



St Nicolas and St Mary Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

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Parentkind
Member Association

Registered Charity Number 291223

Summer 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our wonderful school and St Nic's PTA. We are an active PTA, running events all year round that include:

- Ice cream sales
- Cake sales
- 2nd Hand uniform sales
- Summer and Christmas Fayres
- Film nights
- End of term Christmas and Summer parties
- Masquerade Ball
- Easter Egg Hunts
- Crisp bag and bread bag recycling (as well as other items)

To name just a few. **Did you know...**

...that just by being a parent/carer, **YOU** are a member of the PTA? So, please 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!** 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. At the Summer Fayre in 2019, 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.
- **New playground markings**
- **Climbing Wall – on the Firtree playground**
- **‘The Castle’ and ‘Tower’ on the Cherry Tree Playground**
- **New Outdoor Gym and rubber matting**
- **Paid towards some of the new computers in school**
- **Lego Wall**
- **Some new computers**
- **The Kiln**
- **Certificates and Medals for Marathon Kids**
- **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.

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).

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! We look forward to meeting you and having fun together organizing and running fun events for our school community.

Meet your committee!



Sacha Ladkin, Chair.
Mum of Neve in Year 4,
Seahorses
PTAChair@stnm.org.uk



Claire Mulcare, Co-chair
Mum of Xavier, in Year 3,
Sea Lions and Zander in
Year 1, Dusky Dolphins.



Sarah Ringshaw, Secretary.
Mum of Bill and Bea in Year
6, Coral and Oysters and
Barney in Little Fishes
Nursery.
PTASecretary@stnm.org.uk



Jane Powell, Treasurer.
Mum of Owen in Year 4,
Seahorses & Austin in Year
2, Puffins.
PTATreasurer@stnm.org.uk



**Gigi Backshall-Wilkinson,
Co – Treasurer**
Mum of Oliver in Year 2,
Puffins and Luke in
Reception, Gray Whales.

Have a lovely summer and we look forward to meeting you in the Autumn term.