



'Community enrichment through fun and fundraising'

January 2024

In Celebration of Tracey Murrell

Dear Families,

This edition of the PTA Bulletin is to celebrate the life of Tracey, mum to Zoe and Jade Villinger, who volunteered and gave so much to the PTA and Stamford Green over recent years.



In the run up to Christmas, your child may have received a letter from Father Christmas. Our Chief Elf Tracey, has assisted him for many years, as she was so passionate about every child having a personalised letter that didn't cost anything. Tracey led this annual project and inspired others to join her; together the team deliver nearly three hundred personalised letters each year! You can imagine the organisation necessary to achieve this, and Tracey did this with a smile - the challenge never phased her.

Last year, Stamford Green had its first wine tasting event when Tracey introduced us to 'Wine with Woody'. She oversaw the event brilliantly and her thoughtful approach covered everything from cheese and biscuit buying to clearing up after the event! Tracey's courage and tenacity to lead a new PTA event was inspiring, and her positivity made it a successful and enjoyable evening. Tracey's legacy will live on as we continue with her wine tasting event in February. I'm certain the elves will also reconvene to make many children smile next December too, just as we remember Tracey's smile and generosity to our community.

The PTA are planning, in collaboration with Tracey's family, that the next installation to our Path of Adventures, will be dedicated to Tracey and the contribution she made to enriching the lives of children and families at Stamford Green.

I'm sure you'll join me in sending our heartfelt condolences to Pat, Jade and Zoe.

Louise Druce on behalf of the PTA



Don't forget to like our Stamford Green PTA Facebook page and keep up-to-date with news.



The next PTA meeting will take place on 28 February. Please do come along and get involved.



Congratulations to our recent winners - Gayle Inman (November) and Harriet Brown

Dates for your diary

2nd Hand Uniform Sale - Tuesday 30 January



The next sale is coming up. Please leave any donations with the school office.

Smartie Fundraising - February half term



Enjoy some helping hands and raise funds over half term for the PTA. Letter to follow shortly.



Music Evening - Thursday 22 February

A wonderful evening of music by the talented children who want to participate. PTA bar.

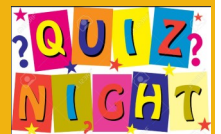
'Wine with Woody' Wine Tasting Evening - Friday 23 February



A fabulous evening with friends sampling and learning about new wines. This event will continue in celebration of Tracey.

Quiz Night - Friday 22 March

Don't miss out on this amazing annual event. Who will be victorious in 2024?



Other events/dates:

- Sunflower Growing - launches before Easter.
- Easter Hamper Raffle - draw just before Easter.

COMING SOON

Smartie Fundraising Challenge - February half term



Prior to half term each child should receive a FULL packet of smarties which they are tasked with eating and then filling with small change earned from undertaking tasks to help family and friends.

We hope families will enjoy a lot of helping hands over half term! More info to follow shortly.

Wine Tasting Evening - Friday 23 February at Stamford Green School

Come along to a fun wine tasting evening run by wine professional David Woodall. David has been hosting wine themed events for over 20 years having held the wine and Spirit Education Diploma since 2001.

The ticket includes;

- Introduction to wine tasting techniques
- Tasting wines round a common theme
- Exploring different grapes and how they compare
- Fun quiz questions with prizes



More information will be issued shortly and a limited number tickets will be available on PTA Events. Get the date in your diary with your friends!

Quiz Night - Friday 23 March

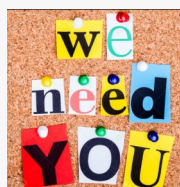
Details for our FANTASTIC annual Quiz Night are being finalised and will be shared shortly.

This is always a highlight of the PTA calendar so keep an eye out for information.



PTA Secretary needed

We are looking for a PTA Secretary to join the committee. This role does not involve a significant commitment other than attending our half-termly PTA meetings and writing up the minutes. If you are keen to get involved please contact ptastamford-green@gmail.com



Cushion Clubs - Saturday afternoons in the Spring Term

Each year the PTA try to host some weekend movie afternoons for the children at Stamford Green. The afternoons at this time of year are often cold and it gets dark early. What better way to spend an afternoon than grabbing cinema style popcorn and soft drink and enjoying a great movie with friends!

Last year two kind volunteers worked alongside Mrs Druce, Mrs Herman and Mrs Smith to host two very popular Cushion Clubs. They both sold out in less than 24 hours.

Are you able to help run one of these please? Get in contact with ptastamfordgreen@gmail.com. You will need to provide some availability for Saturdays before Easter that you could help and we'll try to match you with a teacher volunteer. Thank you!

Stamford Green Big Camp

Our annual Year 2 Big Camp has been a huge success over recent years and involves families of children in Year 2 pitching on the top field for an evening of fun and games. This is run exclusively by volunteers so if you are keen to lead one in Year 2 or any other year please contact the PTA. ptastamford-green@gmail.com

THANK YOU



Fireworks - November 2023

A huge thank you to **Shelley and Steve Illingworth** and the fantastic team including Georina Preston and Megan Hart who led this successful event last year. Growing in scale every year, Fireworks is now our largest and most profitable community event. Nearly £10k was raised from the evening. We hope you all enjoyed it!



Christmas - December 2023

Our Christmas activities and fun events could not happen without the amazing volunteers that lead and support these.

- Thank you to **Anne-Marie Carlin** for organising the Christmas Cards this year. What a delight they were and I'm sure greatly admired and appreciated by recipients.
- Thank you to **Sarah Aldridge** for organising the 700+ environmentally friendly Christmas crackers for our children to enjoy in the week before term ended.
- **Viktorija Tebbett** led our wonderful annual Sticky Toffee Pudding label creation competition. 108 puddings were sold to families and friends. We hope you found them delicious. Thanks Viktorija!
- A big shout out to all the volunteers that decorated our Stamford Green Christmas Trees at the East and West Gate - **Richelle Greyling, Viktorija Tebbett, Tracey Murrell and Elle Vellacott**. They looked amazing and definitely created some Christmas cheer in the run up to festive period.
- **Claire Thrower** kindly managed the sourcing and resale of our Christmas Trees. We're sure these were beautifully decorated in family homes.
- **Sarah Davenport** for ensuring all the stall event holders were given a warm welcome and organising the hall.
- Thank you to **Anne-Marie Carlin** and **Sarah Smith** for leading our Stamford Green Christmas Fair. This was back in its original format now that life has settled back to some normality after Covid. Thanks also to the dozens and dozens of volunteers that helped to prepare, run and clear down this event. We hope everyone had a lovely morning at the Fair.



Fireworks and the Christmas activities collectively raised a huge £16k for Stamford Green.

These funds will be going towards some of our short term PTA costs like Golden Jumpers but more importantly to building the next installation for our Path of Adventures.

Following the hugely popular Crinkle Cragg climber and the Castle the next 'adventure stop' is in planning.

This project will be dedicated in celebration of our wonderful Tracey Murrell.

*In memory
and in celebration
of someone who
made this world a
brighter and
better place.*

