



# St. Vincent's PTA Newsletter



Volume 1, Issue 1

## “Hello” from our PTA

Welcome to the first newsletter.

**Did you know** that all parents are automatically members of the school PTA? You don't have to be specially asked or an extrovert or love endless committee meetings. You can dip in and out of what goes on.

### Is it “cliquey” ?

We really hope it isn't seen that way and the more parents that join in the less chance there is that could ever happen.

### Recent Events:

Party in the Park – lots of fun in spite of the weather, with some great music and bands.

Fizz Fashion Show- much enjoyed by all who attended, thank you to all as we raised around £300

“New Parents” coffee morning – this was an open invitation to all parents new to the school to help you become part of your child's school life.



**The fantastic “Manyanas” at our Party in the Park – indoors due to torrential rain!!**

## NEW Participants ALWAYS welcome

The PTA meets approximately once a month in term time, usually at The Legh Arms on a Thursday at 8:00pm – details always in the school newsletter.

The meetings last around a couple of hours, less if you need to dash off. Although an informal group, as a registered charity we are obliged to be properly organised, so there is an elected Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. Parents are always welcome to attend meetings either on an **ad hoc** or regular basis.

School often needs to ask parents for donations such as residential trips etc. but your time is as valuable to St Vincent's PTA as your money. Without people giving up even a small amount of time to help at an event we could not generate the money that helps to make school as vibrant as we can for our children. So if popping along to the PTA meetings in the Legh Arms is “Not your thing” or babysitting is an issue, the events are always in need of helpers when you can spare the time.

### Our next meeting is Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November

This meeting even more than others we thought we would enjoy an informal chat over a drink interspersed with the meeting!

If you want any more information in advance feel free to telephone Nicola Jones - on 01565 755859, email [pta@svdp.org.uk](mailto:pta@svdp.org.uk) or just turn up.

If you can't make it Questions and Suggestions can be emailed to [pta@svdp.org.uk](mailto:pta@svdp.org.uk)

## Calendar of Events

<b>PTA meeting</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> October Thursday 7:30pm	The Legh Arms	all welcome
<b>Family evening</b>	November tbc	Shaw Heath Social Club	Evening of fancy dress fun and dancing
<b>Mums Night out</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> December Friday 8:00pm	The Angel	Disco, buffet, glitz and glam

## The Finances

We keep a detailed set of accounts that is audited at the end of each financial year. Funds status is reported at all of the meetings and any parent may ask to see the accounts at any time.

### Who decides what to spend PTA funds on?

School gives the PTA an idea of what it is in need of that the school budget cannot meet, or special projects that may fall outside of the school curriculum that would need extra funding. These requests are brought to a meeting of the PTA and any parents who are present then determine how the money should be spent.

We too suggest items that we think the children (and parents) would benefit from anything from playground equipment (for the children) to funding school trip transport (easier on the pocket for parents)

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#### What have we funded recently?

- **School Computers**
- **New Sound system**
- **Smart Board for the new reception classroom**

#### What is in the funding wish list?

- **Lighting for school drama productions**
- **Transport costs for the Christmas theatre trips**

### Why not join the 100 Club?

If you are not already a member you can join very easily. You will have a chance to win £30 each month – [click here for information](#) or pick up a form from outside the school office.

Congratulations to our most recent winners:

First Prize Mr James Meagher

Second Prize Mr John Flynn

### Just a few thoughts.....

- There are lots of ways to become involved in school, being in the playground is one of them, being involved in the PTA is another. This is an opportunity to work alongside the teaching staff for the development of the school.
- Minutes are always taken and available to all, any ideas raised are properly discussed.
- To try to ensure that there is equal representation across the years we are looking for class reps – this way if there are any requirements from a particular year group they will be raised. If you feel you can fulfil this role please let me know – it is not limited to one per class – it may be that parents would like to share the task, but it would be helpful to have at least one parent per class. This is a new idea this year so whichever year your child/ren may be in your input is most welcome – I would be grateful if you would drop us an email [pta@svdp.org.uk](mailto:pta@svdp.org.uk) or pop the slip below into the school office if you are interested in finding out more about class reps.

One promise - You don't have to commit a lot of time to helping the PTA – some people attend the monthly meetings whilst others help on odd occasions – any offers of help are always appreciated.

With best wishes and an intention that the next newsletter will be much shorter!!!!

Nicola Jones  
Chair on behalf of the PTA

Yes I would like to find out more about the role of the class rep:

Name ..... Class(es) ..... Contact number .....