

Lady Boswell's

PTA

February 2023
Update



Update from your PTA Chair

Welcome to the first PTA Newsletter for this academic year. We last updated you in July 2022, and as you will be aware, since then the PTA has not been sitting on its laurels!

Many PTA events are aimed at providing joy and fun for both adults and children and they certainly have not disappointed. The return of Happy's Circus was a triumph and the children's film night was very well received. Christmas may now seem in the dim-distant past, but I know that we will all look back with pleasure and satisfaction at an amazing community afternoon at our Christmas Fair. With a warm atmosphere and broad selection of stalls, it brought together families from across the School, raising very considerable funds into the bargain! Thank you all for your hard work in making this such a success.

As you will see from the figures shown later in this Newsletter, the funds raised since the start of this academic year have been quite extraordinary. Bigger events aside, initiatives such as Bag2School, Amazon Smile, Easyfundraising, Christmas cards and firework tickets, despite being 'small ticket' items, have also collectively bolstered our funds. We are aware of the importance of the pre-loved uniform sales and are looking forward to extending this service and offering more frequent sales. We will be utilising some space in the new extension to the front of the School for this, so we hope that this enhanced service will be up-and-running before too long.

PTA funding, since the start of this academic year, has provided the School with many new resources, benefitting every child. A new set of iPads (16) together with an iPad trolley have significantly enhanced our IT resources. We have recently erected three 'Reading sheds', kitted out with grass matting, shelves, cushions and books. These offer a cosy outside space in which the children can 'settle down with a good book'.

In addition, the PTA have provided a wooden tepee and toadstools in the Year R garden and a wooden arbour in the KS2 playground. A broad selection of sports equipment and flags have been purchased, together with some resources for Forest School. Alongside all of these items, PTA funds have provided workshops and offered the Class Teachers a small fund each to use in their classroom – a real luxury. Looking ahead, the PTA are considering the possibility of funding a much-needed new PA system and PE shed, together with relevant equipment trolleys, so please do continue to support the PTA in their work.

We have, this year, been delighted to welcome a number of new members to the PTA Committee. I commend this altruistic and warm-hearted group to you; we would very much welcome anyone who wants to join us, in whatever capacity. If you could spare a little time to assist, please contact us at ladyboswellspta@googlemail.com.

Our thanks for all your unerring support.

Sharon Saunders, Chair of the PTA
Co-Headteacher



Thank You!

We have raised a fantastic **£18,752** from PTA events that took place from September - December 2022. Below are the totals from our most recent fundraisers.

£8,681

Christmas Fair and Grotto
(includes **£3,236** of
match funding)

£3,908

Countdown to
Christmas Raffle

£2,645

Happy's Circus

£1,222

Festive Film Night

£694

Donations

£649

Christmas Cards

£390

Pre-loved Uniform

£266

Firework Tickets

£187

Amazon Smile and
Easyfundraising

£111

Bag2School



Organised by Lady Boswell's PTA

Mother's Day Event

17 March 2023
(during school hours)

Full details to follow soon!



What have we bought with the funds raised?

Since our last newsletter, some of the funds raised by the PTA have gone towards the following:

16 new iPads | iPad trolley | 3 'Reading sheds', kitted out with grass matting, shelves, cushions and books | wooden tepee and toadstools in the Year R garden | wooden arbour in the KS2 playground | broad selection of sports equipment and flags | resources for Forest School | workshops | small fund for class teachers | tuff spot mats | toy animals



TESCO

Community Grants

Calling all Lady Boswell's School families to get voting!

We are delighted to announce that Lady Boswell's PTA have been selected, as one of three charities to be awarded a cash boost from the Tesco Community Grants.

Voting will continue until 31 March at Sevenoaks Riverhead store. Customers will cast their vote using a Community Grant Token given to them at the checkout each time they shop - if you do not get given one, please ask!

Please help our school's bid by voting, the winner will receive £1,500.

Thank you for your continued support.



Every Little Helps!



Even Joe the Bear voted!

WE NEED YOU!

PLEASE READ ON...

We can double the funds raised for our school with MATCH FUNDING!!

What is match funding?

An increasing number of companies operate a match funding scheme whereby they 'match' charity fundraising undertaken by their employees. This could be the fundraising total for an event, or for the stall that their employee is working on. A lot of bigger organisations set aside millions of pounds to fund such schemes and are more than happy to support their staff in raising money for charities of their choice.

Lady Boswell's PTA is a registered charity (charity number 1034434) and, as such, we can benefit from your involvement, however big or small, at any of our fundraising events.

