

Autumn Term - 2024

# St Vincent's PTA

# Autumn Newsletter




## Welcome

I have started writing the latest edition of the PTA Newsletter in my head a thousand times. This term has felt like our busiest yet! I've returned to full time work which has taken me away from the School building and much of the day to day operations. Gemma, the PTA secretary has been doing an absolute sterling job managing comms and the volunteers at the school. We'd be lost without her! Hayley, as always, has continued to beaver away behind the scenes managing the tickets & donations website, overseeing and sourcing most of our raffles plus a hundred other things, she does this all so well, thank you!

We have also grown as a Committee, doubling in size from a year ago! At our AGM in October we welcomed two new Committee members Sam and Agnieszka. Sam was a much needed addition to support Grant our treasurer as the only male! Agnieszka, has joined and hit the ground running full of wonderful creative ideas and has helped us a lot already.

## Events Round Up

Our term started in earnest with the Fun Run, although the actual run was hosted behind closed doors during the School day your sponsorships showed us what a wonderful community we have – thank you parents for all your efforts in helping your children to raise valuable funds for the playground revamp! I loved seeing so many new faces at the welcome BBQ that followed immediately after too!

We hosted a busy coffee morning – a chance for the adults to meet and connect or share ideas. We did also host an evening social however, this is something we may scale back on as people found it tricky to attend the most recent one!

Our termly Bake & Uniform sale celebrated its highest earnings yet! A staggering £657!! Early Years, thank you for your contributions in feeding our children in what is always a manic 30 mins!

Our Christmas Fair could well use it's own Newsletter! This years event was truly magical, there is no other way to describe it! We had some fantastic volunteers helping in the run up to the fair sourcing raffles, organising and sorting donations plus decorating the School!

The day itself started bright and early especially for the kitchen crew who were onsite and prepping from 9:30am - thank you again, you were absolutely champion!!

We had some stunning stalls – Sonia's letters to Santa which although tucked away, still proved popular and perhaps was a calm activity for some of our more creative children! Leanne and her hair braiding entourage smashed the 3 hours like it was no effort whatsoever but we know they worked very hard indeed and left smiles on lots of faces! I might be tempted myself in the summer!

Agnieszka shadowed Tanya (our resident Grotto expert) in the execution of the Christmas Grotto this year. Tanya will leave St Vincent's in the Summer as her daughter moves onto Secondary School, we will be very sad to see her go and we thank her for her commitment and time as part of the PTA and the St Vincent's community. Tanya and Agnes pulled out the big guns delivering, I think we can all agree, a stunning experience!

We rounded off our term with our ever popular Gift Shop. A week long opportunity for our children to come along and spend some money on gifts for their loved ones! Volunteers and man power were tricky to come by this year however everyone rallied round and we managed to pull it off!

### Call to Arms

We are always looking for more hands on deck to help make the events for our children the best they can be! Please join our whatsapp Volunteers chat if you think you would be help in any way - an hour can make the world of difference! JOIN **HERE**

### Termly Figures

What an amazing term we have had financially - your generosity and support has blown us away - **thank you!** We launched a new fund this term - the Coaches & School Trips Initiative, this has done very well! Here are our profits this term:

- **Fun Run: £9,566.70**
- **Early Years Uniform Sale: £133.18**
- **Bag2School: £96 (donations reduced to 20p per Kilo)**
- **Autumn Bake & Uniform Sale: £657.93**
- **Christmas Fair: £8,017.82**
- **Gift Shop: £2,473.18**
- **Coaches & School Trips Initiative: £2,580.58**
- **Donations: £329.73**

## Total: £23,887.85

But of course our fundraising doesn't stop there, donating to the PTA can be done at any time by clicking **here**. We're working so hard to fund the playground revamp and support the OPAL Play scheme this year - more info can be found **here**.

### Sponsors

We must say a huge thank you to all of our wonderful Sponsors for the Christmas Fair & it's Raffle. We were blown away by their support, almost 70 prizes were on offer! Our School community couldn't be happier. We look forward to working together again with them all soon, if you would like to check them out you can do so **here** by clicking on their logos, you'll be directed straight to their websites!




Next term will be a little quieter – check out what we have planned next **HERE** on our website and keep an eye out on our **Instagram** for updates on everything PTA!

Next Event: **Groove It Disco** - FRIDAY 31st JANUARY!

All that remains is for me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas – lots of peace and joy with your families over the holiday!

Kamilla Whatling

PTA Chair