

Welcome back to school and the PTA.

We have a few fund-raising events planned this term:

Year group Tea towels
Christmas Raffle with year group themed Christmas boxes
Break the Rules Day

Since March with your help, we have raised this school year

- Easter egg hunt £248.43
- Recycling £192.50
(November – March collections)
- Summer term Uniform Sale £127.76
- Regular monthly donations since March
£1400 inc Gift Aid claims
- Easy Fundraising £181.31
- 5p Challenge Pennies in a Bottle £485
(Spring term before Lockdown)

Total £2635 Not bad for an unusual year!

PTA AGM

Due to the Rule of 6, we are currently unable to hold the PTA AGM in person, so this has been postponed until February. We will contact you all with details about when, how and where in the New Year.

How are we raising money to support the school over the next term?

Our first fundraising activity this term is **Year Group Tea Towels. Our children have drawn self-portraits in their class. These can be purchased from <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/stnicspta> . Login and use the 'Shop' drop down menu, and click on the uniform and merchandise tab. If you do not have an account yet, it is quite easy to create and we confirm you quite quickly. From there you can buy a lovely tea towel or two or three.**

Last day to order Tea towels is **Friday 6th November!!
We WONT BE ABLE to add any more orders after this date!**

Christmas Raffle

We are also going to hold a Christmas Raffle. If any of you own local companies or have friends that do and can donate a prize or gift voucher for a beauty treatment, meal out or something equally exciting, please do not hesitate to contact us. In previous years we have also created Year group Christmas themed hamper boxes. These have been extremely popular and well received prizes for the raffle. Please find the themes and Year groups below. Thank you in advance.

Raffle hamper box themes

Reception - Red - Father Christmas

Year 1 - Green - nature, trees, holly etc

Year 2 - White - snow, snowflakes, icicles

Year 3 - Brown & Black - Animals - Rudolph, penguins, polar bears etc

Year 4 - Yellow - stars

Year 5 - Silver - Angels

Year 6 - Gold - Christmas sparkle, tinsel & baubles



Boxes will be provided after half term outside each classroom to put your donations in. If you would like any further information, please ask your class PTA rep or one of us.

Please find the timescale for the Raffle below

Last day to donate prizes - Thursday 3rd Dec

Last day for tickets to be returned - Weds 9th Dec

Raffle draw - Friday 11th Dec

And Finally, a ...

Break the Rules Day

Friday 18th December

More information to follow

Uniform Sale

We are investigating the possibility of holding a 2nd hand uniform sale at St Giles Church Hall one Friday morning. We will let you know soon whether it will be possible to organise before Christmas or early in the New Year.

Recycling

We are now linked with Lancing Recycling and TerraCycle and can collect some waste that would normally go into landfill. These items include crisp packets, biscuit wrappers, toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, milk bottle lids and cat and dog food pouches. We do now have the bins back on the Cherry tree playground, Please contact Sarah Ringshaw or Gigi Backshall-Wilkinson from the PTA, who are coordinating the recycling collection, if you have any questions, or if you can offer an hour or two on a Friday morning to help sort it to be sent off. Please look on our Facebook page for details of what we can recycle.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3483507418388867>

Clothes recycling

It has finally arrived! A bin for good quality, useable clothes and fabric, that the PTA will get paid for.

Please place all your clothes in clean carrier bags and put them into bin 7 on the Cherry

Tree playground. For safety reasons, school do not want parents or children

looking for it in the car park. It does not take

soiled rags or carpets and Astra Recycling will not

pay us for them. Please bag up rags and take them to the Cancer

Research shops, labelled 'Rags'. They get paid for it and then we're

supporting another worthy charity too!



Thank you from your PTA:

We are extremely grateful to every single person who has helped at PTA events, we could not do it without you.

- ☺ A ***Huge Thank You*** to everyone who has donated a fabulous Raffle prize for the Summer or Christmas Fayres in the past 18 months, supported or helped at events, been an Easter Bunny or a Christmas elf.
- ☺ **Thank you** for all the recycling you are doing and the sorting into the appropriate bins, makes our lives easier and helps us to recycle and get it sent off more regularly meaning more proceeds to the PTA funds.
- ☺ A ***Massive Thank You*** to Mrs Channon for being our Auditor and checking our financial books every year. You are truly a Superstar!!!
- ☺ And the **BIGGEST THANK YOU** goes to all of you, the parents, who, in the past have come and supported the events, bought the cakes, played the games, donated money and used Gift Aid, provided raffle prizes etc. so that we can raise valuable funds to help support the wonderful learning our lovely school provides for our children.

