

LODDON PTA WINTER NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first PTA newsletter of 2017. We hope you enjoyed your Christmas break and that 2017 is getting off to a good start for you and your families.

Next Committee Meeting Date

The next committee meeting date is scheduled for **Monday 30th January at 8pm in the Parent Hut**. All parents and carers are warmly welcome to attend – whether you want to be involved or just get an idea of what we do, please come along and find out what we have planned for the term and work with us to shape the school's next big fundraising project.

Second hand uniform sales

Many thanks to Kam Bhogal (parent support advisor) for co-ordinating these recently. Unfortunately she has had to step down so we're in need of volunteers to help with the sales. It's a couple of hours each half term. Please contact the pta on pta@loddon.wokingham.sch.uk if you can help. Without support unfortunately these sales cannot continue.

Fundraising events and activities last term

The "Light Up Loddon" glow discos were enjoyed by many children and were livened up a little with lots of glow in the dark accessories and UV facepaint as a new addition. The added extras were a huge hit with the children and we'll look at theming the discos in future, so if you have any ideas of themes please get in touch. FSU enjoyed a pyjama party after school in December. In total, the discos and pyjama party raised £855.

The 2016 PTA Christmas fair was a great success and we would like to thank all of those who helped out with donations, giving up your time to help out, and for supporting us on the day. We had a huge turn-out on the day, so thanks to everybody who came and we hoped you had a wonderful time. The return of the present room was very popular with anything left over after the event being donated to local Woodley charity First Days Children's Charity. This hugely successful event raised £1440 in funds for the school.

As well as the Christmas fair and the discos, we took part in the card design programme with Class Fundraising. As always very popular with £492 raised for the school. More importantly, this means that 342 items featuring the children's lovely artwork are now at home with friends and family to enjoy.

To round off the Autumn Term, 219 of us went to the Hexagon for their production of "Snow White". This was a fantastic family event and as well as being an enjoyable afternoon for all involved we raised £705 through our ticket sales. Many thanks to Nicola Tivey for organising this once again. We hope to return in 2017 for the Hexagon's production of "Peter Pan" on Sunday 18th December.

How your fundraising is being spent

German Christmas Market – a note from Year 4 Miss Routh

"As part of Year Four's topic work and 'Mathematics sack' (Maths in action!), they held a German Christmas Market for all the children in the school as an end of term treat. The PTA kindly donated the money to make this happen and the children were very excited to be working with a real budget.

Upcoming Events:

PTA Committee Meeting
MONDAY 30th January
- all parents & carers welcome
8pm in The HUT

Winter Disco
(tbc) FRIDAY 24th February
Years 1-6

Year Four built and constructed the stalls, planned out the different zones and did some very complicated maths to ensure every child in the school could have some mulled apple juice. As commented by Teddy Year 4 'Making the stalls was great fun as I love being creative.'

All of Year 3-6 also got involved in baking and making products and enjoyed using their Maths, Design Technology and Art skills towards a real experience. Chloe in Year 4 said 'I enjoyed giving the toys to younger children in school as it made them happy.'

On the day, the Salvation Army Brass Band came to play us carols to get us in the festive spirit and children all the way from Nursery up to Year 6 were able to enjoy the festive market. Food, drink and Christmas goodies were 'bought' and fun was had by all. Alex from Year 4 said 'It was fun seeing lots of people buying our toys and food at the Christmas Market.' Without the support of the PTA, we wouldn't have been able to put on such a spectacular event that was free of charge – thank you PTA".

A massive thank you to Miss Routh and year 4 for making this event happen.

Riverdale Library Refurbishment

In Summer 2016 the PTA allocated £10,000 to kit out the library in the Riverdale building (next to the year 1 classrooms). This has now been completed and is being used to enrich your children's learning during lessons and also hosting extra-curricular activities.



PA Equipment

The PTA have also allocated £5,000 to the purchase of new PA equipment to enhance children's stage performances and for use at outdoor events such as sports day. We will use these allocated funds to continue to provide hands free microphones for school productions and will purchase a portable PA system that can be used outdoors and indoors. The rest of the funds will be put to one side to enhance the PA in the new hall.

Future plans for spending PTA funds will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

Thanks for your continued support!

Loddon Primary School PTA