



# Aldryngton School PTA

Supporting your child's education

Registered Charity: no 1026094

PTA News

Oct 2024

Celebrating  
60 years

## Welcome to Academic Year 2024-2025!

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.

You may have heard this term the school is celebrating 60 years. The PTA is also celebrating 60 years!

### 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 please come along to the PTA meetings and events and see the PTA in action!

### Your PTA Officers for 2024/2025:

Chair – Freya O'Mara  
Vice Chair – Tina Shepherd  
Secretary – Sara Deadman  
Treasurer – Narsing Chennamaneni and Khyati Patel

### Co-Secretary

The position of Co-Secretary alongside Sara is still open, if you are interested, please contact [ptaofficers@aldryngtonpta.com](mailto:ptaofficers@aldryngtonpta.com) for more details.

### Christmas Grotto Lead Co-ordinator

We are looking to fill the Christmas Grotto Lead role. This is Priya's final year and it would be a great opportunity to handover this role to a new parent (or two) before she leaves.

Example of work: Order Santa's gifts and wrap up. Work with Treasurers and with school to set up online booking slots to allow parents to purchase and book a visit to Santa in advance.

## Fundraising Summary

The PTA have raised **£46,850** of income in the last school year with the main contributions coming from Happy's Circus, the school discos, the Christmas Fayre, Diwali Fayre, Try-a-tri, Wrap a present and also match funding.

After deducting **£50,244** for expenses and the funding provided to the School, the PTA made a loss of **£3,394** for the year. The funding for school went towards purchasing new interactive **smart boards**, **sensory circuit** outside Middle School and replacing the **swimming pool hoover**, along with other items requested by teachers and pupils.

We are also very glad to receive corporate match funding, which in the year totalled **£11,577.31**. A big thank you goes to all PTA members 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

Thank you to all the Litterbug Club members who join in with our monthly litter picks on the school grounds. It really makes a difference.

If you are in Year 1 to 6, haven't become a member yet and would like to, please create an A4 poster about why you shouldn't drop litter and place it in the box in reception. You will receive a badge and a promise card for your efforts and of course a sticker on the litter pick days!

If you are in Foundation, don't worry as you will all be creating your posters in class.

If you are in Foundation, don't worry as you will all be creating your posters in class.

**PTA Website:** Alongside, the school website, the PTA has its own 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.

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

## Autumn Term Events

**We need you!**

### Bag 2 School 8<sup>th</sup> Oct 2024



**BAG 2 SCHOOL**  
FREE FUNDRAISING FOR SCHOOLS  
In partnership with your school or organisation.

We are pleased to announce that the school is holding a textile collection to raise funds for

the PTA using Bag2School. We are collecting good quality items for re-use: Men's, ladies, and children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts and accessories. Donations can be dropped in the Boys Changing Rooms from 30<sup>th</sup> September until 8<sup>th</sup> October.

### Diwali Fayre 18<sup>th</sup> October, 3:15pm



The Diwali fayre is a fantastic event to bring all Aldryngton families together regardless of faith. If you would like to volunteer to help on the day or be part of planning please email the Diwali fayre email below.

We would also love to hear from you if you can either cook or buy and donate food/cakes or if your child wants to participate in the cultural performance (singing/dancing/instrument) at the fayre.

We would also love to hear from you if you can help apply henna or do face painting!

If you have any questions, or offers of help please email [Diwalifayre@aldryngtonpta.com](mailto:Diwalifayre@aldryngtonpta.com).

## Disco and Family Lounge 24<sup>th</sup> October



The PTA organizes three discos per year (one each term). Natalie has done an amazing job organizing these over her years with the PTA, however this year will be her last with the PTA and so we are looking for a person, or team of people to shadow Natalie this year and continue this Aldryngton tradition. The Disco Event Lead liaise with school and DJ for suitable dates, purchase supplies and then set up and run the disco.

The Family Lounge is located in Middle School for parents and siblings who wish to remain on site during the disco. The family lounge will be serving a variety of alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks and snacks.

## Wrap-a-Present (WAP) week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> Nov



Tetiana and Sara will take over the lead for this much-loved event. The children have the opportunity to buy presents during the school day. We need lots of parent help on the Wrap-a-Present days, please watch out for volunteering requests.

## Christmas Fayre & Grotto, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December.



Freya will 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.

Santa will be in his grotto at the school fayre. Watch out for more information on how to book a visit nearer the time. As previously mentioned, we will need a lead for Santa's Grotto in the coming years when Priya will be stepping down.

## Christmas Carols, Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

We are holding a candlelit carol singing event on the evening of Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December in the school hall. Come along and join us to sing some well-loved carols, eat mince pies and feel the Christmas spirit in this chilled out Christmas Event.

## Future 60 Years celebrations



As it is 60 years of the school and PTA, we would like to arrange several events while raising vital funds for the school.

When Aldryngton turned 50 t-towels were designed by each classroom and then parents could buy.

This year we would like to have something children could keep as a keep sake but we do need fresh ideas. (Recipe or calendars come to mind)

A survey will be sent out shortly from the school. Please do complete as we would love to get feedback



## 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 and get in-touch with 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.



## Asda Cash Pot for schools!

Do you shop at ASDA?

Between 2nd September

Every time customers shop with Asda using their Rewards app, they can choose a primary school to receive a percentage of their spend.



## Do you shop online?

Please register for Easyfundraising, in the last school year we received £180 through 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 need to do is set Aldryngton PTA as your chosen Charity. Once that is done, every time you shop online via the Easyfundraising page you will be raising money for our school.

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



[www.stamptastic.co.uk](http://www.stamptastic.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.