

WILLAND PTFA



Newsletter no 4

Spring term 2021

Meeting update

We would like to say an enormous thank you to Jo Jacobs for all her hard work and commitment to the PTFA in her role as chair over the last three years. Jo is continuing to support the PTFA and still has lots of ideas but is taking a step back as she is now taking on a school governors' role.

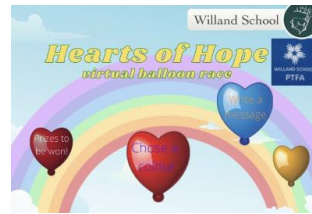
Thank you also to Teresa Jackman who after many years of supporting the PTFA in a variety of roles has decided to step down from her position of secretary. We have really appreciated Teresa's creativity and attention to detail that has helped make our past events so successful, and we are delighted she will still be continuing to support our PTFA for future events.

We would like to welcome Kirsten Cantrill who has been appointed Chair and Sarah Cole as secretary. Kirsten has some great ideas for virtual fundraising ideas. We are looking forward to working with them both and very much hope that it will not be long before we can get back to organising events. We also welcomed back Mrs Bere as teacher representative.

**Next meeting: Monday 26th April at 8pm,
zoom link to follow.**

Can you help?

We need to replace the PTFA storage shed. The new space we have been given is very narrow, so to make the most of the space we need to dig out an area of bank, and possibly build a small retaining wall. We are then looking to purchase or build a new shed. If anyone can help with any part of this, we would be incredibly grateful. The less we spend on this, the more we have to spend on the children and the school. Please see our contact details for how to get in touch.



Upcoming Events

Balloon Race

We are pleased to announce we are holding our first eco-friendly virtual balloon race, Hearts of Hope. Join us in having some virtual fun as a school community and be in for a chance of winning a fabulous prize. 1st place £50, 2nd place £30 and 3rd place £20 all prizes will be in the form of a universal love to shop gift card. Each balloon can be personalised with your choice of colour and message. One balloon costs £3, or when you purchase 2 or more balloons in the same transaction, they are discounted to £2.50 each. Sales close promptly at 6am Sunday 21st March. Siblings of an attending child of the school are welcome to enter. The race starts on **Monday 22nd March 12pm**, where you can watch and track your balloon on the leader board throughout the race!

For more information and how to purchase your balloons click here [Get your Balloons here for Willand Primary PTFA Hearts of Hope Virtual Balloon Race on virtual balloons are ECO Friendly!, Mon 22 Mar 2021 - Mon 29 Mar 2021](https://www.tickettailor.com/offer/willand-school-pta-hearts-of-hope-virtual-balloon-race) ([tickettailor.com](https://www.tickettailor.com))

Book Sales at Tesco

During April, the PTFA will be receiving all the monies raised from the sale of second-hand books at Tesco, Cullompton. Please have a look and get yourself some bargains, or if you have had a clear out, please consider taking your books to the customer service desk at Tesco. Whilst you are sorting if you have any children's books suitable for our school library please put to one side as we are going to do a book appeal once restrictions have eased, more details to follow.

Please do not send any donated books into school yet.

However, we would really appreciate it if you could take a moment to check in your household to see if any of our school reading books have been mislaid during the lockdowns and please return these to school, thank you.

Contact us: willandschoolptfa@gmail.com or join our Facebook page: Willand School PTFA
Please join us for our next meeting, Monday 26th April 8pm on Zoom, all parents, and guardians very welcome.

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PTFA funds

We have been very limited in our fundraising activities this last year due to the pandemic as you may already know. Our last event, the Christmas cards and gift sale were well supported and raised £300 for the school. We hope the children's lovely artwork gave family and friends a smile and something to treasure despite the 'different' Christmas experienced.

Due to the previous years excellent efforts, we have been able to build a reserve in the PTFA bank account; so, during the Autumn term we were able to donate £2600 to school for a range of resources and experiences to enhance our children's education including funding the bulk of the cost of Theatre Alibi. The incredible Space Odyssey planetarium that Years 5 and 6 experienced was amazing. An equivalent donation was given to each of the other year groups to allow the teachers to organise an experience or resources relating to an area of their curriculum. At the last meeting (January 2021) we have agreed to fund £1000 towards updating Design and Technology resources, a key development area for the school this year. We also agreed to purchase several new sets of headphones to aid KS2 pupils when using Third Space Maths tutoring programme. The school are also working towards the Quality Primary Science Mark and have asked if we can purchase new data loggers which will allow the children to record, display and interpret the results of a range of experiments in an engaging and interactive way (the current ones are over 20 years old.) We shall also be funding 'the updating' of the outside area of Reception and Year 1 classes. In total we shall be donating just under £3000 this term.

Lockdown cookbook

Keep your eyes peeled for our Willand School Lockdown cookbook coming soon. To celebrate all the lovely home baking going on at home we would like to create a cookbook full of our school family's wonderful recipes. More details will follow soon. In the meantime, would anyone be interested in helping with editing/collating recipes? Or do you know someone who may be able to print it for us or who could contribute towards the cost of printing in return for an advert in the book?

Easy Fundraising

This is a really easy way you can raise funds for the school! Simply go to easyfundraising.org.uk or download the free app. Type in 'Willand School PTFA' as your choice of charity. Then register your email address. Once you have downloaded the app/site, each time you make an online purchase, Willand School PTFA will receive cashback. If you use the link below, we get an extra £5 per referral for each person who signs up and goes on to make a purchase. Money raised gets put straight into our account!

[Willand School PTFA Fundraising | Easyfundraising](#)

Please join us!

We would really love more parents to get involved – and now is the perfect opportunity. Fundraising ideas are always being researched and Zoom meetings are currently held behind the scenes. Due to the pandemic, we are unable to hold our usual fairs and discos right now, so we are looking for creative and exciting alternative fundraising ideas. Please contact us if you have any ideas, or maybe you would like to manage a project yourself! **Please get in touch!**

Amazon Smile Another easy way to support the school. If you are purchasing anything through Amazon please open Amazon as Amazon Smile and select 'Willand School PTFA' as your chosen charity. Amazon donates 0.5% of your purchase price to the school. This does not cost you a penny and you can still use your Amazon benefits such as prime delivery. Money raised gets put straight into our account.

Contact us: willandschoolptfa@gmail.com or join our Facebook page: Willand School PTFA
Please join us for our next meeting, Monday 26th April 8pm on Zoom, all parents, and guardians very welcome.