



# Aldryngton School PTA

Supporting your child's education

Registered Charity: no 1026094

PTA News

Oct 2023

## Welcome to Academic Year 2023-2024!

Aldryngton PTA is a charity run by parent and guardian volunteers. As a parent or guardian of a child at Aldryngton Primary School you are automatically a member of the PTA and as such you can attend meetings, vote on proposals and make suggestions for spending or raising funds. We raise money to spend on improving equipment and resources to enhance our children's education and the facilities in the school in general. We promote closer links between home and school, and we bring staff, parents, pupils, and friends together in support of our school.

### We need your skills, and time!

We are always looking for people to take over when the current team moves on, so if any events or committee positions look like they might suit you, then people come along to the PTA meetings and see the PTA in action!

AGM

### Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) on **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November**.

At the AGM on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October, unfortunately we were unable to appoint a Treasurer for the PTA. As part of the constitution, we require a minimum of three members of the committee to be elected to the positions of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer in order for the PTA to continue. Without a Treasurer the PTA will not be able to run popular events in school like the Diwali Fayre, Christmas Fayre, Wrap-a-Present, Try-a-Tri, Eid Fayre, Happy's Circus... to name a few. We need someone (or a team of people) to step forward to be Treasurer at the next PTA meeting, which will be an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November.

### Your PTA Officers for 2022/23:

Chair – Freya O'Mara

Vice Chair – Tina Shepherd

Secretary – Sara Deadman

Treasurer – Position Vacant

**Treasurer Role:** This is a key role on the PTA Committee and critical to managing the PTA successfully. Key parts of the role include:

Provide a statement of the funds raised and where this money has been spent.

Organising floats and QR codes for events and counting cash after events.

Liase with the school leadership team and the PTA to agree and allocate funding and spend.

The role of Treasurer can be divided between more than one person to make it more manageable.

### Fundraising Summary

All the events in the 2022/23 academic year raised a fantastic £28,569. Thank you so much to the committee, event teams and to everyone who supports the PTA events. The biggest contributors to fundraising are the school discos, the Christmas Fayre, Diwali Fayre, Try-a-tri, the Eid Summer Fayre and Wrap a present. During the last academic year, the PTA committed £19,082 of these funds to the school, which went towards purchasing new interactive smart boards and providing Teachers with funds to buy items specifically for their classrooms. In addition to all the wonderful fundraising activities, we are also very glad to receive corporate match funding, which in the year totaled £2,226. A big thank you goes to Akhil, Tina, Vani, Guru, Heather and Jun Yu for arranging to help at the various events and applying to their respective employers to gain the additional match funding. If your employer has a Benevity scheme and you can claim match funding, please contact the PTA Officers, and let us know, so that we can help get you involved in the future fundraising activities. Email:

[ptaofficers@aldryngtonpta.com](mailto:ptaofficers@aldryngtonpta.com)



### Litterbug Club

The PTA launched the Litterbug Club this term. We had our first monthly litter pick on the school grounds and filled two bags in 30 minutes!

Well done to all those Litterbug Club members who have joined up so far. If you haven't joined up and would like to, all you need to do is design an A4 poster about 'why it is important that we

should pick up litter' and of course 'why we should not drop it in the first place.' Hand it in to the PTA box in the office and every member receives a free badge and a promise card. Look out for your posters displayed in the school hall!

**PTA Website:** Alongside, the school website, the PTA also has a website where we save copies of all communications from the PTA: <http://aldryngtonpta.com/>

(there is a link on the school website under the community section).

**Facebook:** There is a Facebook closed group for parents with a child at Aldryngton for:

- Requesting and Sharing information
- Tips & Advice on all things school & community related.
- Socialising with other parents.

If you would like to join, please locate the group and request to join. The name is: **Parents of Aldryngton Primary School Reading.**

## Volunteering Opportunities

### We need you!

#### Christmas Fayre (Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2023).

Freya has stepped up to lead the Christmas Fayre Team again this year. She will need a team of volunteers to help organising and on the day. Please step forward to be part of the organizing team, and watch out for opportunities to help out on the day.

#### Grotto (Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2023)

We will need a lead for Santa's Grotto in the coming years when Priya will be stepping down. Santa's Grotto runs during the Christmas Fayre, come along, and see what it is all about and consider shadowing to take over in the future.



#### Try-a-Tri: Summer 2024 (Planning starts in Jan/ Feb)

Try-a-Tri is a huge fundraiser for the PTA. Pupils are invited to team up with two of their friends and take part in a mini-triathlon. Each member of the three-person team will either take part in a swimming, cycling, or running race. The winning team will complete all three sections of the race in the shortest time.

The current lead is stepping down this year, so we are looking for an enthusiastic parent or parents to lead this event in 2024.

#### Happy's Circus: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024 (Planning starts in Jan/ Feb)

Happy's Circus will be returning to Aldryngton in 2024. We need a team of people to pull together this exciting event.

#### Disco Co-ordinator (One disco per term)

The Disco Team liaise with school and DJ for suitable dates, purchase supplies and then set up and run the disco three times during the school year (once per term).

#### Make the Rules and Non-Uniform Days

Make the Rules Day and Non-Uniform days are really fun for the children and important to PTA funds throughout the year. Make the Rules was introduced in recent years as a summer event where children could make the rules about what they wear for the day e.g. nail varnish, wacky hair. Unfortunately, there was no volunteer to run the event in 2023. We would love to see this event going ahead in Summer 2024, so please step forward if you can help. The role will involve liaising with school for a date, advertising the event and arranging for collection of the money from children on the day.

If you can help with any event please contact [ptaofficers@aldryngtonpta.com](mailto:ptaofficers@aldryngtonpta.com)



## Match Funding

Hundreds of organisations in the UK offer their employees the chance to boost individual fundraising efforts by 'matching' the money raised for their chosen charity.

We already benefit from match funding arranged by a few of our parents through their employers including Thames Water, Vodafone, Microsoft and Sky.

If you work for a company that could offer match-funding, please make yourself known to us. If you're not sure if your employer offers a match funding scheme, please contact your HR department.

For more information, please email the PTA



The PTA are collecting anything that is or was once money and we will turn your old or unwanted money into a valuable donation. We are collecting all foreign currency new and old including old British coins and notes. The collection bucket is situated in the school office foyer.



### Do you shop online?

Please register for Easyfundraising. There are thousands of retailers including Amazon and all the usual High Street shops who donate a percentage of your online shop to your chosen charity. It's simple to register then all you have to do is set Aldryngton PTA as your chosen Charity. Then every time you shop online via the Easyfundraising page you will be raising money for our school.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/aldryngtonpta/>

We all know how important it is to ensure our child's possessions are named. When buying labels for school uniform and other personal items, please use one of the following schemes. In doing so you will help raise free funds for our school.



[www.easy2name.com](http://www.easy2name.com) will give us a 20% commission on all orders. Quote Aldryngton School PTA RG6 at checkout.



[www.stampastic.co.uk](http://www.stampastic.co.uk)  
you can buy a personalised stamp usable on most fabrics, metal & some plastics. No more sewing or ironing on labels. Stampastic offer up to 25% commission on orders. Just use our PTA Code RG67HR at the checkout.