Did you know...

...that just by being a parent/carer, **YOU** are a member of the PTA? So, don't wait for an invitation, come to one of our friendly meetings and get involved - we can't wait to meet you!

Simple ways that **you** can help the PTA...

1. **Volunteer!** Currently this is hard with social distancing and the Rule of 6. But normally if every parent/carer helped at just one event every two years, we could run all our usual events and many more.
2. Use **Easyfundraising** to help raise money when you shop online! Visit the website <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stnics/>
3. Set up a **Direct Debit** to the PTA - just £1 per month, per family or per child, or whatever you feel able to give. Please also complete a Gift Aid form if you are eligible, so that we can claim on your contributions – the form is attached to this newsletter and they are also available from the office.
4. Buy your children's name tags & stickers from **MyNameTags.com**, quoting the school ID 59580, or www.stikins.co.uk quoting school number 35375 – raise money with every order!
5. Use **Amazon Smile** and just type in St Nicolas and St Mary Church of England School Parent Teacher Association will come up. Select our charity and shop away!!
6. At the Summer Fayre, one of our lovely parents, who volunteered to help at the fayre, works for a large bank. Following the fayre, he applied to his employer's '**pound-for-pound match funding scheme**'. We received £707 from them! Matching what was raised on the stall he manned. This really is such a good scheme, where large companies (not just banks!) will donate to charities that are supported by their staff - some companies even give staff paid time off to volunteer. If you work for a large company, and are able to help out at an event, please do ask your HR department if there is a **MATCH FUNDING** scheme that you can apply to. If there is, do let us know and we can provide all the documentation you will need! This one parent did exactly that & now we are celebrating a huge

boost to our funds - just imagine how much more we could do for our lovely school if we had access to even more of this matched funding money...

Where does the money actually go?

Here are some of the things that we have spent your funds on in the last few years...

- **General playground resources for both playgrounds** – skipping ropes, hoops, ping pong balls etc.
- **Paid towards some of the new computers in school**
- **New Rubber matting around the new outdoor gym**
- **Climbing Wall**
- **The Kiln**
- **Lego Wall**
- **Building the funds for the Daily Mile Track**

Most of these are items that the school simply could not have had without our help, and which benefit all our children.

Please help us to carry on fundraising for our amazing school!

What is next to fund?

*A new Outdoor Classroom to replace the Hexagon on the Cherry Tree Playground
Daily Mile Track*

Keep in touch...

The easiest way to keep in touch with the PTA is through the Facebook page. Join the closed group at “**St Nicolas & St Mary Primary School PTA**” (Most year groups have their own pages too) or you can email us too at PTAChair@stnm.org.uk , PTASecretary@stnm.org.uk or PTATreasurer@stnm.org.uk

Your committee members are here to help!

Please do come and find us in the playground with your ideas and requests, or just to chat about the PTA – we’re not scary, and at least one of us is usually there at drop off and pick up each day. Tell us what you and your children enjoy about our events, and what we can improve!

Meet your committee!



Sacha Ladkin, Chair.

Mum of Neve in Year 5,
Terrapins

PTAChair@stnm.org.uk



Claire Mulcare, Co-chair

Mum of Xavier, in Year 4, Sea
Otters, Zander in Year 2,
Puffins and Fabian in Little
Fishes



Sarah Ringshaw, Secretary.

Mum of Barney in Reception,
Grey Whales

PTASecretary@stnm.org.uk



Jane Powell, Treasurer.

Mum of Owen in Year 5,
Terrapins & Austin in Year 3,
Sea Lions

PTATreasurer@stnm.org.uk



**Gigi Backshall-Wilkinson,
Co – Treasurer**

Mum of Oliver in Year 3, Sea
Lions and Luke in Year 1,
Spinner Dolphins

**Thank you for
Reading**

See you soon!