

St. John's School PTA - November Update

Bag2School is back!

This year has been very different and we want to say a big **thank you** to everyone for working with the school and PTA through this challenging time. By having a clear out of your cupboards with your donations to Bag2School, you raised another **£180**. The next is coming up - **Tuesday December 15th**. Please bring any tied shut water proof bags to the bench by the school office. Collection will be fully contactless. See our Facebook page for more info. Have a feel good clear out - but please check the 'what to donate' page as items like duvets cannot be donated and get your whole bag left behind. We're paid in weight, so shoes, boots or heavier clothing items are especially welcome. Click here: <https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect>

Christmas is not cancelled! (but it's different...)

Sadly due to Covid19 restrictions, we cannot hold the usual popular fair for the school community this year. Instead though, classes will have some of the fair PTA games and other fun activities put on by the fab staff, including a chocolate tombola and a visit from Father Christmas (for KS1 and lockdown restrictions permitting - I'm sure he'll leave something for Ks2 as well!!) which includes a gift. There will be a virtual pantomime and crackers at the Christmas meal in school. We're also putting on a Christmas trail around the area, similar to the popular Half Term Trail held earlier this year, which raised £400. Everything that we can do, we are doing and we're asking for a one off (cashless) donation of £5 via Just Giving below, that covers the whole of Christmas activities. Please do donate, as it will be less than the average amount a parent spends on the Christmas Fair. The fair usually raises around £2500 for the school's children and is the biggest event in our fundraising calendar.



We want to **shout out a big thank you** to local companies **Chipsaway, Norwex and Handmade by J9**, who have acted to help the PTA this year in various ways - and if you've helped us in any way this year, thank you to you as well. Please see our Facebook page for more info on how these firms have stood with us.

Just Giving is open for donations to the school library

The PTA has opened a JustGiving page where anyone can donate the above £5 or any donation you're able to make. The aim, currently agreed with the school, is to launch a new school library. Please go to www.justgiving.com/campaign/Christmasfair2020 and give what you can.

Get free cash & win a share of £10k as you shop for your kids!

Using Easy Fundraising as you shop online for things you are already going to buy anyway means that you can get free cash at no cost to you, just for shopping and going through an internet link that pays the PTA free cash. The link is www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/ERLAJR/3WRJ7L. You can earn cash for your kids in your PJs as you shop from bed, as well as win big prizes in the Easy Fundraising advent calendar, with £250 up for grabs every day, plus the chance to win a donation for St. John's of £2000, and a £2000 John Lewis gift card for yourself. Go to www.EasyFundraising.org.uk for more info.

We need YOUR help to make 2020/21 a success

To get through this difficult academic year, we will need the help and support of every parent however big or small, even if it's just one thing like bringing a bag filled with donations for bag2school, signing up to Amazon Smile (go to smile.amazon.co.uk to add us as your chosen charity on your Amazon account and get them to pay us at no cost to you) or Easy Fundraising to support us. You don't need to be a regular supporter - every parent is PTA. We recognise this has been a tough year for everyone and more than ever, these virtual ways to give are more important than ever, especially when they cost us less than the time it takes to make a cup of tea. If you're a Year R or new parent and you've never got involved with the PTA but think you could lend a hand in any small way, please join with us and leave a message in the school office with your name, phone number and email, or email talktothepta@outlook.com.

All news and activities mentioned are subject to any changes from central Government or the local authority, and we will align with all safety procedures and support the school in doing so.

Check for up to date information on our Facebook page. Search for St John's Keynsham PTA