



St. Jude's Church of England Primary School

Annual report - 2020-2021

Introduction

In my first year as Chair of the PTA, I'd like to thank all of the teachers, parents and children who have helped us achieve so much during these unprecedented times. Despite not being able to fundraise in our usual way, the PTA has still continued to support St Jude's and our community with some wonderful online events. It's been a joy to see everyone coming together, even if not in person. I hope things will continue to go from strength to strength as the pandemic slows and we get back to normal.

With the Christmas Fair put on hold, we managed to raise funds with our first Advent Challenge and the Christmas cards, tea towels and raffle sales. February saw our Valentine's disco going online as we enjoyed coming together for a virtual night of fun from our homes. Again, the Summer fair couldn't take place, but we still managed to have a raffle and the Pedder board sales. We also had a very successful second-hand uniform sale over the summer holidays for new families joining Reception. It's things like this that make our PTA mean so much to everyone at St Jude's.

Our fundraising has gone towards some wonderful things for the school. We were able to fund a beautiful new Nature Garden to enhance the children's learning and enjoyment at school. There have been gardening workshops and new equipment paid for. We have also held back a significant sum to pay for a new Green screen to help keep the children safe from pollution.

Thank you to everyone who has helped the PTA this year. I feel proud to be part of St Jude's and everything we stand for - making the best learning, fun and safe environment for our children.

Anoushka

Anoushka Roberts (Chair)

Our financial donations to the school

In the September 2020–July 2021 academic year, we faced ongoing challenges from the Covid-19 situation, which continued to impact our fundraising. However, we were able to move some events online, and also take online orders for the first time. But for a second year we were unable to hold our largest events as we would usually – our Summer Fair (due to the delayed timeline for loosening restrictions in the summer term) and our Fun Run.

We had been holding funds of £6,500 ready to support the ‘Green Screen’ initiative for the Key Stage 2 playground, and this scheme remained on hold throughout the academic year since it was contingent on input from Lambeth Council. This, alongside the curtailment of many school-based activities that we would usually support due to the restrictions in place (trips, activities for groups of different classes etc), meant that we held a significant bank balance at the year-end in July, despite our fundraising remaining reduced compared to pre-Covid times (we have subsequently reduced our balance via a large grant to the school in autumn 2021, including our payment towards the ‘Green Screen’).

The support that we did provide to school in 2020–21 is detailed below, but just a quick reminder that all of our spending over £100 from the PTA charity is approved via PTA discussion, informed by the school based on their identified needs, so that parents guide the charity. To be part of the decision making process, join us at the termly PTA meeting.

In total the PTA gave £4,191.39 to school during the 2020–21 year. The school invested these funds in:

- £500 for art materials, to benefit all year groups
- £200 for footballs and tennis balls, to benefit all year groups
- £500 towards an author visit to the school – though restrictions meant that this could not be used quite as initially planned
- £500 for upgrading equipment in the Reception and year 1 classrooms
- £200 for science kit e.g. timers, voltmeters, for Key Stage 2
- £539 for “Beebots” to support learning about programming
- £125.48 contribution towards Key Stage 2 sessions delivered by Brockwell Greenhouses in the school Nature Garden
- £951.91 on Nature Garden improvements to take this back to being great space for learning (a portion of these funds were used by parents leading the project to purchase necessary materials)
- £375 towards the costs of Year 2’s trip to the beach at Margate
- £300 to Brixton Chamber Orchestra to support them to visit school at the end of the summer term and perform in the playground



Brixton Chamber Music playing in the St. Jude's playground - paid for with funds from the PTA



Bee Bots funded by the PTA to support the St. Jude's computing, coding and STEM

Fundraising

One of the significant ways the PTA can support the school is via generating additional funds – but we combine our efforts with fun whenever possible, to enrich our children's experiences at school. This section provides an update on key fundraising initiatives across the last academic year.

