

# PTA Newsletter November 2019



## PTA News

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### Introduction

I am Rachel Matthews, I have Izzy left in class 3 until the end of this school year. My three other children, Jess 22, Francesca 16 and Harry 12, have all been through Irthington Village School and this is my 15<sup>th</sup> year on the PTA. I have enjoyed attending and helping at pretty much every PTA event at school during this time.

I admit to being a little surprised to be told that my offer to serve as Chair for my remaining time at the school was agreed as nobody else had stood! Chairing a committee is not something I would have chosen, but I will use the time I have left to try to show newer parents to the school that it is not that scary or work intensive.

### Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair is on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December between 2:00pm and 4:00pm and it would be lovely to see you and your families, including grandparents and friends there. The Christmas Fair is one of the PTA's main fundraisers of the year and we would be extremely grateful for donations to the following stalls:

- Cake Stall
- Tombola, bottles of wine, chocolate, bath stuff, etc.
- Presents for the Parent's Presents Stall.
- Donations for Second Hand Toy Stall.

There will also be a Raffle and we would welcome donations towards this. We already have a number of prizes, which have kindly been donated, including a food and drink hamper, vouchers for Afternoon Tea for Two at Sally's Warwick Bridge; Lily Belle (£50); and Ella Nails (£25) and a bottle of Whisky. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the school office and also at the Christmas Fair.

We also have one or two stalls selling higher value items, which you may wish to purchase items from for Christmas presents.

### PTA Purpose

The PTA is an organisation run solely by volunteers to raise money to help the school provide materials, resources and facilities for the benefit of everyone who uses the school by running a variety of events throughout the school year.

Significantly, the activities help to bring parents together and promote good communication between parents, staff and the village while working towards the common goal of a tight knit caring community.

All parents and staff are members of the PTA, by default. Your involvement can be from enjoying the events to helping organise the events to suggesting new money raising ideas.

The PTA always welcomes and encourages new members. It is great to have the opportunity to capitalise upon the talents, skillsets and experience of our parents and staff.

As an example, in the past few years the PTA have been able to assist the school by:

- Subsidising School Trips
- Improving and innovating in IT – the school were one of the first to have interactive touch screens.
- Subsidising activities such as:
  - The building of the Willow Domes
  - Whizz Kids sessions
  - The purchase of tricycles for early years
  - The purchase of books and teaching resources
  - The Children's Christmas party
  - The purchase of the staging for the hall

- Travelling pantomimes
- The purchase of school science equipment
- And so on....

I appreciate your time and reading this newsletter, hopefully the next ones will be as short and sweet.

**Rachel Matthews**

Mum of Izzy Matthews in Class 3