



October 2021

Welcome!

St Joseph's PTA: What it means to your child, how you can get involved, and what's coming up

A warm welcome to all new parents at the school, both in Reception and to those who have joined other year groups, and welcome back to everyone else! Can you believe we are in October already! Where did September go?

Last year, with your support, the PTA were able to run over eight fundraising activities, albeit, these were limited compared to our normal run of events, reflecting our goal to raise funds for the here and now – things our children can enjoy and benefit from immediately, for example contributions to reduce the cost of school trips, improvements to the school's outside space and new books. Working with the teachers, the funds we raised helped improve still further the learning experiences at school for our children, and we all had some fun along the way too.

As we return for the new academic year, we recognise that up until Christmas things will still need to run slightly differently. Minimizing the risk from Covid-19, there will be no indoor events held before Christmas. We also recognise the financial strains that many people are still under.

So, below, we're introducing you to our committee, outlining some changes in the future and sharing some of our ideas for fundraising, whilst encouraging you to come forward with ideas as well.

Your PTA Committee

If you want to get in touch, we are:

- Alexa Timbrell, Co-Chair: my daughter, Harmony is in Year 4 and my son Roman is in reception
- Becky Maltby, Co-Chair: my twin daughters, Roxi and Matilda, are in Year 4
- Leah Farrer, Treasurer: My son Sam is in Year 5, James is in Year 1 and Thomas is just about to join the pre-school
- Rachel Holmes, Secretary: my daughter, Emilia is in Year 2
- Heidi Saunders, Committee Member: My son James is in year 3 and Archie is in Reception
- Naomi Wallace-Smith, Committee Member: My son Kian is in year 2 and my daughter Poppy is in her last year of pre-school

A picture of your lovely PTA members follows at the end of this letter, so you are able to identify and approach them in the playground if needed.

Future roles on the PTA Committee

Firstly, we would like to thank Graham Munday, who has stepped down as Chair, for all his hard work over the past three and a half years. Also thank you to Becky Maltby, who has stepped down as Treasurer, for all her hard work in



keeping the finances in line for the last three and a half years. Alexa and Becky have both stepped up to be Co-Chairs of the committee and Leah Farrer has kindly stepped forward to be our new Treasurer. Thank you also to Heidi and Naomi for joining the committee.

We are always looking for new parents to join us, why don't you come along to one of our PTA meetings (currently being held virtually) and say hello.

Keep in touch on Facebook - [St Joseph's Fundraising page | Facebook](#)

We have a closed, secure Facebook page managed by Alexa. Join the Group and you can keep in touch with fundraising activities and future events when they run again. (Link above)

Or - Search for **St Joseph's Fundraising page** in Groups on Facebook and ask to join.

Fundraising and Events before Christmas

In the lead up to Christmas, the PTA have put their thinking caps on, and have come up with the below ideas for fundraising/events up until Christmas. Please put these dates in your diaries. However, posts and reminders will be sent nearer the time. This list is not exhaustive and there will be additional fundraising events which have yet to be confirmed.

08-Oct	Friday	Film Night
21-Oct	Thursday	Cakes and Hot Chocolate, Uniform Sale
06-Nov	Saturday	Fireworks
19-Nov	Friday	Cakes and Hot Chocolate, Uniform Sale
01-Dec	Wednesday	Non-Uniform Day - Donations for Xmas Hampers
03-Dec	Friday	Xmas Film Night
15-Dec	Wednesday	Xmas Raffle
17-Dec	Friday	Breakfast with Santa

All profits from fundraising this year will be split 50/50 between the log trail and school requirements. So far, we have raised £3,274 towards the log trail. We are working closely with the school council and suppliers to finalise the design of the new trail and look forward to being able to share this with you soon.

If you have any ideas that will support fundraising, we'd love to hear them too! Just message us on Facebook or email: pta@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk

Other ways you can help St Joseph's and the PTA with fundraising:

Use 'Easy Fundraising' for your online purchases and support the school

There is one really easy way that you can raise extra funds for the school, at no additional expense to you.



We have an 'easy fundraising' page set up for your online purchases. Simply visit our page and set your account up for free: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjosephsparentteacher/>.

When you then visit online retailers such as **Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, M&S, eBay, Confused.com, Clarks, Gap, Boohoo** and many others, you'll see the easyfundraising logo above their website link. Click that and you will activate your account from that retailer whilst still being directed to their website. Any purchase you make will result in the retailer making a small contribution to our fundraising at no additional cost to you. Easy!

We also have an 'Amazon Smile' account setup. So, if you do a lot of your shopping through Amazon, make sure you download the Amazon Smile app or go to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/> and select St Joseph's PTA as your chosen charity for donations. We will then receive donations from Amazon on any purchases that are eligible. You can also keep track on how much you have raised 😊

Don't forget we also sell preloved school uniform, simply contact Heidi via our Facebook page. We are always on the lookout for good condition donations and this year we also started selling wellies too so you can buy a second pair to leave at school.

We are always looking to maximise fundraising initiatives, so if you would like to make a donation, please consider completing a gift aid declaration so we can claim an additional 25%. We would be really excited to hear from anyone whose workplace offers match funding on sponsored activities so that we can boost our funds that way too.

Even in these very tough times, we're still aiming to raise some funds to give our children an even better experience at St Joseph's, and we very much look forward to your support and appreciate any contribution you can make. Contact us anytime at: pta@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk.

Kind regards
Becky Maltby, PTA, Co-Chair



Your PTA Committee

Co-Chairs

Alexa Timbrell



Becky Maltby



Treasurer – Leah Farrer

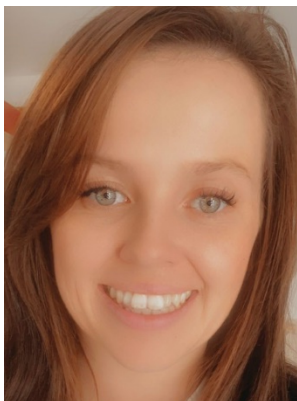


Secretary – Rachel Holmes



Committee Members

Naomi Wallace-Smith



Heidi Saunders