What we're asking you to do...

Contact your Human Resources Department to find out if your employer has a match funding scheme, or if they are willing to match funds at any of our events.

If you know that the company you work for has a match funding policy, please do let us know, especially if you are thinking of volunteering at the Summer Fair or any other PTA event this year or in the future!!

Thank you in advance for looking into match funding, every little really does help (and yes, Tesco's do match fund!).

Fingers crossed we can increase our fundraising with match funding!!

Thank you.

Just let us know what you need eg, a letter, email and we'll provide you with the required documentation to support your funding claim.

If you have any queries, please contact us on ladyboswellspta@googlemail.com

Happy's Circus | Review

Happy's Circus returned to Lady Boswell's on Saturday 24 September 2022! Thankfully the rain held off and we were able to enjoy a selection of games, food and drinks before the show kicked off in the Big Top!

It was another wonderful afternoon for the whole family, raising a fantastic £2,645 for the school.



Festive Film Night | Review

The school hall was once again transformed into the Lady Boswell's Cinema on Friday 9 December when we showed the Film 'Klaus' to Years 2-5 and 'Elf' to those children in Year 6. This event continues to be extremely popular. The children were impeccably behaved enjoying an evening with their friends, popcorn and sweets! Many thanks to those who attended and all of those parents who volunteered on the evening.



This event raised an incredible £1,222 for the school!

Christmas Fair | Review

A huge thank you from the PTA, to all of those who attended and helped to support the success of the 2022 Lady Boswell's Christmas Fair. It was such a wonderful day with a magical grotto, amazing raffle, mulled wine and hot chocolate, face paints and games, gift stalls and a whole lot more. **We raised a whopping £8,681 from the Christmas Fair and Grotto (this also includes £3,236 of match funding) which we are hugely proud of and we could not have achieved this without all of the fantastic class reps and parent volunteers.**



Christmas Raffle | Thank you

For the third year in a row, we ran the Countdown to Christmas raffle. The majority of the prizes were donated from local and national businesses, such as a Barbour jacket, Coolings gift voucher, Sevenoaks Florist gift voucher and many more. A few generous parents also donated items for the raffle, which included a £100 theatre gift voucher, beautiful Chelsea boots, a silhouette drawing, and even goodie bags from The Oscars!

You raised a huge £3,908. Thank you for your support.

Quiz Night| Review

After a four year hiatus, the quiz night returned in February, with a different format.

There was mostly friendly rivalry throughout the evening and the quiz included some participation bonus rounds and culminated in a 'mood off'.

Congratulations to the winning team 'Second Timers', made up of Silver Birch parents.

The evening would not have been possible without our wonderful quizmaster, Kev. Thank you so much.

Thank you to all who supported the fundraising event and you raised £1,142 (plus match funding TBC).

Why not get involved?

Don't be put off if you if you feel you can't give your time, haven't been asked or are unsure what's involved.

- We have parents who work part-time or full-time. Any time you can give is welcome.
- Having a child at this school means you can join us. We can use any skills you have and you might learn new ones.
- Being involved is a great way to get to know the school and other parents.



Lady
Boswell's PTA

Family
Fun Run

Sunday
21 May 2023
Time TBC
Knole Park

SAVE THE DATE!

Join us to run or walk either 1km, 5km or 10km
in the beautiful surroundings of Knole Park.

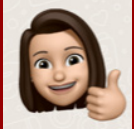
Entry fee for adults, children are encouraged to be sponsored.
Funds raised will support the PTA.

Entry details to follow so for now get the date in the diary
and your training shoes on!



Meet the team

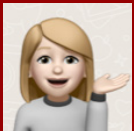
We are a small team of parents working with Mrs Saunders, as Chair, to raise funds for the school. We are always looking for new members to join us. If you are interested in becoming a member of the PTA, please drop us a line at ladyboswellspta@googlemail.com or speak to any members of the team.



Anneen Aucamp | Mum to Anna (Year 2) and Joshua (Year R)

Casually went to a PTA meeting with fellow class parents. I very much enjoyed the dynamic conversation and energetic group of parents planning exciting events. So I decided to join.

A sunny day really fills my cup since we love being outdoors and even more so enjoy socialising outdoors.



Jill Bond | Mum to Georgia (Year 4) and Toby (Year 2)

Prior to joining the PTA in September 2021, I wasn't sure what to expect. I was apprehensive whether I would be able to commit enough time to the PTA, but while there have been some really busy points so far, it has been great working with the other members of the committee and being involved in school events. The PTA's enthusiasm to raise money for the school and support events for the children to enjoy has been fantastic.

