



PTFA NEWSLETTER – July 2020

ST JÉRÔME CHURCH OF ENGLAND BILINGUAL SCHOOL

Dear Parents, Carers, Teachers, Staff and Friends of St Jérôme,

Bonjour à tous! We hope you and your loved ones are all keeping well. As another school year ends, I just wanted to share what we are working on now and what we are starting to plan for September and beyond.

On a personal note, it's fair to say that when my fellow Committee members and I were elected back in February, looking forward to bringing our community together at Easter and Summer events, little did we know that our best laid plans would have to be put on hold within our first month as a new team. We had started brainstorming ideas and pulling together a calendar for all the fundraising and community events we wanted to hold, and we never had the opportunity to get going. Having said this, we are supporting the school through a donation contributing to the purchase of furniture for our Year 4 classrooms.

Looking ahead to September though, I feel very confident that we can make up for lost time. And we need to – the School has set the PTFA a **fundraising target of £5,000 for next year**. School budgets are notoriously constrained, and these funds will help supplement educational and curriculum resources throughout the year that will benefit all of our children.

Crowdfunding for our KS2 Library and Summer Challenge

Please help the PTFA to raise much needed funds to support the development of the KS2 library by donating via our crowdfunding site. As little as £1 will make a real difference!

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/an-inspirational-library-for-our-children>

Why not involve the children in the fundraising? The PTFA is inviting all children to participate in the PTFA FUN(D)RAISING SUMMER CHALLENGE 2020. For more details, please see poster at the end of the letter.

What we are planning for September and beyond...

Whilst the school has been gradually coming out of lockdown, a lot can still happen between now and September – hence we are keen to explore a wide range of options for delivering community-building events and fundraising activities, both online and within the School (if we can do this safely). Below are some examples of what we are exploring at the moment:

UniformD (or equivalent). UniformD is a recently-launched platform designed to make the donating and selling of second-hand uniforms as easy as possible.

St Jerome School Lottery. We are considering partnering with *Your School Lottery* to create our very own school lottery. *Your School Lottery* is part of the Gatherwell Ltd lottery group with the core value of being an ethical lottery provider. They give 35% more in donations directly to good causes than any other national lottery. Earlier this year Gatherwell was awarded Lottery Operator of the Year by The Lotteries Council in recognition of their ethical values and the £4 million they have helped raise for good causes throughout the UK.

St Jerome School online marketplace. Similarly to the concept of Gumtree, eBay or UniformD, we are thinking about launching a St Jerome online marketplace for the benefit of our school community.

Bag2School. Bag2School work in partnership with Schools, Businesses, Community Groups, Local Councils and Charities to help raise funds from donations of unwanted clothes.

As mentioned, we will also be looking at what events we may be able to run within the School or in a physical space to bring our community closer together. These will typically tie-in with special times in the year like Christmas, Easter, and our Summer Fête. **However, we will only plan these if we can deliver them safely in line with the School's safeguarding and risk management policies.**

In the meantime....

A small reminder of a simple way to fundraise for the school without needing to organise an event.

Easyfundraising

Easyfundraising turns your everyday online shopping into free donations for your favourite cause. How? Just start your online shopping first at easyfundraising, then shop as normal. Our retailers will then make a small donation to say "thank you". We have 4,065 retailers to choose from and so far we've raised over £31 million for thousands of community groups, schools, sports clubs, small and large charities across the UK. Easy!

So how do you sign up?

1. Go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/saintjerome/?test=t1&cat=cause-autosuggest&q=st%20jerom>
2. Click on 'Support this cause'.
3. Choose how you wish to sign up, using your Facebook or email details.
4. Once you have created your account, you are ready to shop. Just go to the easyfundraising website and search for your favourite retailers.
5. You can also download the easyfunding app from the App Store

And if you have already signed up, why not refer a friend and get an EXTRA £5 for our cause. Go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/referrals/> and share the link the site generates with family, friends, colleagues.

No more sewing and ironing labels onto school uniforms! Just visit www.stikins.co.uk and apply our School Fundraising Number when you check-out: **35863**. You can also take a look at Stampastic: www.stampastic.co.uk and use the following code: **HA12DJ**.

How you can get involved

- 1) We are looking for volunteers to work with us to launch the initiatives mentioned on page 1. We are all working parents on the Committee and fully understand how precious time is. With that in mind, in the first instance for next year we are focusing on initiatives that will run themselves once set up and deliver great value with low levels of effort required.
- 2) We are looking for volunteers to be our PTFA Class Champions – helping to communicate what we are doing, when we are doing it, and help parents within each class and in each Year Group get involved if they would like to, so we can tailor events to different age groups and interests as needed.

Please get in touch and drop us a line at ptfa@stjeromebilingual.org

Finally, we just wanted to wish Mrs Walton all the best on her upcoming sabbatical, and take the opportunity to **thank the School teachers and staff**. They have their own families that depend on them and they have given their time unconditionally - from lending devices to delivering food to the most vulnerable within our community; investing in additional online resources and planning new home learning activities every week; looking after the children of key workers, and enabling a safe return to school for Year 1 and Reception children.

On behalf of Silke, Raisa, Michelle, Kaps, and Dharmesh, my colleagues on the PTFA Committee, we wish everyone a restful summer and we look forward to seeing you all again in September.

All the best,



Julie Dyson
PTFA Chair
Parent Governor and Finance
Committee Chair





PTFA FUN(D)RAISING SUMMER CHALLENGE 2020

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DEAR CHILDREN

Your PTFA is planning to raise £2000 to help develop a **brand new KS2 library** for you. It will be a wonderful place where you can dive into stories, start new ideas, learn new facts and look up things you don't understand. Will you help us with this challenge?

In the **PTFA FUN(D)RAISING SUMMER CHALLENGE** we are looking for the best child fundraiser and fundraising ideas! There are exciting prizes waiting for the winners!

To enter the challenge, please ask your parents to send your name, class, fundraising idea (with pictures if you like) and the amount you raised to

ptfa@stjeromebilingual.org using the subject "**summer challenge**". Deadline is **Sunday the 6th of September 2020**. All donations should be made to

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/an-inspirational-library-for-our-children>

