

# Newsletter



Newsletter 2

September 20<sup>th</sup> 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great start to the school year, with everyone settling into their new classes well and our Year 6 children stepping up to their new roles and responsibilities really well. This week we enjoyed skipping workshops for all of the children from Years 1-6 and were very impressed with their skills. We have been busy untangling skipping ropes and fixing handles so that the can enjoy practising their skills at break and lunch times! The PTFA held the Annual General meeting on Tuesday evening, and have planned a number of events for the year. We have also listed the help needed– we would love to have some volunteers – and also targeted specific projects at these events.



## Staff

I am delighted to welcome Mr Patrick Loughman to our team, as new Site Manager. He will be shadowing Richard (and our fantastic gardening guru, Lynda) over the next few days before taking over the role on 1<sup>st</sup> October. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Richard, for all he has achieved and given over the past two years, to make the school environment such a lovely (and safe) place to learn and work in. We wish him every happiness for the future, and look forward to our continuing relationship with him, as a parent!



## PTFA

Thank you to everyone who came to our PTFA AGM, and first meeting of the year. Charlie has been re-elected as Chair and will be sharing the treasurer role with Kate Woodhead. Nic Nicholson will be taking minutes and the rest of the committee will undertake a series of roles to coordinate the events. We would love to have some extra help; the dates and tasks needed are detailed below to give people time to plan whether they could help for all or part of an event. Full training provided on the job and everyone welcome!

Date	Time	Event	Helpers needed for:	Funds going to
8.11.24	6.00 -7.30 p.m.	Children's Film Night	Setting up the rooms Sitting with the children, Clearing up	Stage lighting & Pantomime coaches
28.11.24	7.00 -9.00 p.m.	Christmas Shopping Evening	Setting up Staffing the car park, PTFA stalls & selling raffle tickets Clearing up	Stage lighting & Pantomime coaches
12.12.24	10.15 a.m. 2.15 p.m. 6.30 p.m. 7.30 p.m.	School Plays	Selling raffle tickets	Stage lighting & Pantomime coaches
13.12.24	10.15 a.m. 6.30 p.m. 7.30 p.m.	School Plays	Selling raffle tickets	Stage lighting & Pantomime coaches
19.12.24	5.30-7.00 p.m.	Children's Disco	Helping in the hall Staffing the refreshments stall Sweeping the hall	Stage lighting & Pantomime coaches

Date	Time	Event	Helpers needed for:	Funds going to
17.1.25	8.20 – 9.00 a.m.	PTFA big breakfast!	Setting up Putting food out Making hot drinks Collecting payments Clearing up	Stage lighting & Pantomime coaches
14.2.25	All day	Come to school in your PJs	Counting money	Towards Mini Bus running costs
8.3.25	6.00-8.00 p.m	Family Fun Games Night	Setting up tables and activities Preparing food Running the bar Helping with the activities Clearing up	New Kiln control panel
28.3.25	9.00 -11.00 a.m.	Mothering Sunday Shopping	Setting up Wrapping and labelling gifts Clearing up	New trim trail
3.4.25	5.30 – 7.00 p.m.	Children’s Disco	Helping in the hall Staffing the refreshments stall Sweeping the hall	New trim trail
5.6.25	8.20 – 9.10 a.m.	PTFA Big Breakfast & Sponsored Walk	Setting up Putting food out Making hot drinks Collecting payments Clearing up	New trim trail
28.6.25	6.30 – 9.30 p.m.	Summer Do & Raffle!	Setting up Cooking food Serving food Selling Raffle Tickets Running the bar Clearing away	New Trim Trail
18.7.25	All Day	Funky Hair Friday!	Counting money	Towards Mini Bus running costs

All of the money raised by the PTFA goes towards ‘extras’ for the children, which are not funded in the school’s budget. This year, we are aiming to replace the stage lights – these were installed when the school was built in the 1970’s and urgently need replacing. The school kiln is in constant use, but needs a replacement control panel – this too, dates back to the same era. The PTFA funds the coaches to the Pantomime – this significantly reduces the cost of the trip to families. The School mini bus is used, wherever possible, to avoid the necessity to hire coaches, and also enables us to take the children to a range of activities and sporting events, again, meaning that this cost is not passed onto parents. Lastly, now that we have the school grounds back, the children are desperate to have a new trim trail. We look forward to sharing these events with you!



