

RAF BENSON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

NEWSLETTER – ISSUE 2 OCTOBER 2017

WELCOME back to the new school year and the second edition of the PTA Newsletter! Hopefully everyone has now settled into the term, we know there's already lots of anticipation for the exciting things that await us this year!

Firstly, thank you to all who turned up to our AGM on 4th October. The past 12 months have seen lots of change within the PTA and after lots of to-ing and fro-ing, we can now proudly announce **we are a registered charity!** It was really lovely to see some new faces in the room and we're very much looking forward to embracing their new ideas and expertise. Our newly elected committee members are; **Chairperson** Caroline Dainty **Deputy Chairperson** Jon Purchase **Secretary** Holly Bateson **Deputy Secretary** Lyndsey Stanford **Treasurer** Leanne Minns **Deputy Treasurer** Susie Mackay.

Special thanks go to Ellie Chisholm and Alex Lewis who both stepped away from committee roles this year; Alex will remain part of the team, however Ellie will be moving onto pastures new after Christmas and we wish her the very best in her new venture.

Last years success

A huge thank you to everyone involved in our efforts last year. Together, we raised a staggering **£5950!!!** Here's what we spent the money on;

The scrap store play pod refills, coach travel to Birmingham for the Young Voices Choir, a £100 investment to all 8 classes supporting the enhancement of class reading areas and to help provide some new learning resources, new costumes for the nativity, book tokens as prizes to inspire the children to read more, trophies and subscription costs to the school cross country club, Easter eggs for the competition prizes, a Christmas tree for the school, a brand new bouncy castle to use at our events and for our community to hire out, 2 'Urban Strides' workshops for all children to dance and perform in assembly and gazebos for our outdoor events.

We also provided lots of fun for our school and local community through the disco's, fair's, bingo evenings and refreshment stalls at various other school events.

The year ahead



Looking to the year ahead, we are hoping for another amazing year. But how can you help?

You could get involved by volunteering at events, by

donating baked goodies or prizes, by attending a meeting and sharing your ideas and you can come along and support school fair's, discos and other events.

If you're an online shopper, we would love you to use our web link:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/rafbensonsch to generate extra cash for the school. After registering, just head to the easy fundraising website each time you're shopping online. Once you have selected one of the 3000+ retailers, you shop as normal! They send a percentage of the amount spent through to the PTA – it's easy! Further details are on the PTA Section of the school website.

Upcoming events

A few dates for your diaries;

- Halloween Discos – Wednesday 1st November – KS1 & KS2
- Parents evening cake sale – Wednesday 15th November. Cake donations appreciated. A chance to meet members of the PTA committee, share your ideas or ask any questions.
- Adult's Bingo evening – Friday 17th November
- Christmas Fair – Wednesday 29th November
- Nativity Performance refreshments – Monday 11th & Tuesday 12th December
- Next Event meeting – 8th November 7pm

If you're available to help at any of the above events, you can let us know by adding your name to a signup sheet on the notice board nearer to the event (this can be found outside the Year 4 classroom, opposite the hall), emailing the team on PTA@raf-benson.oxon.sch.uk or by speaking to a committee member. Alternatively, you can comment on the Facebook event posts on our page 'RAF Benson Community Primary School PTA'.

Christmas cards

Great news! The children will be designing Christmas cards for you to purchase again this year. They have already done the creative part in school and templates are on their way to the company, ready for your samples to be printed. Look out for your child's creation and an order form appearing home with your child in the first week back after half term. You can buy Christmas cards, gift tags, tea towels and mugs with the individual designs printed which make for great keepsakes to send to family – something many families loved last year.

The School Christmas Fair



Planning for the Christmas Fair is already well underway. This year, you can expect another evening of fun and festivities for all the family. Bring the kids to visit Santa in his grotto, enjoy a festive turkey bap and peruse the stalls and games. Save the date and dust off your Christmas jumpers for the 29th November, more details to follow after half term.

Bouncy Castle

For anyone looking to hire a bouncy castle, please remember our school castle is available all year round at a bargain price of £25 per day. For further details, please contact Amy Laker via email at bouncycastle@raf-benson.oxon.sch.uk or message her through the Facebook page 'RAF Benson Community Primary School PTA'