

# PTA NEWSLETTER – October 2018

## It's autumn already!

September flew by in a flurry of new uniform, new classes, new teachers and new friends. We'd like to kick the academic year off by welcoming all of the new teachers, students and parents to the school and introducing you to your PTA.

Kintbury St Mary's PTA is a friendly group dedicated to putting on fun events for parents and students of the school, as well as staff members, to raise money which the school can then use to enhance our children's learning. In this time of government cuts our contributions are more needed than ever! We also help run key village events and retain strong links with our local community including St Mary's Church.

**Last year we were able to raise over £6,000 through our events and a further £4,000 thanks to a Tesco's grant and match funding.**

**Thank you for your support!**

In the academic year 17/18 we supported the school in providing coaches and ice creams for their annual trip to the Watermill Theatre, crackers for the Christmas lunch (which we also help out at), Christmas presents and Easter Eggs, repair of the KS2 climbing frame and sports day lollies. As well as all of that we also were able to fund new electronic whiteboards for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, Tapestry (an online learning journal) for Reception and 4 new laptops for pupil use. Each class was also given a sum of money to spend on tools or an experience to support the student's learning.

## How can you help?

**Get involved** – we'd love to see you at our meetings where you can contribute to fundraising ideas and organisation of events.

**Our next meeting is on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October, 7:30pm at the Dundas Arms. Each prospective new member will be welcomed with a drink.**

**Help out** – if you can't commit to attending PTA meetings you can still help out! We'd love to hear from you if you'd be interested in occasionally manning a stall at an event, or happy to bake a cake every so often!

**Match Funding** – we have been very lucky in the past to have parents who work for Vodaphone and have accessed their generous match funding programme. Do you work for Vodaphone or does the company you work for run a similar offer? It's usually a very simple process which involves filling out one form and helping out (in a small way) at an event.

**Support** – we understand that not everyone is able to donate their time to helping out. We love seeing you all at our events, knowing that you are supporting your school while, hopefully, having a great time.

We are looking forward to another great year for the school and the PTA.

**Dates for your diary:**

School uniform, cake & 2 <sup>nd</sup> hand books sale	Date TBC – before / after half-term
Quiz & Fish n' Chips night	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November
St Mary's Christmas Fair	Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> December
Movie Night	Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> January

Thank you

Rebecca Sneath (Chair), Debbie Patterson (Vice-chair), Cath Whittington (Treasurer)