

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to our first PTA communication of the school year. Following a great first PTA meeting last week, I wanted to update you on some key outcomes and plans for the year. Our aim is to raise money to replace the one-mile track situated around the school field. You may be aware, this allows the children to exercise one mile a day as per the Government guidelines. We are currently looking at quotes to replace the hard path with a spongy sports track so that it is easier on the children's joints and this will also encourage the children to be more active. If anyone knows anyone who could help us do this, please let your PTA representative know:

Australia – Miss Berry (Vice-chair)  
Antarctica – Mrs Taylor (Chair)  
Africa – Mrs Barker  
Europe – Miss Schofield  
Asia – Ms Keeley  
North America – Mrs Bennion (Treasurer)

Whilst we know this year is going to be a little different in our fundraising, we want to make it as fun as possible for the children. We also do not want to put all the financial pressure on parents/carers, but encourage ideas to raise money with your family and friends too. So, please...***Help us get over the finish line!***

Below is a list of activities which we are planning whilst adhering to the current COVID-19 guidelines.

#### **Autumn Term**

**Harvest Festival Monster** – as we haven't been able to celebrate Harvest Festival this year, we would like the children to design a Harvest Festival Monster, no bigger than a paper plate and made from vegetables. Entry costs £2 (please bring into school with your Harvest Festival Monster) and there will be one winner and runner up per class. **All entries need to be brought to school on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** and winners will be chosen by the class teacher the same day. We would also love if you could share photos on your Google Classroom Stream and photos will be shared in the newsletter after half term

**A sponsored 3km** – over **October half term**, we are encouraging the children to do a sponsored 3km, whether that be a walk, run, skip, swim, bike ride or something more creative! A sponsorship form will be sent via your Google Classroom shortly for you to collect as much sponsorship as possible. Please take photos and post them on your Google Classroom Stream and photos will be shared in the newsletter after half term. **Please return your sponsorship form and all money raised to school by Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November.**

**School tea towels** – during the first half of November, we will be asking the children to draw themselves so they can appear on our school tea towel. These will be available to purchase before Christmas and will make fabulous Christmas gifts for all the family!

**Christmas raffle** – once again, we will be running a Christmas raffle and will be sending tickets home soon. Please encourage your friends and families to buy tickets. If you know of a business that would like contribute prizes, please email [FOGWS2020@outlook.com](mailto:FOGWS2020@outlook.com) with details. **The raffle will be drawn on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November.**

**Christmas fayre** – unfortunately it doesn't look like we are going to be able to run our Christmas fayre this year, however, we will be running an outdoor stall on **Friday 27 November**. There will be a number of gifts that the children can buy, for a set price, along with festive sweets! More details to follow, but please hold the date!

**Art competition – the best of 2020** – we are asking children to participate in an art competition. Pieces of art should be no bigger than an A4 sheet of paper using crayons, felt tip, pencils or paint. This could be of a special memory from 2020, a tribute to the NHS, or a lockdown memory. It's just £2 per entry and there will be prizes to be won. **All entries need to be brought to school on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December** and winners will be chosen by the class teacher.

### **Spring Term**

**Family quiz night** – on **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January** we will be hosting our first virtual family quiz night, fun for all the family, so please save the date! £5 entry per family and there will be prizes to be won. More details to follow.

**Great Waltham School cookbook** – no matter your age, cooking is a fantastic skill! Therefore we are asking each child to submit a recipe, along with a photo of the finished dish. There will be the opportunity to buy the recipe book once everyone has submitted their recipes and photos. Entries to be submitted over **February half term** and more details will follow soon.

**Spring raffle** – we will be running a spring raffle and will be sending tickets home. Please encourage your friends and families to buy tickets. If you know of a business that would like contribute prizes, please email [FOGWS2020@outlook.com](mailto:FOGWS2020@outlook.com) with details. More details will follow soon.

**Smarties tube challenge** – on Friday 26 March, we will provide all children with a tube of Smarties to wish them Happy Easter. Children are asked to fill their Smarties tube with money they have raised from doing chores during the Easter holidays for family, friends and neighbours (recommended at 20p per chore). Tubes should then be **returned to school on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March**.

**Class or bubble film night** – depending on government guidelines, we would like to run some form of film night so please keep your eyes peeled for further details.

### **Summer Term**

**Summer raffle** – we will be running a summer raffle and will be sending tickets home. Please encourage your friends and families to buy tickets. If you know of a business that would like contribute prizes, please email [FOGWS2020@outlook.com](mailto:FOGWS2020@outlook.com) with details. More details will follow soon.

**Great Waltham's Got Talent** – we hope that we might be able to run an outdoor performance come the summer term. Details are very much TBC and dependent on government guidelines so start thinking about what your talent is!

**School disco** – we are really hoping to be able to run a school disco, as we know the children loved showing off their dance moves last year, but all will depend on government guidelines, we will share more details when we can.

**School lottery** – I know many families have already purchased tickets, but for those who haven't, if you would like to sign up, the website is [www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/great-waltham-coe-primary-school](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/great-waltham-coe-primary-school) - each ticket costs £1 per week and for each ticket sold, 40p will go to our school. And the more tickets sold, the bigger the prize each week!

A final word from me, if you would like to join the PTA, contribute any prizes, ideas or make a donation, please do not hesitate to contact me ([FOGWS2020@outlook.com](mailto:FOGWS2020@outlook.com)). I look forward to raising as much money we possibly can and please...**Help us get over the finish line!**

Thanks,

Lindsay  
PTA Chair