

# PTA News



## PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Holy Trinity C of E School Cuckfield

*Holy Trinity PTA is your PTA, that works to raise funds for our school and help provide further resources and opportunities for our*

### CHRISTMAS ISSUE 2021



### Chair message:

Successful PTA events held this term include the Bag2School Collection, Year Group Cake Sales, Bonfire Refreshment Stall and Cuckfield Local Market Stall. Huge thanks to Lydia Nelson from Cuckfield Cakes for hosting another Birthday Cake Competition and congratulations to our winners, Mia and Amber, we hope you enjoy your birthday cakes!

The School Grounds and Nature Team ran two very productive sessions this Autumn, completing many much-needed tasks, including preparing the grounds for Forest School and the Christmas Fair. Thank you to the amazingly knowledgeable team for their dedication and enthusiasm.

Cancelling our Christmas Fair 24 hours before it was due to start was not a decision we took lightly, but we realised we'd made the right decision when storm Arwen took hold! Thank you to everyone for their generous donations of bottles, sweets, cakes and Xmas jumpers, and to all those who bought tickets for our raffle and purchased items in our stock clearance events.

Christmas Shopping Day was as successful as ever, huge thanks to Clare Lawrence and Nikki Mortimer for running this event, as well as all those who helped.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Jen Plenty (Chair)

[www.classlist.com](http://www.classlist.com)  
[holytrinityptacuckfield@gmail.com](mailto:holytrinityptacuckfield@gmail.com)

*Merry  
Christmas*

### JOIN US AT OUR AGM:

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January, 7.30pm**  
**The School Hall (TBC)**

*Your PTA needs you to get involved!*

### FUNDRAISING UPDATE

**This term we have raised  
£7,775**

This term PTA funds have paid for:

- Forest School sessions for all children
- Christmas panto for all children
- New classroom resources and equipment for all classes

### The future of your PTA is in YOUR hands!

After several years in their roles, the PTA exec committee will be stepping down at the PTA AGM in January. The Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary positions ALL need to be filled – this is a legal requirement of the PTA and if these positions are not filled, we will be taking steps to close the PTA as it can't legally continue. To then set up a new PTA in a year or two if we let this one collapse would involve a huge amount of work that isn't needed if the positions can be filled in January 2022. Being part of the PTA is incredibly rewarding and fun too – particularly when you see first-hand how much children enjoy the events planned or enjoy the resources and equipment bought with PTA funds.

**Your PTA raises approximately £25,000 per year**

The PTA funds all the Forest School sessions your children enjoy throughout the year, provides many classroom books and resources, pays for workshops and experiences such as Lego robotics, Opera Brava theatre and a Christmas Panto. The PTA also contributes to larger items such as refitting the ICT Suite, building the Outdoor Classroom and adventure play equipment for the school field.

Your PTA hosts Christmas & Summer Fairs, cakes sales, Christmas Shopping Day, themed trails in the School Woods, Discos and Film Nights to name but a few. All these will cease if new parents/carers don't put themselves forward to stand for Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.



**Even if you aren't interested in an exec position, how about you and your friends running an event next year?**

The PTA's future is in YOUR hands – don't let this valuable resource fade – experiences your children greatly enjoy at school are at risk if YOU don't get involved with your PTA.

Please read on to find out what each role involves. Which one will you be standing for? The current PTA team will not be disappearing, we are all on hand to help the new incumbents!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January, 7.30pm  
PTA AGM – election of the new committee

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April  
Bag2School collection

The rest of the diary is empty,  
ready for the new PTA team to fill!

*What will you plan?  
Discos? Easter Trail? Parent social?*

## Outdoor Classroom News

On a gloomy day in early December the School Ambassadors accompanied Mrs MacGregor, Mrs Dobson and Paulina in the Outdoor Classroom to host school governors as well as donors who funded the Outdoor Classroom project to officially 'open' the classroom. You can read the full article, featured in the Argus newspaper here: [theargus.co.uk/OutdoorClassroom](http://theargus.co.uk/OutdoorClassroom)

The Outdoor Classroom is now such a well-used facility at school. We are hugely grateful to Nicola Brewerton, Sharon Stewart and Lauren Lloyd, who over 3 years ago started the process of applying for grants to fund this fantastic addition to our school.



## IN FOCUS: PTA executive positions



### CHAIR:

Directs committee meetings and AGM  
Acts as a point of liaison with Mrs MacGregor and PTA  
Works with event sub-committees to make sure preparations for events are progressing  
Represents PTA at school events, such as new Reception parents evening  
Manages Classlist  
Writes termly newsletter



### VICE CHAIR:

Liaises with Class Reps  
Updates Classlist with event dates  
Stands in for Chair when unavailable for meetings  
Supports Chair where needed

### TREASURER:

Prepares annual accounts and returns to the Charity Commission  
Liaises with external auditor  
Prepares finance reports for committee meetings  
Supervises bank account, manages, and records expenses  
Prepares floats for events, banks takings  
You DO NOT need to be a qualified accountant to take on this role!

### SECRETARY:

Issues agendas and organises venues for committee meetings & AGM  
Prepares and circulates minutes for above meetings  
Ensures insurance is paid  
Maintains up to date list of Trustees with Charity Commission

**ALL these roles can be job shares and no prior knowledge is needed**  
– a full handover will be given.

**ALL current committee members have multiple children and all but one work either full or part time – all committee roles can fit round your family and current commitments.**

## Supporting the PTA financially:

You can donate via our Just Giving page:

<https://justgiving.com/holytrinitypta>

## Free Money for YOUR PTA:

**Amazon Smile** raise money for the PTA every time you shop at Amazon. Search for Holy Trinity CE A Primary School PTA and link your Amazon account today! Click the link above!

Click through [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.com) when you shop online and a % of your purchase will be donated to the PTA

Link your Co-Op membership card to Holy Trinity PTA to start earning money for school  
<https://www.coop.co.uk/local-causes>

## HT School Grounds and Nature Team news:

The Grounds Days earlier this term were very successful – thank you to everyone who attended. 2022 Grounds Days will be announced soon.

Paulina would like to thank school parents, Shaun McLean (woodchip donation), Emma Hilary and Tamsin Hollvells (firewood donations for Forest School) and Martin Gardner from Edinburgh Botanic Gardens for donating new polytunnels for the Gardening Club – to you all, we really appreciate your support.



## Having a party?

Did you know that the Outdoor Classroom, School Woods and Playing Field can ALL be hired for a party?

These locations can all be hired at weekends and during the school holidays at very competitive prices.

Please contact Laura Henger [lhenger@htprimary.co.uk](mailto:lhenger@htprimary.co.uk) for more details.

