

October 2020

Hoping that both you and your children are enjoying the return to school and are doing well. We just thought that we would give you an update on our school PTFA (Parents, Teachers and Friends Association). If your child has recently started with the school you might not be aware that the PTFA raises funds towards many activities and resources your child enjoys within school. In the recent past the PTFA has raised money for the following:

- Forest school resources and the outdoor shelter
- new laptops for the ICT suite,
- books which are handed out as gifts to the children at Christmas from the school,
- new curtains for the stage in the main hall,
- the trim trail in the main playground.

As well as this the PTFA also funds regular events such as termly discos for the children, an annual trip to the pantomine at the Regent theatre, 'Reels on wheels' film screenings with sweets and popcorn for the children at the end of term and stalls/ activities during Sports Day in the summer. Regular events for the family and local community in the past have included a Fireworks and Bonfire night, band nights and the much loved chocolate Bingo which takes places just before Easter.

Just before lockdown in February of this year the outgoing committee comprising of Kayleigh Carr, Hailey Alcock, Rachel Buxton and Tim Carr stood down and the new committee would like to thank them on behalf of all parents for the hard work and many thousands of pounds that they raised during their time running the PTFA. Thanks also to the many volunteers who helped them by donating prizes, manning stalls, putting up marquees, lighting and countless other jobs which have helped to raise funds.

This year has obviously been challenging in terms of raising money for the school and many of our usual scheduled events have sadly had to be cancelled because of the need to adhere to social distancing and safety guidelines. The school has identified that fundraising priorities this year are to further develop the forest school area and to refurbish and restock the school library.

So to raise funds for this there will be a non-uniform day on the **22nd October** (last day before half term) in exchange for a £1 donation to the PTFA (a voluntary donation request will be raised on SchoolMoney by the school office). We have also put together a seasonal October raffle with the winners being announced on **21st October**. The prizes will include 2 Halloween themed gift baskets with activities suitable for school age children as well as a £10 gift voucher for the Country Café at Bottomhouses (please find full details on how to enter on the Facebook page). A larger raffle will be arranged for Christmas with gift vouchers from local attractions and businesses as well as food hampers after half term.

We hope that you can support us in helping to raise funds for our school. We are a friendly and welcoming group and would love you to join and help us in any way you can in our fundraising efforts. If you haven't already please do request to join the Facebook page: Waterhouses CE Primary Academy PTFA. Our email address is: waterhousesprimaryptfa@gmail.com if you wanted to get in touch via email.

With very best wishes,

Kate, Katie, Emily and Rebecca.