



St John's Parent Staff Association

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all well and have had a good summer. It's great to see everyone back at school for the start of a new term.

I wanted to take this opportunity to write to you all as the Chair of the PSA on behalf of St John's School. It will not have escaped your notice that due to the Coronavirus pandemic and school closure, we have sadly had to cancel a number of fundraising events over the last six months. In a normal school year the PSA raises around £10,000 through big events such as the fete, quiz night and summer barbecue, as well as regular cake and uniform sales. We are also lucky to receive match funding from some of the companies our parents work for.

So, what do we spend this money on? Well, last year we spent £1,000 on Oxford Tree reading scheme books, we helped purchase the fencing and greenhouse for the Outdoor Wilderness Learning Area and we helped fund the refurbishment of the school library. The previous year we invested a large amount of money in Chromebooks, enabling the school to become a Google school, which I am sure you will agree has been invaluable while the children have been learning from home. Every year we help fund the coaches for the Year 4 and Year 6 residential trips, the cost of which would otherwise be passed onto the parents.

As we are unlikely to be able to hold any events in the next few months the PSA will have limited funds to help support the school, at a time when it will need extra money to keep the building and playground as clean and safe as possible.

Over the summer one of our parents, Tamsin Williamson, has been busy designing some wonderful tote bags depicting the birds, which the four houses are named after. These beautifully drawn bags are available to purchase for £8.50 each, with all proceeds funding further vital projects at the school. You can order your bag now: just send an email to stjohnspsa@gmail.com, and let us know how many bags you wish to purchase and your delivery address. You can pay for your bag through the St John's PSA PayPal donation link:

<https://www.paypal.com/biz/fund?id=3AWEU3P9CYKHL>

Once we have confirmed your payment we will arrange delivery.



We would also like to offer parents the opportunity to make a donation to the PSA fund. We know this may not be possible for everyone at the moment, but if you feel you can make a donation, however big or small, it would be enormously appreciated. It may help to think of what you might have spent at events such as the quiz night or barbecue this year. Donations can be made directly by bank transfer to the PSA account:

Account name: St Johns PSA

Account number: 51145223

Sort code: 40-26-12

Or if you prefer you can pay through our PayPal donation link:

<https://www.paypal.com/biz/fund?id=3AWEU3P9CYKHL>

If you would rather not purchase a bag or make a financial donation, please consider signing up to 'Easy Fundraising'. Every time you shop through this website, a small percentage is given to the PSA. It's free money for the school, incredibly simple, and if, like me, you have taken to internet shopping in a big way recently, it's an obvious choice. You log on to the Easy Fundraising website and choose your favourite store (e.g. M&S, Tesco, Sainsbury's). The website then opens the store's browser and you can shop as normal, with a small percentage given to the school when you check out. For more information go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk.

The money you give to the PSA is vital. Without it, the school would not be able to provide so many of the learning opportunities and resources for our children that we take for granted. We are so grateful for all the hard work that parents have put in over the years, organising brilliant events, and we really hope to hold some safe, socially-distanced events this year too. In the meantime, we are asking for your support in a different way. Please help now if you can by making a donation, buying a bag and signing up to Easy Fundraising, so that we can continue to help the school provide the best possible support for our children.

All the best

Emma Lloyd-Williams

Chair, St John's Primary School PSA