

PTFA newsletter

Term 1

Welcome everyone! We're a bit late getting this out this term. Apologies. We aim to send out a newsletter at the start of each term. Hope that Reception starters this year and their families are settling in well. It was lovely to see so many of you at the recent welcome drinks. Thank you so much for coming along.

We have an exciting and busy term of events lined up and also wanted to say a big thank you to everyone who worked so hard last year. It was a great comeback year!

We have lots of new teams running events and are hugely appreciative. We also have lots of core team changes this year. We welcome Ruth Colson as joint treasurer with Anna; Kate Pearson and Bazga Ali have valiantly stepped up to be co-chairs; Sarah Bice will support Kate with the website and ticket sales; Helen Chesman will support Sarah in her last year as class link co-ordinator.

It's with heavy hearts that we say a big thank you and bye to Alex Spendley, co-treasurer for at least seven years; to Gill Porter who has masterminded class tea towels; to Jennie Spears - an amazing Vice Chair and huge supporter of various projects over the years, whose wisdom, support, energy and clear-thinking will be missed. Finally the wonderful Lucy Lee has unexpectedly left. Lucy has done too much to note down here but is already much missed. We are looking for a Secretary. Please get in touch if you could help.

Calendar

PTFA events this term

29 SEPT - RECEPTION PARENTS' WELCOME DRINKS - THANK YOU FOR COMING ALONG

24 OCT - PTFA AGM

14 OCT - DISCO (YEARS 2, 4, 6)

5 NOV - FIREWORKS

16 NOV - PTFA MEETING

24 NOV - CHRISTMAS MARKET (ADULTS ONLY)

10 DEC - CHRISTMAS TREES & ADDED FESTIVITIES

Spotlight on spending

We wanted to share with you what the £8,000 Enrichment budget was spend on last year. This is pledged by the PTFA to the school every year as part of our overall donation to enable the children to have exciting and unique experiences outside of the usual curriculum. Here we shine a spotlight on Explorer Dome, back in June...

It was really cool and fascinating to learn about the facts of light.

Jack, Year 4



The Explorer Dome team once again set up their magical dome in the gym and each class was treated to a 45 minute, presenter-led, hands-on session on Light. Key Stage 1 classes were introduced to the science of light and dark with light sources like the Sun and a chance to have fun with shadows, reflections, rainbows, stories around the fire and why not be afraid of the dark. Key Stage 2 got hands-on with light and colour: what light is, where it comes from, how it travels and how we see. Opaque, transparent and translucent materials, mirrors, prisms and filters provide a dazzling and enlightening display of reflection, refraction and colour mixing inside the darkened Dome.

In other news...

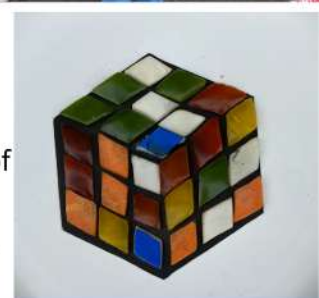
Some of you might be aware of the campaign that Bishop Road parents, Hannah Summers and Amy Valenzia, have launched to address the lack of secondary school provision for Horfield families. Families in their part of Horfield sit on the edges of local catchment areas for schools that are oversubscribed, resulting in some children having to travel to secondary schools much further afield. They are petitioning the Mayor of Bristol to address this, you can sign their petition here www.change.org/HorfieldSecondaryBristol and see them on BBC Points West (<https://youtu.be/YeO-3vOSFQk>).



Congratulations to the 2022 Summer Fair team, ably led by the brilliant Mel Burgess and Catriona Johnson with support from Helen Fazakerley. Thank you to everyone who signed up to help on the day, and those involved in the planning, including Stephen Green on floats and Anna Lawrence on finance; Lisa John on games - did you splat that rat?!; Amy Jones and Ellie Dijkers on Candy Floss; Morena Staiano and Ruth Alexander on toys & books; Alan Lewis on Silverthorne Playground offerings (the kids really took to soaking the teachers - what troopers!); Manon Wright on face painting; Susy Cook and Bitag Taghavi on the raffle; Jacqui Thomas organised us on sign up genius; Sabina Ford and Emma Ellen kept us refreshed; Imogen Gladman oversaw the excellent Best in Show contributions; Sarah Darling was stage compère and 'Dads Allowed' were great; and Gill Self who stores suitcases full of good quality second hand uniform for us all so we can buy uniform more cheaply while reducing waste.

Summer Fair raised £8,000!

Remember, none of this happens without someone helping. If you can assist, even just a little bit, look out for opportunities during the year or email us!



Clockwise from Top left: Teachers in the stocks; 'Yucky dip'; Gill with second hand uniform (all of which she stores at home!); Police horses; Maisie Absalom (centre) in 1T won Best in Show (Congratulations Maisie!); some other excellent Best in Show submissions: Rubix cube by Elliot, 6R; watermelon face by Iris, George & William Heath; Butterfly lifecycle by Orley Davies, RM.

Hot work!

On a hot Friday afternoon in July the teacher and parent netball teams treated us to an excellent match... Sophie Coles reports...