Christmas Events

Advent Challenge

St Jude's Christmas Advent Challenge

This year we are having to do things a bit differently and that includes our PTA fundraising for the school. Instead of the beloved St. Jude's Christmas Fair, the PTA is challenging all the students and teachers at St. Jude's to take part in the St. Jude's Christmas Advent Challenge.

There are nine challenges below and you need to complete them before Christmas.

Sponsorship: Why not ask friends and family to sponsor you to do the challenges and help the PTA pay for things that make your time at school even better? We are currently fundraising to improve the nature garden and music provision.

For the advent challenge, we can supply sponsorship forms on request, but where possible we ask that any funds raised are donated online at www.peoplesfundraising.com/fundraising/st-jude-s-christmas-advent-challenge. You can share this link with friends and family.

1. Learn all the words of your favourite Christmas carol and sing it to a family member
2. Make a Christmas tree decoration
3. Draw a Christmas Snowman or something similar (Christmas) and put it in your window
4. Write a letter to Santa
5. Make a Christmas biscuit or cake
6. Write and post some Christmas Cards
7. Learn a dance routine to your favourite Christmas song
8. Take part in a boardgame with your family, while listening to a Christmas tune
9. Do a lap of Brockwell Park in a Santa hat (or other Christmas outfit)

Please share as many as possible on Twitter @StJudesPTA & @StJudesLambeth and look out for some familiar faces sharing their own challenges. And don't forget to ask friends and family to sponsor you by sending them this link: www.peoplesfundraising.com/fundraising/st-jude-s-christmas-advent-challenge. We look forward to seeing what everyone does. Merry Christmas!

We ran a number of events online instead of the Christmas fair including the St. Jude's Advent challenge.

Thanks to friends and family sponsoring the nine challenges to be completed by Christmas, the event raised a fantastic £816.30.

Christmas raffle

The PTA organised a Christmas raffle with many of the amazing prizes generously donated from parents at St. Jude's and the local community. This event raised £713.23

Cauliflower Christmas Cards

The PTA ran the Cauliflower Christmas Card fundraising project again this year. With packs sent home in the children's school bags for the children to complete their art work at home. The Christmas cards raised £292.60

Tea-towels

Tea-towel printing was sponsored by Pedder this year, which meant that the PTA was able to make a more significant income from them, despite having to make all of the sales online via our e-shop. Funds raised: £757.48

Online Valentine's Disco



In February school was closed due to covid restrictions and the Valentine's Disco moved online.

The PTA used a company to run the event on Zoom and worked with St Jude's teachers to manage access to the online event.

It was a joyous 45 minutes of much needed fun and raised £440.48

Summer raffle

We were unable to run the Summer fair this year due to covid restrictions but still managed to run the summer raffle. Many thanks to all the parents and the local community who again donated amazing gifts. This event raised £712.30

Pedder estate agent boards

Although we had to cancel our Summer Fair, Pedder placed advertising boards at parents' homes and we still received payment for these, even though the Fair did not go ahead. These boards raised £810

Second hand uniform sales

The PTA organised second hand uniform sales to help out families who needed new uniforms or to top up their existing uniform. This included taking requests via WhatsApp from new parents to reception over the Summer holidays.

Huge thanks to Rosabel and Georgie for taking this on and organising this during COVID restrictions. These sales contributed £97.20

Fun run

The Summer fun run had to be rescheduled to the Autumn term.

Regular fundraising throughout the year, other funds

Many of you use Easyfundraising when shopping online, and this is a great earner for us. Anyone who wants to join in, you can sign up here (and we get a bonus donation if you use this link): <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=84707&invite=WJBJLX&referral-campaign=c2s>

Over the year, our collective online shopping raised a massive £626.92.

We can't conclude the fundraising report without thanking **everyone** who has supported us with donations this year. It was a challenging year to organise events and we are very proud of what we achieved under the circumstances.