Outside of the PTA, I work in financial services and I am also hoping that 2023 is the year I get to grips with gardening!



Gayle Cotton | Mum to Emily (Year 4)

I've been a parent at Lady Boswell's since 2014. During that time, I have learned how essential the PTA funding is for the children (the themed enrichment days, outdoor play equipment) and to enhance resources within the school (classroom contributions, sports equipment and recently the IT suite upgrade). I joined the PTA to help create the best possible learning environment for my children and their classmates. The PTA committee is a good mix of like minded, inspirational Mums (Dads are welcome too!) who are all busy with families and careers.



Gersande Coudyser | Mum to Harper (Year 3) and Joss (starting Sept 23)

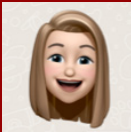
I have just joined the PTA this January. I felt inspired and keen to join this lovely team to help with all the important work they do. I did not realise that only 15 mums were in charge of it all! I am excited and look forward to organise fun and educational events!

Meet the team



Helen Gush | Mum to Elliot (Year 4)

Now in my fourth year of being a member of the team, I enjoy being able to contribute to the essential fundraising that the PTA is involved in, which enriches so many aspects of our children's education and experiences at Lady Boswell's. It is also rewarding working with a lovely group of like-minded people who are willing to dedicate their time for the good of our children.



Jemma Jackson | Mum to Lottie (Year 1)

I joined the PTA when my daughter started school in September 2021. I wanted to become a closer part of the school community, and joining the PTA has certainly helped in this. The experience and dedication of the PTA has been a pleasure to become a part of.



Danielle Lautier | Mum to Martha (Year 3) and Rupert (Year R)

I have loved all the efforts and events the PTA has provided since joining Lady Boswell's. With Rupert joining in September, it's a great time for me to become more involved with the school community and help support the team.



Claire Leslie | Mum to Skye and Ruby (Year 3) and Isaac (Year 2)

I joined the PTA in September 2021 and am responsible for the promotional material for our events. It's been great working with other members of the team and being more involved in the school community. It's so rewarding to see the benefits of what we have achieved so far.



Celia McDonnell | Mum to Tommy (Year 1)

I have long admired the energetic, enthusiastic and dedicated PTA members from afar and have finally taken the plunge to join.

My children have hugely benefited from the contributions of the PTA and I look forward to helping provide additional equipment and enrichment they might not otherwise benefit from.

Meet the team



Louise Mullen | Mum to Olivia (Year 4) , Oscar (Year 1) and their baby sibling

I took up the Treasurer role along in September 2021. It's been fantastic to see how hard work from the PTA with support from the school community can raise the necessary funds to enhance our children's learning.



Sarah O'Prey | Mum to Lucy (Year 6) and Orla (Year 3)

I joined the PTA when our eldest daughter started at Lady Boswell's in 2016. Since then, I have enjoyed being part of the team, helping to plan and organise a wide range of events, to raise money to support the teaching and learning of all the children across the school. As a result of the fundraising efforts of the PTA, I have seen exciting developments throughout the school (both inside and out) and the curriculum has been enriched by generous funding towards resources and equipment, as well as for events such as year group experience days.

Having now joined the teaching staff at Lady Boswell's, I have remained on the committee as a teacher representative and school link.



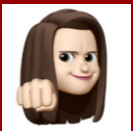
Erica Popplewell | Mum to Austin (Year 2) and Matilda (Year R)

Now in my second year on to the PTA and enjoying getting to know how it all works and being part of the dynamic team. I love hearing my children and their friends talking about the things they have used or experienced at school that the PTA have helped provide.



Rebecca Rushton | Mum to Louisa (Year 3) and James (Year 1)

I attended Lady Boswell's as a child and have the most wonderful memories. I have seen how superhuman the past and present PTA have been and hope to contribute towards more equipment and enrichment days for our children.



Gemma Webster | Mum to Jude (Year R)

Hello, my name is Gemma Webster and my son, Jude, is currently in reception. Hoping to bring as much help to the PTA as possible and support Lady Boswell's.

Friends of the PTA

For a school of our size, we are a small team of parents working together to try and create fantastic fundraising opportunities, but also fun and interesting activities for our children to be involved with.

We are always looking for new members to join the Committee, but we also have 'Friends of the PTA' for those people who would like to contribute, but aren't necessarily able to commit to become a fully-fledged Committee member.