A few years ago a group of mums challenged the teachers to an end of year game, hoping to encourage more girls to participate in sport, and as they say, the rest is history. The recent heat wave meant it was a rather hot and sweaty affair, with the mums quickly taking the lead. What the teachers lack in netball experience, they certainly make up for in enthusiasm, with Mr Curnock being one of the most vocal members of the team. Four tough quarters were fought, Miss Purnell, Miss Williams, Miss Walker and Miss Reece demonstrated skills unmatched by their male counterparts. Once the teachers overcame the challenges of not being able to run with or throw the ball the whole length of the court, they found their groove and used height to their advantage. Mr Gratton was overheard from the side-line that “the teachers were being held back by rules of the game”. Despite these obstacles, the teachers continued to fight and challenge the mums, and when they weren’t being called up by the umpire for illegal moves, they started scoring points. A tactical move for Miss Purnell from a defensive to a shooting position started to reap results. As the fourth quarter drew to a close the mums were relieved to hear the final whistle, as the heat, and combined team age difference, was beginning to take its toll. A well fought match on both sides, with a final score of an 18:9 win to the mums. And the real win of the afternoon, overheard on the side-line, from a teenage sister to a younger brother, “Do you remember when I used to play netball? This makes me want to go and play again”.

Colour Fest!

Thank you to the dedicated team of Year 6 2021-22 parents who put on a fabulous send off for our Year 6s in July. The weather held and the field was a riot of colour. We hope you're all settling at your new schools; do come back and visit!



Christmas cards!

PTFA Christmas card desing fundraising project!

Each year the wonderful Jo Tomlinson undertakes the mammoth task offering students the opportunity to design their own Christmas card for you to order. Design deadlines are early again this year. This ensures designs are processed and orders filled in plenty of time for you to write cards and wrap gifts ahead of festive get togethers or in time for Christmas post. Please return your design and place your order by THURSDAY 13th OCTOBER.

The children absolutely love seeing the designs get brought to life as cards, gift tags, wrapping paper, mugs and A5 note books. Not only does this solve your 'which one should I choose' card dilemma, it also helps raise vital funds for the school. The project is completely optional, and you are under no obligation to take part.

Please ensure you fill in ALL the details required on the form and then place your order online using the instructions on the form. Once the form is complete and you have placed your order, return the design to your child's teacher. It must be in an envelope clearly marked 'Christmas Cards'. You will be receiving forms and information via the children imminently! Any questions you can contact Jo (Summersjo@me.com).

Thank you Jo!



Tea towels!

Thank you to Sarah Farquhar for taking the lead from Gillian on Tea towels! This is another lovely addition to our PTFA fundraising each year, with teachers giving class time for kids to draw their portraits which class tea-towel reps then gather and tidy, and a year lead lays them all out...resulting in a brilliant tea towels for each year group which you can purchase (for yourselves, grandparents, camping trips, unsuspecting neighbours...)

Thanks to everyone who purchased uniform from us over the past year, over £1500 was raised for the PTFA and a mountain of uniform found a new home! As well as a very successful summer fair we also held our first pop up event outside of Sidney & Eden and hope to run more of these events in the future.

If you're still looking for uniform there is lots of stock left, please email or see our Facebook page and send a message with what you're looking for. We have all types of generic uniform available in sizes from age 3 to 11. Please note, stock of purple tops is limited and these will be listed on our Facebook page or sold at events, please do not message us about the availability of purple tops as responding to these messages significantly increases the workload!

Thank you also for your kind donations over the past year, as well as selling items to school families and raising money for the PTFA we have donated uniform items to the ABC appeal for Ukrainian families and to a uniform event run by the Mama's Bristol team over the summer which provided free uniform for local families. If you have uniform in good condition you'd like to donate please get in touch for details of where items can be left.

Second hand uniform

Facebook:
Bishop
Road PTFA
Uniform
Sales



Please volunteer!

We need your help with various things in order for us to be able to continue running these events and raising money for the school. Please remember: everyone who helps with the PTFA is a parent or carer at the school and is in no way an expert. We all just work it out as we go and do our best, so the key ingredient really is just a positive approach and 'can do' attitude. It's hard to estimate the time involved in these volunteer jobs but we are a busy team and something is usually going on. We just juggle and try and fit in what we can, and we try not to do anything during the school holidays where possible.

We also need to fill the role of Secretary. This person would assist with the prep for the four PTFA meetings each year and take the minutes; help with actions arising from the meetings; assist with the calendar of events; take on the newsletter and noticeboard if you'd like to; monitoring the PTFA gmail account each week.



Welcome!
Left to right:
Sarah Bice, website support co-ordinator
Kate Pearson, new Vice-Chair
Bazga Ali, new Vice-Chair

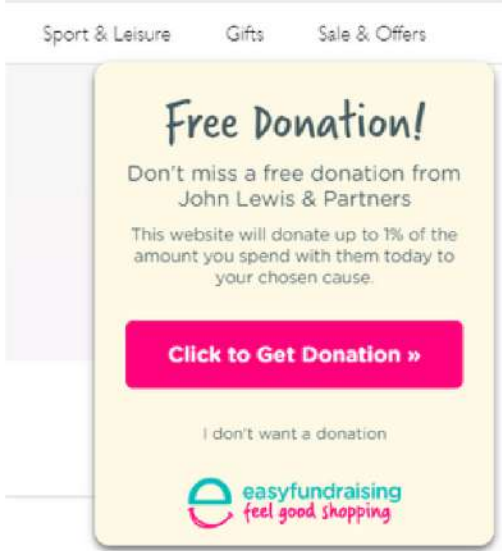


Stocking up on wet weather gear? Ordering supplies for Halloween? Booking half term holidays? Doing a weekly online grocery shop? Renewing Car insurance? Starting Christmas shopping early? There's not much we can't earn money on!

REMEMBER: When you can't shop locally and are ordering online please bear us in mind!

Number of supporters:
206

Raised in the last month:
£100.63



Add a 'reminder' to your computer and you won't miss a donation!



Download the easyfundraising app and enable the Donation Reminder on your phone too

