



BISHOPS DOWN PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL PSA

March 2021 Newsletter

WHAT'S ON

April TBC

Rag Bag clothing
collection

1st April - 30th April
Fitness Challenge

Thursday, 22nd April
Bishops Down PSA
Committee Meeting

WELCOME

It seems hard to believe that the last Bishops Down PSA newsletter was released back in December. So much has happened since then. We've had Christmas; gone into a third lockdown; the children have learnt remotely from home and the schools have reopened for the last few weeks of term.

The Bishops Down PSA would like to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful staff at Bishops Down Primary and Nursery School for the amazing remote learning that took place while the schools were closed. As parents, we were so lucky that our children were provided with daily live lessons and the opportunity to learn and see their teachers, teaching assistants and friends. The time since Christmas, is further proof of how lucky we are to have such a fabulous school community.

Sadly, the past few months, meant that we were unable to hold any of the events we had planned. But moving forward we are hoping to put together a timetable of COVID-friendly and digital events that will allow us to raise valuable funds for the school.



BISHOPS DOWN PSA

CAN YOU HELP?

Over the next year, we need to raise £10,000.

This money will be used to replace the school's desktop PCs and refurbish the mobile classroom into a library. This is an ambitious target but one that we know we will be able to meet if we all work together.

Can you help?

Bishops Down Primary School Parent Staff Association (PSA), is an organisation of volunteer parents, carers and staff whose main focus is to raise funds for the school and to encourage closer links as a community. ALL parents, carers and staff become members of the PSA when they join the school.

The PSA committee is probably best known for its fundraising work, but we also have a useful social function too. Fundraising events provide an opportunity for parents, staff and pupils to get together and enjoy themselves whilst raising vital funds for the school.

It's important to note that you can help the PSA in a number of different ways. From sharing a skill to volunteering at events, there are plenty of opportunities to help.

We are actively looking for all sorts of skills to run the PSA. We would like to encourage parents to come forward if they have a skill that we may find useful. For example, a designer could design a poster, a dancer could run a sponsored dance session or a wine-tasting expert could hold a wine-tasting event.

In future, if anyone approaches us with a fundraising idea that they are willing to lead on, then they will get the full support of the PSA. We are in the process of creating a pack that you can download to help you with your fundraising. This pack will be full of ideas and useful tools to help you.

If you interested in joining the committee or have an idea, please email us at psa@bishops-down.kent.sch.uk



COMPETITIONS

Easter Hat Competition

Thank you to everyone who took part in the PSA Easter Hat Competition. It was really wonderful to see the amazing effort that the children had gone to. All the hats were fantastic and it was virtually impossible for our judges to pick just one winner per class. Well done to everyone.

Congratulations to the following winners, who each won a certificate and a £10.00 Amazon Gift voucher.

- Year N - Bella
- Year R - Mylo
- Year 1 - Gracie
- Year 2 - Archie
- Year 3 - Rosie
- Year 4 - Lola
- Year 5 - Sam
- Year 6 - Ana



LOOKING FORWARD

The PSA Committee meetings are open to all parents, staff and teachers. We would love to see you there and hear any feedback or fundraising ideas that you may have. It would be wonderful if you joined us at our next meeting. This is to be held via Zoom on:

Thursday 22nd April, 2021 at 7.30 pm.

If you would like to attend then please email us at psa@bishops-down.kent.sch.uk and we will send you an invitation to the meeting. Please also email us if you have any questions or fundraising ideas.

Looking forward to summer with Bishops Down PSA

The start to 2021 has definitely been harder than we were all anticipating. No one could have predicted that there would be another lockdown and that the schools would close again. Sadly, the lockdown has meant that, once again, the PSA has missed out on a term of valuable fundraising activities. We had really exciting plans for terms 3 and 4 and it was unfortunate that we weren't able to run these events.

Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, we were also unable to run the PSA's annual Easter Egg Hunt. I am sure many of the children missed this occasion and we are sorry that it was not possible. We are hoping that once the restrictions are lifted we will be able to run more events for the children to enjoy.

As the months go by, we are very much reliant on the Government's roadmap as to when fundraising activities can resume. And we do not want to promise to run any events that we then have to cancel. With that in mind, we are going to be planning events on a month by month basis. So please do keep an eye on emails from the school, our Facebook page and Mrs Owen's newsletter for concrete plans of when these events are happening.

THANK YOU

Vicki Horrell and Louise Seale have recently decided to leave the PSA committee. Thank you to Vicki and Louise for all your hard work and everything that you have done for the PSA and the school. Indeed, Louise has been on the committee for 12 years and is an invaluable member of the team. She will be missed.

WELCOME

We are delighted to welcome Selina Levinson Drake and Stephanie Potter as new members of the PSA committee. And we are looking forward to working with them for the benefit of the school.

EVENTS



In the meantime, we have the following events planned for April:

Rag Bag Collection - We will be sending out bags to collect your (good quality) unwanted clothes, belts, bags and paired shoes. So if you're having a clear-out or declutter over the Easter holidays then please remember to put things aside for our collection. We can raise 40p per kilogram donated. So it really is a simple way to raise money for the school.

Fitness Challenge - Will you take on the ultimate fitness challenge? This challenge is all about you doing your own fundraising for the school. We will provide you with everything you need and then you just need to get active and collect the sponsorship money. You could get sponsored for walking to school every day for a week, or for doing as many star-jumps as you can in a minute, or perhaps for running laps around your garden. Get creative, get active and raise some money.

We now need to raise £10,000 for the school and so we need your help. Please join us and help us to donate these vital funds and ensure that the school is able to replace the desktop PCs and refurbish the mobile classroom into a library. We are grateful for every donation we receive, every fundraising activity that is undertaken and for every volunteer at an event. But It is only by working together that we can truly benefit the school.

We hope you all have a very happy and relaxing Easter. We will see you in April.

**Warmest wishes
Bishops Down PSA**





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Social Media

We have created fundraising pages on Facebook and Instagram. These will be used to promote fundraising events and to build our community. If you have a Facebook and/ or Instagram account then please go and give these pages a follow.



On Facebook "Bishops Down Primary and Nursery School PSA Fundraising" [Click here to visit](#)



On Facebook "Bishops Down Primary and Nursery School PSA Page" - Which is our private school group [Click here to visit](#)



On Instagram "@bishopsdownschoolpsa" [Click here to visit](#)

Webpage

Our new webpage is now live and launched on the Bishops Down Website it can be accessed [here](#)



Easyfundraising

It's simple to use and it's free. Since their launch in 2005, they've helped thousands of good causes raise money simply by shopping online. To take part follow these three easy steps:

Join - [Click here](#) to join and start raising money for your chosen cause.

Shop - There are nearly 3,000 retailers on board, so pick the one you want and start shopping.

Raise - After you've made your purchase, the retailer will make a donation to Bishops Down PSA at no extra cost to yourself.



AmazonSmile

AmazonSmile is a program that **donates 0.5%** of your eligible purchases on Amazon to a charity of your choice. All you need to do to start raising funds for Bishops Down PSA is the following:

Join - [Click here](#) and choose to support Bishops Down Primary School Parent Staff Association.

Shop - Shop on AmazonSmile to your heart's content.

Raise - At no extra cost to yourself, a donation will be made to Bishops Down PSA.