

Monday 24 September 2018

Hello everyone,

Welcome back to school, and welcome to the PTA! All parents and carers are automatically members. Throughout the year, the PTA fundraises for equipment for the school that could not be acquired without the money we raise. It also raises funds for the Year Six annual camp. This simply wouldn't happen without the groundswell of support from parents through the PTA.

We are already planning this year's Christmas Fair. There are quite a few things we need your help with to make it a roaring success. To make things a little easier, we thought it might help to have some key activity dates in advance.

Friday 19 October will be a **Wear Your Own Clothes To School Day**. Donations of £1 would be very welcome.

Friday 2 November will be the **Chocolate Challenge**. Children are challenged to bring in as much chocolate and as many sweets as they can on this day (handy for getting rid of some of the Trick or Treat haul). These are then used as prizes for the various stalls at the Fair. The class which brings in the most in weight wins a special prize!

Friday 16 November is **Tops for Tombola, Bottoms for Bottles Day**. This slightly baffling phrase simply means that children can bring in a small item for a prize tombola, and a bottle of anything for a bottle tombola (ketchup is as welcome as booze), and as a thank you for their generosity, they get to wear their own clothes (tops and bottoms) to school for the day.

Monday 26 November is **Jar Day**. Children will be sent home with a small jam jar to be filled for use, again, as prizes at the Fair. Some ideas include loom bands, stickers, sweets, marbles, craft items – the choice is yours, and the jar doesn't have to be brim-full. **Filled jars need to be returned by Friday 30 November.**

The date for the **Christmas Fair** itself is **Friday 7 December, from 3.15-5.30pm.**

We will be sending out reminder leaflets a week before each key date.

We have a list of stalls and little jobs to get everything ready for the Christmas Fair. If you would like to volunteer a couple of hours for a specific task, please see Victoria Barnes or Helen Spain (you can find them on the St Mark's Parents and Carers facebook group, at the lower gate at the end of the school day, or leave contact details for them with the School Office).

Thanks for reading!

The PTA