



PTA Newsletter October 2020

PTA News

Thank you to all who attended the PTA AGM on Monday night, it was lovely to see some new faces there. I have continued as Chairman for the coming year, Ryan Patterson is staying as treasure and Sarah Patterson has offered to be secretary. The minutes from the AGM will be put onto the school website under the PTA section for reference.

We have a few different fundraising ideas planned for the coming year. Starting off with the fantastic Christmas Cards that the children have done in class. I would like to thank all the parents that have supported this – we have nearly had 100% take up and made around £175 for PTA funds. The cards should be in school early December.

Christmas Hamper Raffle

We are going to be doing a Hamper Raffle for Christmas. We are asking for each family either to donate a hamper or quality item(s) to be made into a hamper. Ideas for hampers include one for children, beer or wine hamper etc. The tickets will be sent home after half term for you to sell to family and friends. Tickets are £1 each or £5 a book and extra books can be requested from Mrs Lawson in the school office. Please remember there is no obligation to sell them, but we would appreciate it if any unsold tickets get returned to the school office. Fully completed ticket stubs and money should also be returned to the school office. The draw will take place on Monday, 14 December 2020.

Virtual Balloon Race

We are planning on a Christmas Virtual Balloon Race but more details are to follow once we have more details!

Children's Christmas Party

The PTA normally provide the refreshments for the children at the Christmas Party but this year we have offered to do a party box for each class. The Christmas Party will be on Friday, 11 December with the usual fun and games which will happen in class bubbles. We are in talks with the North Pole to see if we can have a special visitor but this will all depend on the Covid-19 restrictions at the time. A separate letter will be sent home from school with information regarding the presents for the children.

Amazon Smile

If you are anything like me and you regularly shop at Amazon, it is simple to donate (at no extra cost to you) 0.5% of the net purchase price to the PTA. Last year alone we raised just over £100 for PTA funds by support from family/staff etc. To set it up:

- Log in with your normal Amazon details to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk>
- You should get a page asking you which charity you would like to donate to – search for Irthington in the box and you should be able to click Irthington Village School PTA as your charity of choice.
- That's it – just remember that you must shop at smile.amazon.co.uk as it doesn't work through amazon.co.uk

Donations to the PTA will be deposited in the bank account on a quarterly basis so don't worry if it says we haven't received anything for a while.

Please don't forget to shop through smile.amazon.co.uk or your orders will not be eligible. More information is available if you google 'FAQ about AmazonSmile.'

Co-op Funding

Last year we were very lucky and qualified for the Co-op Local Community Fund. This has now come to a close and the PTA are waiting to find out the total amount received from this fund but it is around £1,140! This money will go towards more opportunities for outdoor learning, helping boost creative thinking and encourage a healthy active midset.

But fantastic news...Irthington Village School PTA have been chosen again for the next round of the Co-op Local Community Fund. The funding starts on Sunday, 25 October 2020 and will run for 12 months until 23 October 2021. During this time, Co-op Members will be able to select us as their cause. When you buy selected Co-op products and services, 2p for every £1 you spend goes into your Co-op Membership account (benefitting you) and the community fund (the PTA) also get the same amount. Please go to www.coop.co.uk and login to your account to choose our fantastic PTA to benefit from this funding. If you aren't already a member you can sign up online for £1 and the PTA and yourself can benefit from the Co-op Members Scheme.

Facebook

The PTA have a closed group on Facebook – search Irthington PTA and click on the button to ask to join. We will try and keep this page up to date.

WhatsApp

We also have a WhatsApp group which is used to plan events etc. Please can I ask that if you are a member on this group that you only use it for the benefit discussing PTA business. If you would like added to this group please could you complete the below tear off slip with your details and return this to the school office and Mrs Lawson will pass them to me.

You can also catch me on Wednesday – Friday mornings or Friday at the end of the school day if you would like to discuss anything.

Many thanks for reading this newsletter. If you would like to contact me you can do so by email PTA@irthingtonvillage.cumbria.sch.uk

Many thanks
Ruth Coulthard
PTA Chair

.....

PTA WhatsApp Group

I would like added to Irthington Village School PTA WhatsApp Group.

Parent Name:.....

Mobile Number:.....