



SAINT CHRISTINA'S PARENTS' LINK

Welcome to Saint Christina's School Parents' Association or Parents' Link as it is known. We'd like to introduce you to Parents' Link, explain a bit more about its aims and the work we carry out, in hope that you might like to be involved.

On joining the school, every parent / carer automatically becomes a member of Parents' Link (PL). We welcome all and encourage participation to help us come together as a community to raise funds for the school and outside charities. Moreover, the intention is to have fun and meet other parents at the same time!

Over the years, PL has contributed financially towards many special projects within the school including STEM equipment, reading book sets, supplementary tech kit, playground and sports equipment and many other items and projects that benefit all year groups.

Parents' Link also contributes funds from specific events and fundraisers to the Handmaids chosen charitable causes and other local charities such as *Doorstep London* which helps local families who have become homeless.

Funds are raised predominantly through events, raffles, silent auctions which are all very well attended and supported by families at the school.

Traditionally, PL hosts:

- a much-anticipated autumn disco which is currently themed as a 'Monster Mash',
- a Key Stage 2 PJ movie night at school,
- a highly competitive parents' and teachers Quiz night and,
- an annual summer fair held in June as the school year comes to a close

This is by no means an exhaustive list - events are supplemented with prize raffles and silent auctions with fabulous prizes and experiences to win / bid on. Additionally, PL also manages a very successful nearly new uniform sale each term.

In March 2020, events came to an abrupt halt due to the COVID pandemic, sadly we were unable to fulfil many of our planned activities.



Over the course of the last year and a half, PL has had to think a little laterally to come up with some alternative fundraising events, enabling us to join together in solidarity as a community and to raise some funds for charity.

- In December 2020, the Saint Christina's Cookbook was compiled, printed, and sold alongside school branded aprons and cooking spatulas to raise £527 for the Magic Breakfast charity that provides meals for less fortunate children.
- At Easter, we ran our first ever Virtual Balloon Race. The excitement had us all following the balloons online for a whole week till they got over the finishing line. Though great fun, this also allowed us to raise some funds and £500 was donated by PL to Father Terry's Foodbank.
- The nearly new uniform sale went online this year and was run during the Autumn and Summer terms. Parents were able to submit their orders online and uniform deliveries were organised to the child at school, all in line with covid regulations.

Thanks to your generosity, we have supported the above charities, at a time when they needed it most. In addition to charitable giving, Parents Link have also contributed some key procurements for the school.

- Video Equipment. In this environment, more than ever before a need was felt for a good quality video camera as well as a GoPro to help film outdoor/on the move activities like PE matches and school trips as well as live stream events such as assemblies/ masses/ drama. This equipment has proved critical whilst the children have been at school but restricted to their class bubbles. PL funded £1,944 towards these procurements.
- F1 in Schools Primary Class - a STEM Design and Technology project. PL match funded alongside the school; a STEM project especially designed for Primary School children. Basic elements of technical design, assembly, testing and building are introduced with the fun objective of competing with peers on self-made F1 racing tracks! PL's contribution for this purchase was for £1,905.

None of this would have been possible without your support, the school and its staff and the Sisters and the wider local community.



We are hopeful that this school year we will be able to organise some of our usual and highly popular events. All being well, the Monster Mash Disco will be held on Friday 15th October, enabling us to gather socially as a community and more importantly in person! You will receive more details about how you can support this event from your class reps in due course.

We will be holding our AGM on Friday 17th September (more details to follow) and would like to invite you to join us.

We appreciate that people have many demands on their time but whether you are able to become a class rep, help out at an event or offer a special skill or idea, all help will be gratefully received. We hope to welcome you at a Parents' Link event in the near future!

With best wishes,

The 2021/22 PL Committee