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# St. Catherine’s School

# PTA Newsletter February 2019

**Following a very successful Christmas Fayre, the PTA would like to thank all the volunteers and visitors who helped make it such a wonderful event!**

# Dates for the Diary

**Family Quiz and Afternoon Tea Saturday 9th March**

**![C:\Users\Naomi\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\NFHCLF8F\96f074fe6390e812216a4023b93933e7-balloons-and-streamers[1].jpg]()Mothers’ Day Gift Sale Friday 22nd March**

**Uniform and 2nd Hand Book Sale Date TBC**

**Movie Night (Years 1 – 6)\* Thursday 4th April, 3.30 – 5.00pm**

(\*Provisional – dependent on sufficient volunteers to supervise)

**Summer Fayre Saturday 18th May**

**Fathers’ Day Gift Sale Friday 14th June**

**Uniform and 2nd Hand Book Sale Date TBC**

**Uniform and Second Hand Book Sales:**  We will be holding special table sales of good quality, second-hand uniform items and books during the spring and summer terms. We will have a uniform collection point in the playground on Friday mornings at drop off and will gather items that are in good condition for resale. **Collection will start from Friday 8th February 2019 in the playground.**

Please bring along any items that your child(ren) have outgrown.

# PTA Fundraising – Arts Hub

For several years now, we have been fundraising hard for the Performing Arts Hub, a dedicated and fully kitted out space in the school for music, dance, drama etc. This is a really exciting project that will bring great benefits to school children in the near future.

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The current plan is to convert the ‘pod’ classroom (near the nursery) into a new performing arts hub. The school and Board of Governors have been working with planners to maximise the use of space for the benefit of all the children and costs and plans have been drawn up.

The Performing Arts Hub remains the focus of the PTA fundraising activity as further funding is needed for us to achieve our goal!

We are grateful for your on-going support - please keep supporting all the school events, and help create a wonderful space for our children!

**The money you help to raise goes to enhancing the experience at St. Catherine’s for our children. So…thank you all so much and please keep up the wonderful support!**

# Helping Out – What’s Your Flavour?

Getting involved is easy - there are all sorts of ways in which you can help, depending on your time, interests and abilities.

There are two broad categories of ‘helpers’:

1. The PTA Committee, made up of a group of parents/guardians (anyone can join) and teachers, who meet regularly to agree and plan events, activities etc.
2. The majority of our supporters help out with the various events and activities: buying supplies, cooking food, staffing stalls etc. Helpers can contribute as much or as little time as they feel able to, and in whatever areas suit them.

For example, the PTA Committee coordinates the Christmas and Summer Fayres, with the support of the Class Representatives. However, dozens of helpers set up, clear up, run stalls and so on, each giving some of their time to make the events the huge success they are.

**![C:\Users\Naomi\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\NFHCLF8F\Stacks_of_money[1].jpg]()Matched Funding**

**A word about an area that gives us an easy way to make our fundraising go further…**

**Matched funding is a scheme operated by many businesses where the company matches money raised by an employee for a charity. The organisation essentially pledges a sum of money to ‘match’ what the employee has raised for a charity; some on a £ for £ basis, others up to a given maximum amount.**

**The process isn’t complicated, but different organisations have different rules about matching funds, so it’s best to find out in advance.**

**If your company operates this scheme and would be prepared to support the St. Catherine’s PTA fundraising efforts, please let the PTA know at** **ptastcatherinesschool@gmail.com****.**

# Getting In Touch, Getting Involved

**![C:\Users\Naomi\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\NFHCLF8F\talking[1].png]()Email**: **ptastcatherinesschool@gmail.com**

**Twitter: @stcatspta**

**Facebook\*: St Catherine’s Parents**

\*Note**:** this is not a PTA page, but it often has updates posted by members of the PTA

**Class Reps:** Our wonderful Class Parent Representatives do a great job of sharing news and updates from the PTA with the classes. They need your email address in order to do this, so please **make sure you give your email address to your Class Rep every year**.

**Speak to one of us** in the playground:

![C:\Users\Naomi\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\YEMXSRR6\chat_web[1].jpg]()John Daly Mary Welton

Khary Demercado Miguel Santos

Annabelle Farina Mirella Moseley (Mel)

Naomi Mulligan Nicola Dean

Gobnait Will Geraldine Kerrigan

Caroline Byrne