



Down Hall Primary School
Parent Teacher Association
Brooklyn Drive
Rayleigh
Essex SS6 9LW

Chairperson: Mrs E Crisp
Asst. Chairperson: Mrs E Wood
Treasurer: Mrs L Davy
Asst. Treasurer: Mrs G Laudrum
Secretary: Mrs N Hardcastle

September 2011

Dear Parents and Staff

September newsletter

Welcome Back

Welcome back everyone and welcome to the new Reception parents. We hope you all had a lovely summer despite the weather and are looking forward to the new school year which we hope to fill with lots of fab PTA events. Thank you all so much to those of you who completed the PTA questionnaire. We had very positive feedback for last year's events and we hope that we can host some fantastic events in 2011/12 and please be sure to join our facebook group for the most up to date news: DownHall Primary School PTA.

Upcoming events

3rd October: Rainbow parents coffee morning: 9am in the school hall

A separate invite has been sent out to Rainbow parents to let you all know a little more about what our coffee mornings are all about.

13th October: AGM: 7.30pm in the school hall

All parents are invited to join us to elect the committee for the forthcoming year. We will be discussing the accounts for the year to 31st August 2011, what went well and not so well last year and ideas for both raising funds and spending funds for this year. Please, please come and have a glass of wine or soft drink and some nibbles and find out how you can become involved in the PTA or just to let us know what you would like your PTA to consider for the forthcoming year.

21st October: Cake sale in the school hall

Our cake sales last year were such a resounding if frantic success that we invite you to join us to sit and have a cake a cuppa in the school hall. We do rely on donations so let's get baking!!!!

1st November: Halloween disco: 5pm – 7.30pm in the school hall

Back due to popular demand is the Down Hall School Halloween disco to be held on **TUESDAY 1st November**, Rainbow and KS1: 5-6pm, KS2: 6-7.30pm. *Tickets will be sold at a price of £2.00 via the PTA box in the foyer. Please put your money in an envelope with pupil name and class by Friday 21st October. Tickets will be distributed via the class teacher on 1st November.*

7th November: PTA coffee morning: 9am in the school hall – All welcome

Please come along so that we can update you on the ideas and changes discussed at the AGM. We would also like to hear your suggestions for money raising ideas and how to spend the money the PTA raise so please come and have a chat, drink and maybe a piece of cake!!!!

17th November: Xmas shopping night: 7.30pm in the school hall

We have lots of stalls and refreshments and hope to make this a great evening. We will be sending a letter out in the near future for ticket and raffle sales, you will also be able to pay on the door so hope to see you there. More information will be available closer to the evening.



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2nd December: Xmas Bazaar

Please put this date in your diary. More information will be given closer to the time. However, in the meantime we would like to ask if anyone would be interested in sourcing, pricing and running a stall on the day of the bazaar. We have lost some stallholders with the last Year 6 leavers and we have additional work commitments this year. We will give plenty of support but hope that there will be some interested parties will to take on some of the stalls.

We will have further requests closer to the time but we are already happy to receive your donations of nearly new teddies, present gift bags, Xmas wrapping paper and second hand toys and raffle prizes.

2nd December: Down Hall Parents Christmas Party: 8pm in the school hall.

We are hoping to stage our own Xmas party in the school hall with our own fabulous Jo Martin singing on the night and perhaps some karaoke for those brave enough. We will be selling tickets closer to the time but please put the date in your diary and consider making this night your choice for Down Hall parents Christmas parties!!!!

Where has your money been spent?

School Council request for playground wall rendering

Last year, we asked the school council where they would like see the PTA funds to be spent. Joey Hardingham (Year 6 last year) asked for a wall in the playground to be rendered to stop the children accidentally getting grazes from the sharp stony covering. We are please to say that over the summer holidays the wall has been rendered costing £380 using PTA funds.

Playground equipment

The PTA makes a contribution each term to fund new equipment bought to be used in the playgrounds by the children at break times.

Key Stage 2 Production Outfits

Each year the PTA contributes towards updating the Summer Production outfits for KS2 and donated £141 to ensure our budding actors had costumes to match their talents on stage!

Year 6 Leavers Party

Each year we make a contribution towards the costs of the Year 6 Leavers Party arranged by the teachers. This year we gave £90 towards food for the event.

After all other costs we had a surplus for the year of nearly £7,000 which will be put towards our playground improvements fund which we will be continuing to add to this year as well as contributing to the school trips etc that we have been donating in previous years. However, if anyone has any other ideas please let us know or attend the AGM. We look forward to seeing everyone at one of our events very soon.

Your PTA committee.