Raffle. (I was going to write a list of some of the prizes we already have, but they have managed to get so many in one day it really would be too long! Take it from me there are some fab ones.) I know that current times are all a bit strange and uncertain but if anyone has anything they would like to donate or know of anyone who could donate a prize, your help would be amazing!!

We are also looking to put together Class Hampers again. These previously turned out to be incredible with all the donations from the parents. Once the theme and final list of items for each class has been finalised, we will get this out to you all. Any help with these by buying an item would be great.

We now have a licence to sell tickets to outside the parent population and we will provide raffle tickets nearer the time. Again help in selling these would be deeply appreciated.

We have been talking to the school about upgrading the forest school area for all the children. After lockdown a few of us will hopefully be able to go in and meet with Miss Coombe and Pete to discuss what we can do. Nic has also been speaking to Pittman's to see if we can get a few things donated for the area.

Come the spring we are hoping to spend some money on the Start Point playground, to tidy it up and make it brighter. We will be looking for parent volunteers to help, so if you have any relevant

skills that may come in handy or are just happy to help please do let us know. More on that next year!!

We are also looking to get more information and updates on the website. In the future you will be able to see what we are doing on that page. We are also hoping to get the page more interactive so you guys as parents have an easy way to tell us your ideas, both in terms of fund-raising ideas and how we could spend the money. So please make sure you do look.

AND FINALLY... the PTA isn't just for a select few, it is for the children and the whole parent body and as such we are keen to make it as easy as possible for people to feel welcome and get involved. If you can help and volunteer for things and have any spare time, please let us know. If you want to chat or give us your thoughts just grab us in the playground, we are a friendly bunch I promise!

Thanks

The PTA