PTFA Newsletter - Autumn 2024

Welcome back!

It has been wonderful welcoming all the children back into school and seeing how excited and motivated they are for the new academic year. For the PTFA the Autumn Term has brought about some changes. Firstly, Laura Hickinbotham, who was previously Chair of St Giles PTFA, has decided to step down from her role. We would like to take this opportunity to thank her for the events she has planned with the team and the contribution she has made to the school. At the recent EGM, I, Ursula Gratton - parent to a Class 2 pupil, was voted in as Chair. We held an exciting meeting where we looked towards the new academic year and how we can create fun events that bring the community together, as well as raise money for our wonderful school. Please keep your eyes peeled for updates throughout the year.

Time to celebrate!

St Giles Primary school is a **Good** school! What a great way to start the year with such a positive Ofsted report. I think I speak for us all when I say the outcome was well deserved. Therefore, we would like to invite family and friends of St Giles to celebrate with the staff on **Friday 25th October.** Families will be invited into school at 2:45pm for a Stay and Play session for Class One and Two and a Book Look for Class Three and Four, followed by celebratory drinks and cake in the hall, until 4pm. We hope to see you there!



Christmas cards



This Christmas each child will be creating a Christmas design in school, which 'My Art Project' will transform into unique greeting cards.

With every purchase made, a contribution goes towards the PTFA. We look forward to seeing all the wonderful Christmas cards around school.

Family Film Night – 2nd December

To kick start the Christmas celebrations, we would like to invite children and family members to our Family Christmas Film night – film to be confirmed. The film night will start straight after school at 3:30pm and should last until 5:15pm. Tickets will be £3 per child, adults are free with every paying child, and include hot chocolate, cookies and unlimited popcorn. Tickets will be available to purchase from **Tuesday 5th November**, from the office. When purchasing tickets, please let the office know if adults will be attending (it is not compulsory but optional for adults to attend). This will give us an idea of capacity and the number of volunteers we need to support the running of this event.

Christmas Hamper Raffle



After the success of the Christmas raffle last year, it is back! Raffle tickets will go on sale from **Monday 2nd December** at the Family Christmas Film Night and run throughout December until the raffle is drawn on Monday 16th December.

Secret Santa – 12th December

The popular Secret Santa event is back! Another successful event, which the children love! For those of you who are new to the school, we invite children to visit our Santa's workshop to purchase up to two gifts for loved ones. Every gift is £1 and is wrapped ready for the big day. We would be very appreciative of any unwanted gift sets, confectionary, candles, wrapping paper and gift tags. As you can imagine, this event is only successful due to the donations and volunteers that make the afternoon run smoothly. If you could spare a few hours from 1:30pm on this day and would like to be involved in this festive event please get in touch.



How you can help:

- If you would like to join the committee or volunteer at events on a more casual basis, please get in touch.
- Easy Fundraising is a way of contributing to the PTFA each time you shop online. If you sign up we can raise even more for our school. Sign up at easyfundraising.org.uk and search for our cause "Friends of St Giles PTFA Matlock". Use the mobile app or browser extension each time you shop to raise money.
- Hosting a party? The PTFA Party Box is available for hire and contains what you might need for your party tea (beakers, jugs, cutlery, plates, bowls, trays, napkins, table covers). Enjoy your party, save waste! It is £10 per hire; contact us for details.
- If you have any fund raising ideas please get in touch. It is really important for us that the community feels involved in the events planned.

Finally, I would like to thank the PTFA, staff and community for supporting our wonderful school. The money raised from last year has already been put to good use, and we are hoping to raise as much as possible to give the children, at St Giles, quality learning experiences which will enhance their education, and help them continue to thrive.

As always, we are grateful to the support, funds and volunteers that help make our school a success. We look forward to seeing you at some of the exciting events we have planned for the year.

Ursula Gratton

Chair of St Giles PTFA

Contact: stgilesptfa@gmail.com, on our Facebook page "Friends of St Giles PTFA", or catch us at the school gate!