

Welcome to our PTA

Autumn 2015 Newsletter!



Welcome Back!

We would like to welcome back all our families and hope you all had an enjoyable summer. Welcome too, to our new families joining us with their new Reception and Nursery children.

First up on our fundraising agenda this year is assisting School with the refurbishment & redevelopment of the Library which is becoming a new combined Learning Hub with books and IT resources. New furnishings and equipment are required and so our immediate focus is to help finance this project and get this up and running for our children to use as soon as possible! If you want to find out more about what we do and why we do it, please join us at our next meeting on **Tues 10th Nov**

Next PTA Meeting

Our next meeting is at 6.30 pm on **Tuesday 10th November** at the Maudslay Pub on Allesley Old Road. All Welcome!



Cinema Night

The next Cinema Night for children in Y2 - Y6 will take place on **Friday 16th October**. The film will be 'Home'. Please return your consent forms by **Thursday 15th October**.

Christmas Gifts

Following the success of last year's Mother's Day Gift Service, we are offering children the chance to purchase their own gifts for parents this Christmas. The PTA will be in school on **Friday 6th November** with a selection of gifts for mums & dads. The children are asked to bring in £2.50 for each gift they wish to purchase. The presents will then be wrapped and stored safely until the children bring them home in the last week of term.

🗾 Don't forget to follow us on twitter; @PTA_AllSouls 🔟 And like us on Facebook; All Souls PTA Page

The PTA Group on Facebook is only for parents of children in All Souls' School. If you are not known to the group administrators, it may take a little time for us to confirm that you are a parent. Please bear with us!

Christmas Bazaar!

Sorry to mention Christmas so soon, but our Christmas Bazaar will be upon us before we know it and involves a lot of planning and help from our families. This year's Bazaar will take place on Saturday 5th December in the school hall from 12 pm - 2 pm. As always we rely on the generosity of parents to make the event a success. Initially we ask you to consider whether you have any prizes which you could donate to our raffle or do you or anyone you know have a business which would be prepared to donate raffle prizes in exchange for a mention in our newsletter, Facebook page and Twitter feed? Do you have a hidden or not so hidden talent we could benefit from? Can you make things? Bake things? Create things? Would you or your business be interested in having a stall at the event? Could you spare an hour to help on a stall? Please let us know if you can help us with any of the above! And then there are the Sockings... Every year we ask parents to kindly donate items for us to sell and use as raffle prizes. This year the timetable for donations is as follows; w/c Monday 2nd November onwards - Christmas Sockings (please see next page for details) w/c Monday 16th November - Chocolate Stall Donations (bars, boxes, selection packs etc.) w/c Monday 23rd November - Toys, books, unwanted gifts, Raffle prize donations w/c Monday 30th November - Shop bought cakes & biscuits Friday 4th December - Non uniform - Bring a Bottle Day! (Plus any homemade cakes, thank you!)

Christmas Sockings!

Yes! It's that time of year again, when you spend half term making lots of Christmas Sockings for a very popular stall at the bazaar! Children are asked to buy a pair of child sized socks.
Roll one sock & put it inside the other so that the first sock can stand; then fill the sock with small novelty items eg sweets, glitter pens etc. You could add a Christmassy decoration to the front of the sock and there you have it! A lovely little prize for one of our bazaar stalls. Not only do you get the novelty bits & bobs but a pair of socks too!





Please, please, please sign up to this! So far we have raised over £142, but there are only 9 of us doing it!

Use Easy Fundraising for your Christmas Shopping!

Just think what we could achieve if a few more people signed up! Full details are on the school website, but it only takes a couple of minutes to set up and if you activate the donation reminder, you just need one click before you start shopping! It's as easy as that! It works on online grocery shopping & holidays too and doesn't cost you a penny more! <u>http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/</u> All Souls Catholic Primary School.

Bonus Ball

We have currently suspended the Bonus Ball fundraiser due to lack of participants and are looking for a suitable alternative. We will let you know as soon as we have found one!

Christmas Cards

The children have been designing their own cards again. We have started this early, so that card packs will be ready to order earlier this year!

Future plans

As well as the refurbishment and redevelopment of the library / Learning Hub, we are also hoping to raise money so that we can invest in a new Reading Scheme and dictionaries, as well as new carpeting and air-conditioning. Why not join us at one of our meetings? We would particularly like to see parents of children in Y6 as this year is currently not represented by the existing PTA members. We would also be delighted to see new Reception parents so please come along and see us! <u>Tuesday 10th November at 6.30pm in the Maudslay!</u>

Other Ways to Help

Use Scholastic website when buying books <u>http://www.scholastic.co.uk/</u> 'Spend £10 or more with us and we'll give 20% of your order value back to your school in Scholastic Rewards to spend on books and resources.'

- Any old toys, books, dvds in good condition? Let school have a sort through before giving them to the charity shop!
- Do you have any out grown uniform in good condition? This can be donated back to school for other children to use.
- Recycle your old batteries. A box is in the main reception area.

Thank you for taking time to read this newsletter and we look forward to hearing from you!

Textile Recycling BinUse our Textile Recycling Bin - the bigblue one in the corner of the car park!http://www.uktextilerecycling.co.uk/

School receives commission per tonne for all the clothes, shoes and bedding etc. donated. Depending on their condition the textiles are either reused or recycled, so even the most worn and torn items can be of use! And it helps you get rid of clutter!

Since we started this we have raised nearly £900 for the School Fund, just from old clothes, shoes and fabrics. Don't forget that we can recycle old worn out textiles as well – like worn out school shoes and old stained uniform that cannot be reused