



Fundraising Update

It's been a strange school year for the PTA, as it has for many. We were able to hold our usual events and activities up until February and then, like everywhere else, the world suddenly became a very different place! So, in this newsletter we will cover our fundraising activities from the start of the school year, rather than just since December. We hope this will also give the new children and parents, who will be joining the school in September, an idea of the types of events and activities we run. We are always open to new ideas for fundraising activities so please do let us know if you have any suggestions.

Since the start of the school year, we have held two large events - our annual Food Festival and a very exciting Chocolate Bingo night! They were both really successful and we would like to thank you all for helping us raise vital funds. We would particularly like to thank those who attended our events or helped us prepare for them including making food and baking cakes or volunteering on the day. We really do appreciate all your help and support.

Our **Food Festival**, held in September, was a great opportunity for parents, especially new parents to the school, to meet each other or just to catch up. The event has a real 'community' feel to it and we received some lovely comments from parents and children who just loved trying all the different foods available, from all over the world! We raised an amazing **£620** from this event!

Holding our **Chocolate Bingo** night again at the end of November was a lovely start to the festive period and we are pleased to say made an amazing profit of **£1,912**. The excitement in the hall reached fever point at times and some families walked away with armfuls of chocolate, definitely enough to last them into the New Year! We hope to hold both these events again later this year or early next year as they are very popular.

Our **Bags to School** fundraising activity, held in November, was also very successful, adding an extra **£201** to the PTA funds! We made a bit more money than usual this year as we sold some very good quality items on Ebay and we will do this again next time. Thank you to everybody who brought in filled bags.

We also held a **Cake Sale**, during the school day in February. Thank you so much to Fran Holker for organising the event and to all the wonderful parents out there for baking cakes. The Sale made a very respectable **£171!**

Amazon Smile and **easyfundraising** has also contributed **£238** to our funds since the beginning of the school year, which is great!

We gave the school £4,000 in December which went towards the new boys' toilet block in the main building – building will commence this summer. Over the next school year, we are going to raise funds to go towards refurbishing the PE changing rooms or building a new toilet block for the girls .



Dates for your Diary

We have provisionally booked these dates for our 2020-21 events and activities and will let you know as soon as we can if they are able to go ahead.

Food Festival - Friday 25 September 2020 6.00pm - 8.00pm

PTA AGM - Wednesday 21 October 2020 6.30pm - School Library

Pamper Evening - Friday 13 November 2020 6.00pm - 8.00pm

Own Clothes Day - Friday 27 November 2020 - students to bring an item of chocolate for *Chocolate Bingo* prizes

Chocolate Bingo - Friday 4 December 2020 6.00pm - 8.00pm



Did you know
that the Stretford Grammar
easyfundraising account only has 95
people registered to it, yet has raised
£2,303 for the school! Can you imagine
what we could raise each year if we
had 400 people registered!

Easyfundraising

It's so easy please give it a go!!

Help us by collecting FREE donations every time you shop online.

We receive free donations for our PTA every time you buy online from over 5,000 shops and sites including Sainsburys, Waitrose, Asda, Tesco, Morrisons, Argos, e-Bay, John Lewis, Asos, Clarks, M&S and Booking.com. We can receive donations on everything from your weekly shop to your annual holiday and it doesn't cost you anything! We even receive an extra 50p when you raise your first donation.

Follow these easy steps...

1. Head to www.easyfundraising.org.uk
2. Click on **Search for a good cause** - choose **Stretford Grammar PTA** and click on **Support this cause**
3. Create an account and choose to **Get the donation reminder**. This donation reminder will ask to be installed - please click **Allow** and then **Install**. Now, every time you go on a website which donates to easyfundraising, you will see an **Activate donation** button in the top right corner of that website - click on it and if you buy anything from that website, we will receive a donation).
4. You are now ready to start collecting donations for Stretford Grammar PTA. Thank you so much, we told you it was easy!

Amazon Smile

Amazon no longer donates to Easyfundraising. They now have their own fundraising initiative called **Amazon Smile**. It works in a very similar way to *Easyfundraising* though, and our School will receive 0.5% of the purchase price.

Follow these easy steps to get started ...

1. Head to www.smile.amazon.co.uk
2. Create your Amazon account.
3. Search for **Stretford Grammar School Pta** and click on **Select**.
4. Tick the box next to **Yes, I understand that I must always start at smile.amazon.co.uk to support Stretford Grammar School Pta**.
5. Click on **Start Shopping** and shop away ...

Stretford Grammar's PTA

Our PTA has been very active at Stretford Grammar since 2007. In that time, we have been able to enhance the children's education by refurbishing the school library, providing state of the art computing and technology equipment and supplying the specialist paraphernalia for every child to be able to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

We work hard to raise money, but some of our events are also aimed at bringing the school community together: families, staff, students and the local neighbourhood. This makes us a strong and effective force for the benefit of all the children. As a parent, you are automatically part of the PTA. **Please feel welcome and support our work.**

We need you ...

Your time Can you spare any time to help out before or at one of our events? We usually need between 10-30 volunteers, depending upon the type of event. Are you able to help out on a stall or serve tea and cake? Ideally, we would like to have enough volunteers, so each person only needs to help out for 30 minutes and is then able to enjoy the event with their family and friends. Without parental support (mums, dads, grandparents), we can sometimes find ourselves at risk of not being able to offer all the activities and stalls we would like to. If you would like to help out for 30 minutes at one of our events in the future, please email janeraiwell@ntlworld.com and we will get in touch with you before an event to ask if you are available. If you would like to volunteer to help with a friend, please let us know and we can ensure you are both placed on the same stall or activity at the event.

Skills request There are only a handful of us who regularly attend PTA meetings and lead on our events and activities. We would like to bring new ideas to the table and ask if we have any talented parents out there who would like to suggest and lead on any new ideas for fundraising activities eg, sewing, crafts, cooking, baking, organising sporting events or anything else! The activity can be a stand alone activity eg, a lunchtime cake sale or be part of a larger event eg, a craft stall at one of our events. If you can help, we would be delighted to hear from you - please email janeraiwell@ntlworld.com.

Raffle prizes needed Does anybody have a business or know of anybody who has a business, who would be willing to donate a prize to the raffles we hold at our events? We would be very grateful to receive any donations of suitable prizes. If you can help, please email janeraiwell@ntlworld.com.

Cakes needed At a number of our events, we also have a refreshments stall, where we sell tea, coffee, soft drinks and cakes. We have a real shortage of bakers for our events and would be very grateful if anybody could bake a large cake or some small cakes for our stall. If you are able to do this, please email janeraiwell@ntlworld.com and we will add you to our list of bakers who may be able to bake a cake for an event. If you are on the list but are unable to make a cake when we contact you, this is fine. It would just help us greatly to have a list of 'possible bakers' to contact.