If you would like to spare some time to help the PTA, have any ideas that you wish to share, have a specific skill set that you think we would benefit from, or are just happy to be called upon when we need an extra pair of hands, please do get in contact via the email address below.

Get in touch, ladyboswellspta@googlemail.com

Pre-loved uniform sales - can you help?

If you are able to help with our pre-loved uniform sales please let us know:
email ladyboswellspta@googlemail.com

We welcome donations of clean, good condition, burgundy uniform only. **STRICTLY NO greys, whites or shoes.** Thank you.

To maintain the condition of your donations, please put them in a tied plastic bag (not paper) & pop into our shiny new red bin, located near the bike rack at the lower gate. This helps keep the clothing clean, dry and pest free.



Other ways to fundraise

Easyfundraising and Amazon Smile

We'd like to try and get as many people as possible signed up to Easyfundraising and AmazonSmile. It takes 2 minutes of your time to set up and doesn't cost you anything, but raises valuable funds for Lady Boswell's PTA that are used to enhance the children's learning at school.



Easyfundraising

Please support Lady Boswell's School, Sevenoaks by raising free donations when you shop online through

easyfundraising. It's simple and only takes 2 minutes to join!

Sign up now at [Support a Good Cause | Sign Up | Easyfundraising](#) and download the app on your phone.



AmazonSmile

NB: The AmazonSmile customer donation programme will permanently shut down on 20 February 2023.

Shop AmazonSmile at <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1034434-0>, and Amazon donates to Lady Boswell's Parent Teacher Association.

Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select Lady Boswell's Parent Teacher Association as your charity and activate amazonSmile in the app. Amazon will donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

How to turn on AmazonSmile in the mobile app

- 1. Get the app** | Download or update to the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app on your phone. You can find it in the App Store for iOS or Google Play for Android.
- 2. Join AmazonSmile** | If you are not already an AmazonSmile member, simply sign up at smile.amazon.co.uk and select your favourite charity to start generating donations, at no cost to you.
- 3. Turn on AmazonSmile** | Open the app and find 'Settings' in the main menu (☰). Tap on 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone.

Donate to the PTA via Localgiving

If you would like to make a donation to the PTA please visit: <https://localgiving.org/charity/lady-boswell-s-pta/>. You can also fundraise for the PTA via the 'fundraise for us' icon.

Other ways to fundraise



My Name Tags

School ID is 31490.

School life is a lot easier when things don't go missing, so labelling your child's belongings can be of big help.

The My Nametags labels are extremely hardwearing and save a great deal of effort and potential lost property.

They can be used on school uniforms, brownies/guides clothes, football kits, in fact almost anything. For every order of personalised labels, My Nametags will contribute to the school. Order online at www.MyNametags.com and use our unique School ID number (31490), you'll be raising much needed money for the school.

For more information on our fundraising scheme, please go to: https://www.my-nametags.com/static/img/downloads/MyNametags_fundraising_information.pdf

STIKINS[®]

Stikins

School ID is 11439 | <https://www.stikins.co.uk/>

Lady Boswell's fundraising number is 11439. Please use this when you purchase your stikins.

Stikins name labels are designed to be a truly multipurpose name labelling solution.

One pack of our stick on name labels can label pretty much everything and anything so you don't have to buy different labelling products for different items.

The Stikins school fundraising scheme has distributed thousands of pounds amongst participating schools every year since 2004. While the details of our fundraising scheme have been fine-tuned over the years, its core principles have remained constant. We want to give schools and PTAs the opportunity to raise money while helping parents to safely and securely label their children's belongings.

Future PTA Events for 2023



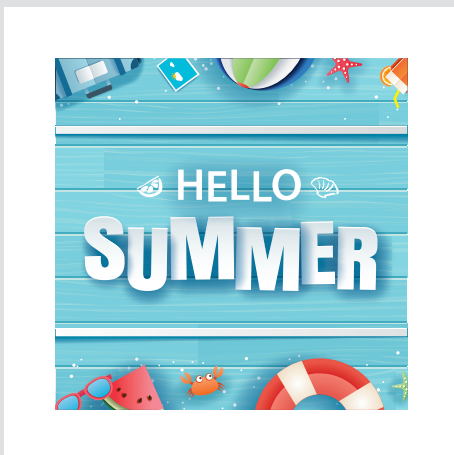
Bake Sales!

Further information to be announced nearer the time.



Father's Day | 16 June 2023

Further information to be announced nearer the time.



Lady Boswell's PTA Summer Fair | Saturday 24 June 2023

Save the date!