



AUTUMN 2017 NEWSLETTER

HELLO...

Welcome (back) to Dickens Heath School!

Well, here we are again, another school year and we're already almost a month in (gulp!). We hope all of the new families and children are feeling settled in and are making friends.

On Friday, we kicked off the new fundraising year in style with the Autumn BBQ. Hope everyone who came had a great time. The new inflatable bumper cars and coconut shy were definitely a big hit.

The Autumn Fayre raised a fabulous £850!

Thank you so much to everyone who volunteered: Jenny Giles, Tracy Gray, Helen Lyman Smith, Colette McCall, Wendy Pugh, Jenna Davies, Louise Tranter, Anya Small, Rachel Garratt, Rich Cusworth, James Hodgetts, Marvin Lee, Laura Clements, Charles Ramsey and Mandie Huckerby – and also the lovely Mike from Position Specific Coaching.

We're looking into lots of different ways to raise funds this year with events for adults and children as well as easy things you can do to raise funds for the school without even having to do anything!

We also want to get some match funding sorted through Employer Community Funds - a letter will be winging its way to parents very soon. Last year we raised more than **£9,300** towards equipment, resources and opportunities for the children which was a brilliant result. It is safely tucked away in the bank as we've got big plans for this year. See the article on the right for more information.

Thanks for all your support in coming to the Autumn Fayre and, particularly, for those who helped out – we have a big fundraising target to achieve and we can only do it together.

Elaine, Debbie, Sharon, Beth, Kate, Claire, Jane and Leonie



Fundraising Target and aims for this year...

We've set our sights high this year. On top of a record-breaking total last year, this year we're aiming for a challenging:

£12,000

Why? Well because we've got big plans. We met with Head Teacher Jacque Nicholls at the end of Summer Term and, as well as the replacement for the pirate ship in the playground the school would like us to fund much-needed new audio visual and lighting equipment for the school hall.

It's going to be a challenge to get there, but with your support, we think we can.

Festival on the Green stall raises £150

Yet again it rained on the day of Festival on the Green, but hundreds hardy 'Heathans' turned out anyway, in their wellies, to enjoy the entertainment. As a result, the PTFA's tea, coffee, snack and glitter tattoo stall raised a respectable £150! Thank you to everyone that came and helped swell the coffers.

Diary Dates

- Halloween Discos
Friday 13 October
- Christmas Fayre
Friday 24 November



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WHO'S WHO

The PTFA Committee and the years our kids are in



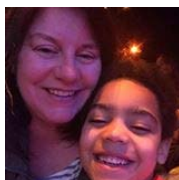
Co-chair Debbie Smith
(Years 5 & 2)



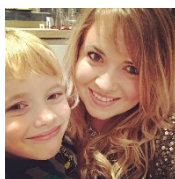
Co-chair Elaine Shannon
(Year 1)



Secretary Beth Hodgetts
(Years 5 and 2)



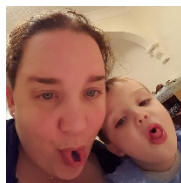
Treasurer Sharon Hall
(Year 2)



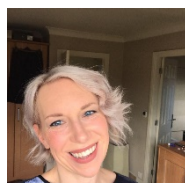
Kate Cooper
(Years 1 & 2)



Jane Keiser
(Year 4)



Claire Ramsey
(Years 3 & 1)



Leonie Campbell
(Years 1, 4 & 6 & teacher)

Come and join us!

Whether you would like to join the committee, or you can spare the odd hour to help but can't attend meetings, we would welcome anyone that would like to get involved in the work of the PTFA committee.

Why not email PTFA ptfa@dickensheath.org.uk and say hello?

Ongoing funding commitments

Over and above our plan to replace the pirate ship and audio/visual equipment in the hall, each year, a portion of the PTFA funds are also used for the following:

- New IT equipment
- School farm
- Contribution to leavers party
- One-off projects, such as the mosaic workshop and defibrillator

AGM 2017

In accordance with the PTFA constitution, we are required to hold an Annual General Meeting. This year, we will be running "drop in" sessions during the parents' evenings taking place on 17th and 18th October.

We hope this will allow as many of you as possible to review our report and accounts for 2016/17, see how the funds you have helped to raise have been used for the benefit of the children at our school, find out about our plans for 2017/18, and ask any questions.

Please note that the session on 17th October will be for information only. The formal business of the AGM will be conducted on Wednesday 18th October, so if you wish to cast your vote, you may do so between 4pm and 6pm on that date.

A letter has been sent out with more details.