



# **PATE'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION**

**NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2020**

**Supporting Making Ends Meet**



# Welcome

## to all Pate's parents and friends from the Pate's Parents' Association (PPA) Committee

Since the new committee were elected in October the PPA has raised more than **£30,000!** Over the last 12 months the PPA has donated more than **£30,000** to school. Among other things, we donated **£14,000** of IT equipment for room E104, **£12,000** of text books, and yet another year's worth of planners for every student in school. We have also listened to and promised to meet the requests of the School Council for a water fountain in the Sixth Form Centre, boot brushes for the PE department and a sports honours board.

This could not have been done without the army of volunteers who have worked tirelessly serving refreshments, manning stalls, and parents donating time, gifts, cake (lots of it!) and second-hand uniform.

The committee is a team of parents elected at the Annual General Meeting every October to keep the PPA on the move. Pate's parents automatically become members of the PPA, a registered charity.

Our aim is to do what we can to support the school, particularly at the current time of serious financial uncertainty. This is currently done by contributing to the revenue funding campaign **Making Ends Meet** to allow us to buy additional resources for the school.

We have come up with a lot of ways to help raise money for this initiative but this year we are particularly keen to hear any new suggestions that might work with social distancing. Usually our main fundraising activities include the Spring Fair in March, a Family Quiz Night, a Christmas Bazaar and a crazy Back 2 School Day for parents.



### Keep in Touch

We like to keep you informed of our fundraising activities and to make it as easy as possible for you to volunteer to help with events.

Further details are broadcast via the weekly Headmaster's Message and on the [Parents' Association section of the website](#). Always feel free to email us with ideas, suggestions, offers and thoughts.

**Anna Macey-Michael**  
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**Anne Daly**  
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# PPA Donations

## **£14,000 for IT Equipment**

The IT provision in E104 has been upgraded with 32 new computers, allowing IT teaching in all four of the teaching rooms in E-block. This will be a real benefit to both staff and students.



## **£12,000 of Textbooks**

New 'A' Level and GCSE textbooks for the English and Geography departments will be provided for students for September 2020.

## **£2,223 for School Planners**

Each student is given a planner at the start of the new school year to help them keep track of homework and activities. It's also packed full of useful information.

## **£3,000 of School Council Donations**

Every year we ask the students in the School Council (Years 7-13) for a list of things which they think will enhance aspects of the everyday school lives of our children. This year we have agreed to fund their requests for a water fountain in the Sixth Form Centre (no more bottle filling trips to the Refectory!), boot brush systems close to PE which will reduce both mud on site and in students' kit bags and a sports honours board to celebrate the achievements of our sporting stars.



# **Fundraising Fun**

**Spring Fair, March 2020**

**Raised: £11,595.63**

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and this year we raised funds for the PE department - sport underpins so much that is precious at Pate's and the department pitched in to help us in addition to their sports fixtures on the field. The bowling machine went down a storm and the 60 Second Netball Challenge became very competitive! The Year 7, 8 & 9 students excelled themselves on their stalls and shoppers were entertained by the School's Jazz Band who performed wonderfully. The ever popular Cake Stall and Cafe did a roaring trade in refreshments and the paperless raffle went without a hitch! Thank you so much to everyone for their support both on and preparing for the day.

## **Christmas Bazaar, November 2019**

**Raised: £3,818.87**

The Pate's Christmas Bazaar was a great success this year, despite being held on a cold November evening. Many took the opportunity to browse the festive stalls, and to purchase Christmas gifts and treats from local stallholders. The PPA kitchen did a roaring trade with homemade soup, toasties and mince pies; 'Santa' worked tirelessly selling tickets for the raffle; the Year 7's did themselves proud with their fun, colourful and highly imaginative House stalls, and between them raised a fantastic £1,052. Thank you to all who organised, donated and joined us on a cold, windy, November night!

## **Family Quiz Night, February 2020**

**Raised: £2,125**



A wonderful time was had by all 31 teams at the Monty Python themed quiz.

Competitors took advantage of BYO picnics and our bar to help fuel their quiz brains! We successfully trialled a card payment system for the first time which was given a big thumbs up by thirsty parents!

## **Back to School, July 2019**

**Raised: £1,550**

We hosted the second ever "Back-to-School" day allowing parents the opportunity to have a full day at Pate's with lessons including Physics, Mandarin, History, Drama and Art, as well as choir practice and a refectory lunch. From a prompt 8.40am start until the end of the day parents dashed here and there finding out exactly how tiring a day at school is these days! In the process they raised in the region of £1,500.

# Chinese New Year & Diwali, 2020

**Raised: £1,443.55**

These two cultural highlights to the Pate's calendar provided a fantastic assault on the senses, as guests enjoyed a wide variety of stalls and incredible dancing and musical performances, all accompanied by delicious home cooked food.

The PPA helped coordinate the brilliant parents who ran stalls, and donated their time, cooking and expertise, and also provided refreshments. These events were hugely enjoyable and just get better year after year!



## Other Fundraising Ventures

### Refreshments: **£1,116.08**

The PPA bar service at school events has been very successful again this year and total takings when added to the PPA led events have raised over £11,000! Teams of volunteers have served refreshments at a multitude of events since June 2019 including House Music, the Year 7 and Year 12 social evenings, concerts and school productions.



### Second-hand Uniform: **£881.40**

The PPA runs a second hand uniform service selling items at various PPA events throughout the year and additionally through a second hand Uniform Shop that opens on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month between 3pm-4pm in the Development Bungalow. Donations of clean second-hand uniform and sports equipment are always much appreciated. Please hand any items in to Reception or to the shop during opening hours.

[More details on the Parent Portal section of the school website](#)

### Pate's Pig: over **£27**

Our resident piggy bank lives at Reception and continues to gobble up old currency. So far this year he has eaten more than £27 and is looking forward to eating your old £20 notes in due course!



### Match Funding: **£2,250**

If you work for an organisation that has a Match Funding policy, any money that you are involved in raising for the school via PPA events could be matched by your employer.

**If you think the company you work for has a match funding policy and you'd like to be involved please email: [PAmatch@patesgs.org](mailto:PAmatch@patesgs.org)**

## Easyfundraising: £1,417.32

This is a great way of helping to make money for the school at any time. Shop with over 2,000 well known retailers like Amazon, John Lewis, M&S and many more.



Register with us by visiting:

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/patesgs/>

## AmazonSmile: over £72

A similar scheme with AmazonSmile has been set up for the PPA. Whenever purchases are made using AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price of eligible products to the nominated charitable organisation. Please help us easily raise extra funds the next time you shop online at no extra cost to you!



Nominate the PPA as your charity:

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/298307-0>

## 100 Club: £5,965



This is a monthly draw for £100 with a bonus draw for £1,000 every June. Each “share” costs only £5 which is payable by standing order. This is a particularly good way of raising funds currently, as the draws take place online during virtual PPA meetings.

Forms are available attached with this email, on the [Pate's website \(in the Parents' Association section\)](#) or by email [PA100club@patesgs.org](mailto:PA100club@patesgs.org)