

**‘Building Community and Raising Funds
to support our Children’s Education’**



PTA November Newsletter

Changes to the PTA committee

The PTA led by Ivette and John Stephenson, did a fantastic job last year and raised an amazing **£25,000** for the school! I’m sure you can appreciate how valuable that is in supporting the school and our children. It takes a huge amount of effort from so many people throughout the year to achieve that sort of result, so on behalf of all parents I’d like to thank Ivette & John, the Committee members and everyone else who was involved!

Unfortunately, with other pressing commitments, each of last year’s Committee members have had to step down this year (including Natasha Orpen after many years as a brilliant Treasurer) and so we have a completely new PTA Committee for this year as follows:

Role		
Chair	David Jackson	Year 1 and Year 4
Vice Chair	Chezelle Williams	Nursery and Year 4
Treasurers	Dave & Kate Anderson	Year 1 and Year 3
Secretary	Natalie Blackburn	Nursery and Year 4
Sponsorship	Sandra Ross	Year 1

We’re all new to this, so please bear with us as we get up to speed and do feel free to offer support/advice throughout the year. Special thanks to all of you that have already stepped forward to help us in the last few weeks since we agreed to this, especially Maria Clarke and Tim Rowell (and others) for agreeing to continue organising the hugely successful Xmas Market for another year.

We’ll be having a “meet the new PTA Committee” coffee morning on Friday 15th November (more details below) and would love to see as many of you there as possible (young children welcome).

The PTA’s Role

Given central funding cuts over recent years the support of the PTA is a much needed resource, most importantly for helping provide extra IT provisions used daily by our children. We work very closely with Mr Holt and his staff to assist with their funding requirements as well as helping finance other key areas in the school. Some of these include buying books for the school library, funding events for children and providing new equipment for the playground.

The PTA committee is aided immeasurably by the event managers and volunteers (aka you the parents) who dedicate their time to help organise many fundraising events throughout the course of the school year. Examples include organising coffee mornings, Quiz nights, raffles, kids cinema/disco evenings, The Easter Egg Hunt, and of course the Christmas and summer Fairs. Without these I’m sure you would agree our school community would not feel as special as it currently does hence the importance to keep them going. The more of us who support the school in this way, whether helping, contributing or simply attending, the more our children will gain from their primary years as well as continuing to build our school community.

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For those new to the school, we’d like to take this opportunity to say a big welcome! We hope you’ve settled well into the school community and we look forward to getting the chance to meet as many of you as possible over the coming months. PTA events are a fantastic way to get to know the other members of the school community and to make friends! We are also very aware that many of the parents or carers work during the day but through our regular communications via email and events in the evenings and weekends we still very much hope you still feel part of the PTA community.

Year Reps

Your class reps can be found below (thank you all!). They provide a valuable link between the committee and each of the years and they also help key events.

Year	Rep	Rep
Nursery	Chezelle Willams	Cat Welch
Reception	Katie Gibson	Lexi Santamaria
Year 1	Leonie McGuigan	David Jackson
Year 2	Lorraine Petheram	Caroline Narboni
Year 3	Sharon Ghirardani	Kate Anderson
Year 4	Natalie Blackburn	Cathy Wragg
Year 5	Noleen Golding	Sharon Hartigan
Year 6	Lone Middleton	Adel Szeitz

Upcoming events & activities:

Pre-loved children’s book sale – Organised by Nuala Tolson

Pre-loved children’s books will be on sale in the playground after school this **Friday 8 December** so please do bring a few pounds in!

Meet the new PTA Committee and Coffee Morning (raising money for Children in Need)

On **Friday 15th November** we are hosting a parents’ coffee morning from 9am in the Parish Hall, with all money raised going to Children in Need. Please come along to meet the new PTA committee, find out more about what we do, our plans for the year and ways you can get involved/help out if you want to. The whole committee is new to this so all ideas/support will be very welcome. We hope as many of you as possible can make it and we promise there will no hard sell of jobs so do feel welcome to just come and have a coffee and say hello! We’ll have some toys there to help entertain any youngsters you have in tow so feel free to bring them along.

