Registered Charity No. 1046227

**SPRING TERM 2017 - PTA UPDATE**

As we reach the half way point in the school year, we wanted to update you on recent fundraising efforts, what we have funded and what’s in store for the rest of the year.

 **Fundraising update**

The past six months have been extremely busy, kicking off last term with the ever popular Halloween Disco. Christmas events included the Christmas Fayre, cake and uniform sales and the sale of discounted pantomime tickets and Christmas cards. Copies of the fantastic Christmas production are also still available to purchase and download from our website at a cost of £4.

We also introduced family film nights, holding two so far which have proved extremely popular with the kids and adults alike. With children and adults refreshments, and a raffle, it’s a great event for the children to watch a film with their friends and for the grown-ups to catch-up! We also held our first non-uniform day in January.

The Valentine’s Day cake sale and second hand uniform sale earlier this term were a great success, with some fantastic cakes and biscuits donated. We also sold discounted tickets to see the Wizard of Oz at the Hexagon and raised money through donating your unwanted clothes to ClothesAid.

We have also raised a fantastic £500 through “fund matching” schemes. Lots of organisations have schemes where they will donate a sum of money to charities which their employees actively raise money for. Please check to see if your company runs such a scheme. We would be happy to help you get involved and fill in any paperwork.

Purchases made through [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk), have also boosted donations to the PTA fund. Please take a look and sign-up if you haven’t already.

***With your help and support, so far this year we have raised an amazing £4834***

**Where your money goes**

* School pantomime trip – money raised by the PTA heavily subsidised the whole school trip to see the Elves and the Shoemaker last term.
* Playground equipment - the musical instruments, dizzy wheels and mirrors were installed in November.
* A “bug hotel” has been commissioned to reinvigorate the nature area.
* New toy cars for foundation stage.
* New games and activities for wet weather break times.
* Author visit – planned to coincide with World Book Day
* Life Education Bus
* Music workshop
* Living Eggs in foundation stage

We are continuing to raise money to help update the outside spaces and support the funding of additional events throughout the school year, and new classroom equipment. Watch this space for updates!

**Dates for your diary and forthcoming fundraising events …**

* Book sale for World Book Day (2 March)
* Spring disco (24 March) – ballot for tickets closes on Tues 28 Feb.
* Tea towels (summer term)
* Clothes Aid (summer term)
* Family film night (summer term)
* PTA meeting (May)
* Summer disco (July)
* Second hand uniform sale (summer term) – if you need anything outside of the sales please let us or Mrs Leary know. Donations of clean and saleable Willow Bank jumpers and cardigans can be left under the PTA safe in reception.

**How you can help**

Any help you can give in support of our events is invaluable, whether it’s manning a stall for 30 minutes at a disco, helping with a cake sale or doing a stint on the bar at film night.

To find out more about what we do and how you can help, please come along to one of our termly meetings where we discuss forthcoming events and new ideas for fundraising. Our next meeting will be held in May.

Alternatively, please visit our website [www.pta-events.co.uk/willow-bank](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/willow-bank), join our Facebook Group (*Willow Bank Infant School PTA*) or keep an eye on the PTA notice boards outside each classroom for updates.

***Thank you for your continued support***

***The School Association***