PTA non-financial support for the school

Nature Garden

At the beginning of the Winter term, Miss Douch asked the PTA if some time and funds could be invested in revamping the nature garden. Due to prolonged Covid restrictions, gardening activities had been put on hold in the nature garden and the outdoor space had become overrun with brambles etc

Sarah Dyer (Izzy Yr6) kindly volunteered to lead the project and designed a plan which incorporated ideas put forward by the children during their gardening workshops (pre covid times). Over a number of cold lockdown weekends, a team of hard working volunteer parents took it in turns to work in the nature garden to spruce it up.

With a lot of hard labour, a great amount of clearing was done and work could be started on landscaping and planting. Bluebells and daffodil bulbs were planted, 5 new fruit trees were planted (we now have an orchard with apple, pear and plum trees!) and a small pond was landscaped within a rockery area containing water marginal plants. Bird feeders, bug hotels, a MagPost and blackboards were all set in various locations around the garden. The carved wood story-telling chair was restored, and log stump seats were put into place. A couple of new raised beds were built for planting with herbs near the chicken coup and a tepee/den was built for the children to play in.

It has been wonderful to see the children in their classes using the nature garden for outdoor learning sessions and activities.



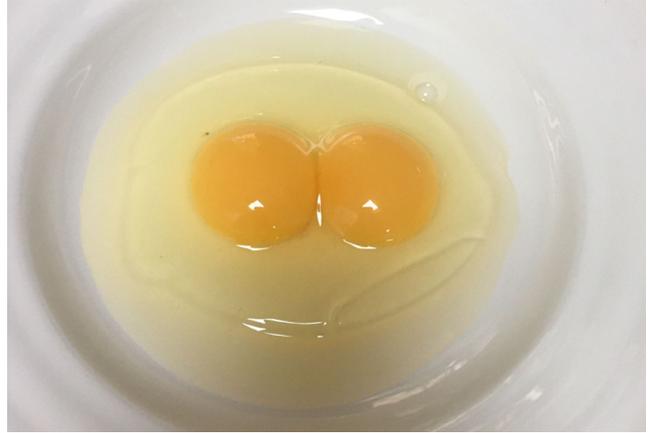
Chickens

The chickens are an important part of St Jude's and we love our 3 healthy young hens – 2 brown (a Lohmann Brown and a Blacktail Ranger) and a black one (a Rhode Rock). Being less than a year old they are super friendly and great layers, sometimes providing double yokers!

They love to have a run around the nature garden (particularly when their coup is cleaned out) and are very good at going back home again. We just have to be super careful to ensure the coup is fastened securely to ensure the foxes are kept out!

The children and teachers look after the chickens during the week, by collecting the eggs and ensuring they have water and food each day, and a team of volunteer parents care for them on the weekends and during the holidays. Co-ordination works really well amongst the group via our WhatsApp group and GoogleDrive rota doc.

The PTA pays for the upkeep of the chickens (food and coop maintenance) but the cost of chicken feed can be part funded through egg sales. Eggs are collected by the children during the week and are put into the plastic crate in front of the chicken coop. Parents can buy eggs for a suggested donation of £1 per half dozen.



Our 2020-21 team were:

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| Chair & charity trustee: | Anoushka Roberts |
| Treasurer & charity trustee: | Sarah Wallace |
| Secretary: | Claire Collins |
| Communications: | Tara Carey (Twitter @stjudespta) |
| Chicken Officer: | Sarah Dyer |
| Nature Garden Lead: | Sarah Dyer |

Accounts for the financial year ended 20 July 2021

Income	£ 5,595.50	
Donations received		£1,653.67
Gross takings from events & activities		£3,941.83
Payments	£ 4,506.68	
Grants made to school		£4,191.39
Cost of running events & fundraising		£ 142.33
Admin costs		£ 172.96
Assets at year end	£12,581.77	
Cash in hand and in bank		£12,265.06
Debtors		£ 316.71
Liabilities	£ -	
Creditors		£ -