Secret Santa – Organised by Sharon Hartigan and Noleen Golding

It’s the most wonderful time of the year #OFFICIAL - as Secret Santa (St Charles Borromeo’s annual festive PTA Fundraising event) will take place on **Tuesday 17th December**. It’s a chance for your children to enjoy some Christmas magic when they visit Santa’s Grotto to buy presents for their parents or family members. Please look out for posters and letter in bags for more details soon.

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Christmas card artwork project – Organised by Sandra Ross and Zanna Brunner

We are excited to announce that our school is partaking in a Christmas card project with APFS this year (organised by Sandra Ross and Zanna Brunner). Next week (from 11th November) the children will be sent home with their own Christmas artwork and a unique code for their parents to purchase Christmas cards online with the child's artwork displayed. We have looked at the artwork today and it is so wonderfully different, colourful and imaginative! For every card sold, an amount will be donated to the PTA - so by purchasing the cards you are supporting both our school and your child's artistic flair! Please watch out for the art/ordering information to be sent home next week. The order deadline is the 20th November and the cards will be ready on the 3rd December.

Textile recycling/Bag to School – Organised by Suzanne Gaines

The next Textile recycling collection will take place on Friday 29th November. Please look out for bags sent home with your children to fill and bring to drop off that morning. The clothes and other textiles (such as curtains, pairs of shoes etc) collected are either sold on by the third party collector or recycled and the school receives several hundred pounds each year as a result of these collections (amount dependant on what is collected) so do try to send in what you can.

Christmas Raffle/sponsorship - Organised by Michelle Phillips/Sandra Ross

We've made a great start securing donations for Xmas raffle prizes either from parents or local businesses as well as looking for sponsors (of individual Xmas market stalls or whole events). Any additional help with further donations, prizes or simply an introduction to a local business contact who may be able to help would be greatly appreciated!

Summary of Events (subject to change)

November:

Fri 8th: Pre-loved Childrens book sale (after school in playground)

Fri 15th: PTA Coffee morning (Parish Hall)

Wed 20th – Deadline for orders of Xmas cards

Fri 22nd - MUFTI day for secret Santa donations

Fri 29th – Textile recycling

December

Sun 8th: Christmas Market

Tues 17th: Secret Santa

Easyfundraising

Please sign up to "Easyfundraising" to help the PTA raise funds. All you need to do is register and then visit the website or App before buying things online, whether its shopping hotels car hire or flights.

You can sign up at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stcharlespta/>. This is one of the easiest ways to raise money for the school. It does not cost you anything and does not affect the price you pay for your online shopping. Over 3,200 well known retailers (Including Waitrose, Argos, Booking.com and most household names) donate a percentage of what you spend online to St Charles PTA when you visit with [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) before carrying on with your normal purchases. Last year we raised over **£900** for the PTA simply by shopping on-line.

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Birthday book club – Organised by Becki Daniels and Nuala Tolson

Every month all the children who are celebrating a birthday are invited to donate the cost of a book to donate to the library. That book will then contain a donation certificate from the child who kindly donated the book to the school. To join please contact Becki, Nuala, or see the birthday book club letter in your child's school bag during the month of their birthday.

PTA Box

There is a black PTA box outside the school office which is where you should post any cheques or forms or other correspondence for the PTA or you can email us at pta@stcharlesb.surrey.sch.uk.

Facebook – Run by Samantha Peace

On Facebook? Please join our PTA page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1541782836079785/>

Suggestions and feedback

If you have ideas about how the PTA can raise money we would love to hear from you at pta@stcharlesb.surrey.sch.uk.

David Jackson

St Charles Borromeo PTA

Email: pta@stcharlesb.surrey.sch.uk

Website: click [here](#)