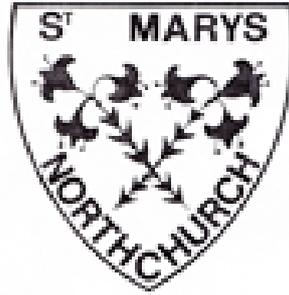


Excellence Together, Learning Through Faith.



St. Mary's School Association Update

March, 2018

Dear Parents,

For those of you who are new to the School we wanted to explain what the School Association is all about. We also wanted to take this opportunity to update you on how the money we have raised, so far this school year, has been spent.

You may be aware that St Mary's Primary School is a voluntary aided school which means that we not get the usual government funding that other state schools receive.

The St. Mary's School Association (SMSA) is a charitable organisation which is run by a small committee of parents in our free time. It is hard work although very rewarding.

Our primary aim is to raise funds in order to enhance our children's learning by purchasing new equipment such as laptops, smart boards, library books etc and contributing towards school trips and workshops.

In addition to the above, whilst our aim is to raise vital funds, we also want the children to have fun at the events we organise. Some examples of these events are the film clubs, discos, secret rooms and the Christmas & Summer Fayres.

We also organise events for our parents to enjoy such as Auction Evenings, Quiz Nights and last year for the first time an evening at Frithsden Vineyard.

As you can appreciate these events do take time and effort to organise and we are always looking for new people to join the School Association to help us out. Currently we do not have many members and it would be a real shame if the number of these events had to be decreased, or even cancelled altogether.

As parents we do rely on you greatly to support our events and therefore it is extremely important that you are told how the money we have raised has been spent.

To date, this school year, after discussions with Miss Hunt and her team our fundraising money has been spent on the following:-

- £300 to every class towards their school trips, in total £2,400.
- £3,394 on a much needed new stage for the hall.
- £400 on the Ian Whybrow author visit to officially open the story shack.
- £573.50 for the O2 Young Voices t-shirts and contribution towards the coach transportation.
- £56.81 for every child to receive a Christmas cracker during their Christmas lunch.
- £320 for the Christmas pantomime.
- £35.84 for the Mother's Day daffodils for the Mother's Day service.
- £612.50 towards the school crossing patrol.
- £148 towards the coach transportation for the Y6 jazz concert.
- £399 for the Indian Dance Workshop.

A total so far of £8,339.65.

In the pipeline we will also be paying for Years 1 & 2 Science workshop which has just taken place.

Quotes are also currently underway to replace both of the rechargeable laptop station trollies.

It is probably fair to say that most parents do not realise how much money is contributed to the school by the School Association so we wanted to share this information with you and say a huge thank you for your continued support. The additional funds we raise we really do make a difference.

We are continually striving to think of new and exciting fundraising ideas so if anyone has any thoughts then please pop along to one of our School Association meetings. Other than that, please talk to one of our current members.

Thank you again for all your help. Let's try and continue to support our lovely school and children.

Kind Regards,

The School Association.