### Jewellery

Recently, we have noticed a number of children wearing jewellery to school. This is proving to be a distraction to their play and learning, and can be a hazard. The latest PE health and safety guidance is that earrings must be removed for PE – tape is no longer considered safe. Therefore, if the children are not able to remove earrings themselves, please can they not be worn to school? Staff are unable to remove earrings, due to the risk of injuring the child and the potential time it takes away from teaching the PE lesson.

Stud earrings, silicone Charity wristbands and analogue or digital watches may be worn. Watches and fitbits connected to the internet are not permitted. If you have any queries concerning whether children are allowed to wear items for religious or cultural reasons, please do not hesitate to contact the school office or me.



### PE Kits & School Uniform

The school PE Kit is a navy t-shirt – preferably with the school logo on it – and navy shorts. Children may wear navy tracksuits if it is cold and they are going to be outside. Football kits or random t-shirts and shorts are not allowed for PE lessons. If you are in need of a PE top or shorts, please drop into the office – we have a number of good quality pre-loved items available free of charge.

Thank you very much for making sure that your child is wearing the correct uniform – there are now just a few children wearing grey pinafores or skirts instead of navy – the school office would be pleased to provide replacement items.

We always have a good stock of school clothing in a wide variety of sizes and are committed to re-cycling it. As the weather is getting colder, please do come to the office if there are any items we can help with. Alternatively, our supplier – The Uniform Monkeys – has a range of stock, readily available from their shop in Letchworth and online at: [Codicote Primary Archives - TheUniformMonkeys](#)



### Parking in St. Albans Road

Recently, we have had a number of calls from our kind neighbours in St. Albans Road who are concerned about the safety of the children crossing. Cars are regularly being parked on the single yellow line, and sometimes opposite it too, making it very difficult for cars to see the children, and children needing to step into the road to see round the cars. For the children’s safety, please can cars be parked elsewhere? Thank you for your support.



### School Trips

To give you advance notice, these trips have been booked for the following year groups to date. Details will be sent out nearer the time, and I will let you know when new trips are added to the calendar.

Date	Visit	Year group
13.11.24	Roald Dahl Museum	Year 3
15.10.24	Duxford Museum	Year 6
17.12.24	Pantomime	Whole school
6.3.25	St.Albans Cathedral	Year 5
6.5.25 – 7.5.25	Tolmers Residential	Year 5
16.6.25 – 20.6.25	Isle of Wight Residential	Year 6



### Free Trampettes

Due to changes in the equipment permitted in primary schools, we have had to take our mini trampettes out of use. If anyone would like one, free of charge, please let the School Office know.



### Allergies, Asthma, Medical Conditions and Epi-pens

Thank you to everyone who has let us know about allergies, asthma, medical conditions and epi-pens already. If you haven't had a chance to yet – the form is below, or an email with the information can be sent to the School Office.

Please remember that I am always happy to discuss any issues with you. Thank you for reading this newsletter.

Yours sincerely,

Liz Pollard  
HEADTEACHER

### Allergies, Asthma, Medical Conditions and Epi-pens

Child's Name:

My child has:

<b>An epi-pen</b>	<b>Asthma</b>	<b>Inhaler</b>
<b>Medical condition</b>	<b>Allergy</b>	<b>Other</b>

(Please tick and provide details as appropriate)

I give permission for their photograph and allergy details to be included in a poster displayed in relevant locations around the school – e.g. classrooms and dining room

Signed:

Date: