



Tuesday 12th September 2023

Welcome to all of our School Families Old & New!

We hope that you have all had a great time over the summer. Most of the PTA committee took a well-earned break over the summer except for a couple of star members who put in a considerable amount of work to build our new permanent storage unit and help make a start of the garden renovation which we will be taking forward as the ongoing PTA project for the next academic year. Thank you to those members particularly Katy Banning and her husband.

The PTA

We are a group of volunteer parents whose main function is to support the school by raising money that can be used to enhance and enrich our children's learning experience and provide those 'little extras' for the children to enjoy. The Great Sampford Primary School PTA is a registered charity with the Charities Commission (Charity Number 1165342) and our officer roles (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary & Treasurer) are registered Trustees - responsible for the work, management and administration of the charity on behalf of its beneficiaries.

PTA funds typically contribute to the cost of large scale fundraising projects (Climbing frame installation 2022, Sensory Garden 2021), extra-curricular school visitors and activities, the Early Years Audley End Christmas Visit, the purchase of learning resources (including books and laptops), school trip sundries (treats on the coach!) and Leaver Hoodies for the children in Year 6. In addition to this year's Shed and Garden Project, in the past 2 years we have also invested in items such as a new Gazebo for our outdoor events, UV/Blacklights for our Neon-Glow Discos and reusable cups for our in-house events (with more to sell at our larger-scale events).

Our fundraising events themselves are often aimed at enjoyable events for the children such as discos, film nights, craft sessions and the Summer Fete.

How can you help?

- Consider joining the PTA committee - New members are always welcome and can join at any point in the school year.
- Make fundraising suggestions - if you have an idea for an event or way to fundraise, please do let us know. You can drop us a line via our email/social media or speak to us in the playground.
- Be part of our support network of parents who can help staff our events where more hands are required - for example schools discos, film nights and craft events.
- Donations - Whether it is a standalone monetary donation, raffle prize or lending us your skills (professional or otherwise!) - all are greatly appreciated.

- Workplace sponsorship/Match Funding.

If you work with an organisation that has a match funding policy, any money that you/we raise could be matched by your employer. You, as the employee will normally need to submit a covering letter from the PTA detailing the date and nature of the event and the total raised. High street banks, building societies and large corporations are usually the main source of match funding, but in the past we have had contributions from smaller, local companies.

We would be grateful if you could enquire if your employer has a **match funding** scheme as this can often make a huge impact on the amount raised for a particular event.

- Passive or 'Silent' Fundraising - There are a number of schemes affiliated with our PTA which provide us with a passive/'silent' income. These include:

Easy Fundraising - Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk and search Great Sampford Primary School and select us as your chosen cause. When you purchase via their retailer links, they will pay a percentage of the price you have paid to the charity. For example - if you purchase via their John Lewis link, 3% of the price you have paid will be donated to the PTA (there are different % donations for each retailer).

Boiler Juice - We are registered as one of their 'Cash for Communities' groups. Boiler Juice will donate 25p for every 100 litres of heating oil ordered (1000 litres = £2.50 donation) so please do select us next time you make an order. www.boilerjuice.com

Stamptastic - This company sell clothing stamps - perfect for labelling your children's clothing. You can earn 15% commission for the PTA when you buy any product using this link: <https://bit.ly/STAMPCB102RL>

You can also get £4.99 discount yourself when you order the Deluxe Bundle using our PTA code: CB102RL

Stay In Touch

We will send event information, forms and reminders via ParentHub. Please also follow our Social Media:

Great Sampford PTA on Facebook and @greatsampfordpta on Instagram

We also have an email address: pta@greatsampford.essex.sch.uk

Future Events

We have made some preliminary plans for fundraising events for this year, Here are some dates for your diary:

- PTA AGM – Tuesday 10th October
- Break The Rules Day – 13th October 2023

- School Disco – 3rd November 2023
- Bags 2 School - 9am Tuesday 7th November. Clothing Donations (Garments, hats, scarf, bags and shoes. Please no bedding, curtains or cuddly toys).
- Christmas Wreath Making – TBC - W/C 27th November 2023
- Christmas Jumper and Christmas Raffle Donations – 27th November – 1st December 2023.
- Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 8th December 2023
- Christmas Film Night - Friday 15th December
- PTA Funded Christmas Panto Visit – Monday 18th December 2023

We are very much looking forward to the fun and the mayhem of the up-coming school year and hope that you are able to support us as much as you have in previous years!

Very Best Wishes,

Nicola Day & the PTA