

Newsletter Issue 5 December 21st – Supplementary Information

OUR SENSATIONAL PARENT ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE!

Every Holy Family parent is automatically a member of the PA but to run the events within school we require a dedicated and creative committee of people. Currently we are blessed with an amazing group. They are highly committed, passionate about our school and incredibly imaginative in their range of functions and fund-raising events. Please read below a message from Kevin MacCarthy (treasurer):

'The Autumn term is always the busiest and this year has been no exception. Our events have included: The launch of the Christmas Wonderland, The Christmas shopping evening, 2 theatre events', the ever enjoyable children's discos and a record breaking raffle which raised nearly £1,300 on its own!

As always there are many people to thank this mammoth effort. The Committee chaired by Mr Walsh and all of those who have volunteered, have been as dedicated and passionate as ever.

Mrs Chillistone donated the £790 profit from a private function that was supported by the PA.

Mrs Palmer raised a £1000 from her employer who are happy to financially support charities that their employees propose.

As corporate responsibility policies are becoming more and more popular, if any of you work for companies that are prepared to 'match' fundraising efforts, can you please let us know.

In total the PA has had an outstanding term raising an unbelievable **£9,836**. If any of you would like to find out more about the PA, the work it supports or the up and coming events, the next meeting is being held in the school on the 15th January at 7.30pm. Please come along and support our work in raising money to support our children.'

£9,836 raised in one term by a single-form entry school is a staggering figure. Schools twice our size would be happy to raise this in an entire year; the PA committee have achieved something truly sensational this term. This funding boost will really help the school with our current projects together with other exciting ideas we have planned for the near future. In the recent past, funds raised by the PA have purchased the following things in school:

- Lockers for KS2
- Part-funding of The Space
- New laptops and charging trolley
- Large SMART board screens for every classroom
- Library furniture, books and resources
- Visiting theatre performances and workshops

Here are a few quotes from some children about our school resources:

"I love my locker; I can put all my things safely away." (Year 4)

"It's brilliant having a big SMART board; I can see everything and it makes learning so much fun." (Year 6)

"It's really exciting in The Space and we're really lucky to have it. I'm very grateful because no-one else has one...we can go anywhere we want in The Space." (Year 3)

On behalf of everyone, we send our sincere thanks and respect to the entire PA committee.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS - LUNCHTIME SUPERVISION

As you may recall, we have lost 5 lunchtime supervisors since the beginning of term and have really struggled to recruit suitable replacements. Lunchtime supervision was beginning to become impossible so we are incredibly grateful to Mrs Bailey & Mrs Lopez for stepping in as regular volunteers to keep the ship afloat. Your efforts are incredible and sum up why Holy Family is such a very special community.

A MASSIVE THANK YOU TO MR HICKEY

Mr Hickey is yet another of our 'unsung' Holy Family heroes who flies in to assist us in times of dire need when the boiler has decided not to work again or it needs serviced or it's being temperamental. Without his support we would be massively out of pocket...thank you so much; your efforts also sum up why Holy Family is such a very special community.

SUMMER BALL 2019 - We are planning to hold a special Summer Ball event in the newly refurbished hall on a Saturday night sometime in late June/early July. We are planning food, live band, fun and games, auction along with a fully-stocked bar of course. Ticket prices will be around £25 - £30 with all proceeds of the evening being re-invested for the children. We would like to get an initial gauge of numbers interested so please can you contact your steering group rep with an expression of interest. This will help us with our planning for the evening. We are hopeful of selling 100+ tickets for this very special occasion so encourage your friends and family to come along...it's guaranteed to be a great night out!

CHRISTMAS CHEER IN THE LAST WEEK OF THE YEAR!

The last week of the autumn term is always packed with exciting and important events in school. We hope all the children thoroughly enjoyed our final run-up to Christmas which included:

- Choir singing at The Eileen Tozer Centre in Addlestone
- Wrapping Christmas presents with Grass Roots for the Woking Homeless people
- Donations to The Chertsey Foodbank
- A bargain football boot sale
- Celebratory lunch for November Holy Family Flames
- KS2 Advent Carol Service
- Christmas lunch and special Christmas movie for all children and staff
- A special visit from Santa who flew in from the North Pole
- The return of the world-famous Holy Family Staff Panto!

I think after all that excitement, everyone has earned a rest over the holidays. Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year...see you all in 2019!

