

Layston First School PTA Newsletter

Forthcoming Events

15th May	Quiz Night
tbc	Phil the Bag Recycling Day See over >>>>
19th June	Buntingford Carnival Day PTA fundraising stall
1st July	Reception Year Cake Bake All donations gratefully received
2nd July	Dress down Day Warm weather theme £1 entry >>>
9th July	Family Fun BBQ Evening See over for details >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
15th July (or 16th)	Sports Day PTA Refreshments stall

Welcome to the PTA Newsletter for the Summer Term 2010. It's our chance to keep you up-to-date on events and fundraising activities, to let you know what events are planned for the near future and let you know how funds have been spent.

Since last September the PTA have organised and held several events. Each event takes careful planning and behind the scenes preparation and we hope you have enjoyed the fruits of our labour, so to speak.. Our events started as the Year 4 and Year 3 classes held their annual class cake bakes and raised £39 and £41 respectively. Thank you for all the donations of cakes and to the organisers for their hard work . A fantastic Quiz Night in October raised over £700. Well done and thanks go to Debbie and Matt Taylor who organised the event and to Paul Russell who was once again superb as our Question Master. If you were able to attend, thank you for supporting the event, we hope you had a great time. Look out for our next Quiz Night, 15th May

After much planning and preparation the Christmas Fayre in November raised a superb £2024. Lindsey Ricketts and Beth Taylor used their knowledge and experience to help make a really enjoyable afternoon. The event was well supported by parents, staff and local residents. The performance of Christmas songs by the school choir helped to create a wonderful atmosphere to the event, Santa's grotto was a big attraction and the variety of stalls and activities ensured there was plenty to do for everyone. Thank you to all who helped and who supported the event.



Some of our recent purchases

The PTA provided the beautiful tree that was evident in the Hall in the run up to Christmas, along with the lights and decorations and which we hope will provide pleasure for many years to come.

Thanks to the hard work of both the children and staff in producing such fantastic entertainment the collections made after the Christmas Concert performances raised £256 and refreshments raised £40. In turn this money was spent directly on entertainment for the children as they watched a production of Goldilocks by Chaplins touring theatre company.



Volunteers are often needed to help man stalls at our events. If you are able to help, even if only occasionally, we would love to know and are grateful for any offers.

**Look out for
details of our
'Phil' the Bag
Textiles
recycling day
and help raise
money for the
school.**



Our fundraising events this year started with the Year 2 Cake Bake in January which raised £91. Thank you to all the parents and carers who donated cakes for sale. We are introducing a trophy to see who can raise the most from their class cake bakes. With Year 1 and Reception Cake Bakes still to come, the competition can really hot up! Who will be awarded the Cupcake Trophy?!

The school disco on 5th February gave the children a chance to strut their stuff and polish up their moves. The children had a great time and the evening gave them a chance to learn some new moves as they followed the two street dancers that accompanied Big Steves Disco. The evening raised £110. Thank you to Sarah & Jill for their effort and organisation that ensured the smooth running of the event.

The Dramatic Society kindly allowed the PTA to purchase a whole performance of The Pied Piper on 6th February. The show was enjoyed by over 100 children and adults, and provided a great afternoons entertainment. Mrs. Langley's performance to the Funky Gibbon added a special something to the event, but will she ever forgive us?! The Panto is a great fundraiser for us and we are grateful to the Dramatic Society for their generosity. We raised over £240. Thank you to all who attended.

We organised the Easter Hat and Mask competition at the end of a March as a fun event for the children and donated the prizes for both the winners and for entering. Thank you to all the children who took the time to make a hat or mask. There were some fabulous, very creative entries. We wish we could have awarded more prizes as Mrs. Abbott found the judging very difficult indeed.

The Easter Egg tombola rounds off our fundraising events to date. The tombola ran over 2 days and was very popular as the children tried to win the biggest egg! We raised over £180 which is just brilliant. Thank you to everyone who took part and supported us.

Buntingford Carnival

19th June

The PTA will have a fund-raising stall at the Carnival this year and are looking for donations of cakes and tombola prizes of bottles & tins. Would you be able to help us?

More details will follow.

Family Fun BBQ Evening

Friday 9th July

Following the success of last years event, the BBQ evening will take place on 9th July. If you would be able to help on a stall, please let us know. We couldn't man all the stalls we wanted to last year, so we would really appreciate your help

More of the purchases we have made...

The PTA have been able to purchase several items this year so far. Some of the projects we have been able to support are large, for example the purchase of £2000 of new books for the school library, and the new Library scanning equipment and over £2000 for the development of the environmental area at the top of the school field. But we have also been able to provide smaller items for individual classes too.

Your children may have told you about new toys or games they have played with. Year 1 received some new Playmobil sets and Years 2, 3 and 4 received new BeeBot programmable 'toys' to help with their Maths work. Reception will shortly receive some new outdoor play equipment. These items are in addition to the money the classes receive from their Cake Bake sales and we are pleased to be able to help to make the children's learning experiences more fun.



An appeal for members

The PTA has recently lost a few members and we would really like to increase our numbers again. Joining the PTA can be fun, rewarding and a really good way to meet and get to know other parents. If you like helping, or would like to become more involved in making decisions on how the funds we raise can be spent, then why not join us. We meet once a month, usually on a Wednesday in the staff room and would really welcome new input and fresh ideas and also welcome any feedback you are able to offer. Why not come along to our next meeting. We'd love to see you there.

If you are thinking of joining the PTA and would like to know more, please contact me direct or have a chat with me in the playground.

Steph Strachan ~ PTA Chair