



Newsletter – March 2017

Hello Everyone and welcome to your PTA Newsletter.

Meet the PTA/Funding Update

In April 2016 Emma Gilyead (Chair), Debbie Smith (Treasurer) and Julie Hartley (Fundraiser) joined the current Committee Members Karoline Kemp (Secretary) and Anne Bromley.

We also have a lovely team of parents who attend meetings, design our posters, volunteer at events and help set up events and bake ☺

We are all working parents who are passionate about our school and volunteer our free time to organised events and raise funds for the school. Our aim is to raise as much money as we can, which we can then donate to the school for WOW experiences, this ensures that every child benefits from the funds raised at our events.

Since April 2016 we have raised:

Easter Disco 2016: £250
 Summer Fair 2016: £677
 Halloween Disco 2016: £552
 Chrstimas coffee morning: £133
 Christmas Fair 2016: £950
 Movie Night 2017: £312

We have been extremely lucky to have also received match funding to the value of £1262.00

What this money has paid for:

Mini Pantomime in September (A Twist in Time)
 Christmas Pantomime in January 2017 (Aladdin)
 New reading books across the school
 The Castle reading area and Mural
 Reward boxes in classes
 Vegetable patch in Nursery and Reception

Over the next few months every class will be getting a designated reading area, where each class will choose the theme for their reading area and the PTA will fund the seating, books and decoration for the area.

Events and Meeting Dates 2017

Here are the events and meetings we have in the diary for 2017 so far, please keep a look out on the school newsletter for further events and our weekly updates.

Date	Activity
Monday 9 th January	Pantomime
Thursday 2 nd February	PTA meeting
Tuesday 7 th February	Movie Night
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day – dress up / story time
Thursday 9 th March	PTA meeting
Thursday 30 th March	Easter Disco
Thursday 11 th May	PTA meeting
Friday 16 th June	Community Market
Friday 7 th July	Sports Day
Friday 7 th July	Summer Fair
October Date TBC	Halloween Disco
December Date TBC	Christmas Fair

Contact Details

You can contact us as follows:

Facebook – East Garforth PTA. Like us to see what is happening and follow our weekly updates, you can also message us on our page.

Email – egpta@live.com, this email is checked weekly.

We have a comments box in the school reception area.

You can also leave a message for us with the school office. Also check out our page on the school website, where you will find info and the minutes from our meetings.

http://www.egpa.org.uk/EGPA_PTA



Roles / Helping out

We are happy to report that all the major roles within the PTA are currently filled, however we are always looking for parents/carers/grandparents who can volunteer their time at events.

Unfortunately due to lack of volunteers we had to cancel 4 stalls at the Christmas Fair with a potential loss of £200! We have also had to cancel the Quiz night for the same reason.

How you can help

There are a few ways you can help make the PTA even more successful and profitable as follows:

- **Volunteer** with (or without) a friend at an event, so one of you could help for half of the event and one could watch your children, then halfway through you could swap roles;
- Do you have a **skill** that you feel we could utilise - organising, baking, etc;
- Do you own or work for a company who could **donate** a prize/service to the PTA;
- Do you work for a company who offer match-funding to their employees (always worth a check if you work for a large company as some offer schemes such as match funding as a benefit to their employees).
- Simply come along to a meeting and find out what we do.
- Contacts within the local community.

Just imagine what we could achieve if everyone could volunteer an hour of their time?

Sports Day / Summer Fair

This year school Sports Day and the Summer Fair will be on the same day (weather permitting), this will be Friday 7th July. The PTA will be selling refreshments throughout Sports Day, then after school we will be holding the Summer Fair (3:30pm onwards).

You said, we did....

You said - "we don't feel the PTA is transparent"

We did:

- We had a weekly update in the school newsletter and are now producing our own weekly newsletter that will be sent out with the school newsletter;
- We made it easier to contact us;
- All the minutes from our meetings are made public on our page on the school website;
- We produced branded paperwork so you know when correspondence is from the PTA;
- We publicise all our meetings well in advance and everyone is always welcome to just come along, have a cuppa and a chat and get involved if they want to.

You said - "I can't always make events or volunteer but would like to donate to the PTA/School for WOW experiences"

We did - we have created a just-giving page that will run for 120 days, if you want to donate to the PTA (for the school) please use the following link:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/EGPTA?utm_id=2&utm_term=XJBr5ZbZP

Community

We are currently working with Garforth in Bloom on projects around the school, we are very fortunate to have had several meetings with their members who have given us some wonderful ideas and will be working with them closely in the future.

The first project is creating a Vegetable patch in Nursery and Reception so the children can grow their own food and see the process through from planting the seed to eating the produce.

We are also sponsoring some flower beds outside the school gate which we will maintain along with the children in the school.

See our weekly update for further details.