



A regular newsletter letting you know what the PTA has been doing, what is planned and how your fundraising is benefitting all of our children.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 4th October

PTA AGM - 7:15pm

Friday 21st October

Children's Halloween Disco

Monday 31st October

Build a Guy Competition
Deadline

Saturday 5th November

Ickleford School Fireworks

Sunday 20th November

Family Photoshoots

Saturday 10th December

PTA Christmas Festival

Friday 16th December

Children's Christmas Disco

Friday 20th January

Quiz & Curry

Welcome back to school from the PTA

We would like to welcome all the new parents and existing ones back to the school and hope the children have settled well into their new classes.

We are now busy preparing for the AGM and planning the next calendar of events which you will see some of them in the 'dates for your diary' section.

Most of you will have attended some of our events last year, with a couple of new ones in there too such as the circus which we hope you enjoyed. We had some great feedback from those that participated or attended with many saying they would like to get involved and volunteer to help. Well the chance has arrived!! If you want to find out more, become a class representative, help with some fresh ideas or just get stuck into managing stalls, face painting, decorating cakes, helping with the bars, BBQ's, fun run etc. then please come along to the **PTA AGM on Tuesday 4th October at 7:15pm** in the school staff room.

Everyone is welcome - faces old and new - and we will provide a few drinks and nibbles too. Being part of the PTA doesn't mean you have to come along to every meeting, but just by offering some of your time means these fun events that the children love so much are able to happen.

And don't forget the reason why we do all this is to raise much needed funds for the extra school projects, such as our biggest challenge yet, the '**All Weather Multi Sports Surface**' which will make such a difference.

So please come along, or speak to one of the committee members at school. If you have any questions you can also email us at pta@ickleford.herts.sch.uk.

We hope to see you there - Ickleford School PTA.



Julie Speed - Chair and parent of George year 2

Alison Trevelyan - Vice Chair and parent of Jake year 3 and Amber in reception

Rachael Pratt - Treasurer and parent of Jamie year 2 and Alex in reception

Sarah Taylor - Secretary and parent of Freya year 3 and Harrison in reception

NEXT PTA MEETING

Come along to one of our half-termly PTA meetings.

Next meeting is on
15th November 2016
at 7:15pm, venue TBA.

Ickleford School Fireworks display is back with a BANG!

Yes, that's right, Ickleford School PTA is hosting our very own display and we're really excited about it! After many years of absence, we now have our very own licensed and qualified fireworks display team.

There will also be additional treats and attractions, including food, drinks, flashing novelty items and a licenced bar!

Gates open at 5.00pm. Fireworks Display starts at 6.00pm. **TICKET PRICES; Family Tickets** (2 adults and up to 3 children) £17, **Adults** £5 each or **Children** (over 2) £3.50 each, **if purchased in advance**. Tickets will also available from the door on the night with Family Tickets priced £20, Adults £6 each and Children £4 each. **NO UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 16.**

Tickets go on sale soon. Details on purchasing your tickets will be sent home with children, so keep a look out in bags for further news. There is also opportunity for the children to enter our accompanying **'Build a Guy'** competition; the child(ren) judged to have built the winning entry will win a 'family' ticket allowing 2 adults and up to 3 children entry to the display and help start the display by pressing the start button. All entries will be displayed on the night.

So, put **Saturday 5th November** in your diaries now, spread the word and don't forget to bring family and friends!

If you want to find out more or would like to get involved, please don't hesitate to speak to us directly or get in touch via email at pta@ickleford.herts.sch.uk or calling the school office during school hours on **01462 459150**.

QUIET AREA

You may have noticed that the area outside Reception and Year 1 has been cleared over the summer holidays, (big thanks to Greg Trevelyan and the PTA team).

Over the next few weeks, the children and teachers will be able to vote for their favourite idea on how to design the **'quiet area'** with new seating and equipment for those children looking for a little peace and quiet at break times that can also be used for outdoor class time.

We are also appealing for donations of any unwanted child friendly plants along with those green fingered amongst us who wish to help with completing this project. If you have any unwanted plants or are happy to help, please speak to your class rep or get in touch with us directly.



Best 'Guy' Competition

As we've already said, we are really excited about our forthcoming firework display. Any child - or group of children - wishing to take part in this tradition of Guy Fawkes night by entering the competition, need to remember that all entries are to be:

- **no more than 2 metres in height**
- **returned to the school by Monday 31st October**
- **judged by a school Governor**
- **displayed at the event on 5th November**
- **returned to their creator(s) after the event**

Entry forms will be sent out soon so look out in bags and on parentmail.

So, what are you waiting for; why not get creative, use your imagination and have a go!



CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

After a few years break we are pleased to announce that we are holding a School PTA Christmas Festival on **Saturday 10th December**.

The event is currently in the early planning stages but we are seeking to include; a grotto, festive stalls, food, mulled wine, music, snow globe photo booth, and a Christmas gift shop for the children to purchase gifts for parents or special ones and have them wrapped ready for the big day.

We are asking that anyone interested in paying a one-off fee to secure a stall space please get in touch with us directly, or pass on our contact details to anyone else who may be interested in purchasing a space (no food or drink stalls).

Likewise anyone who is able and willing to help, please get in touch or attend one of our meetings. We know there are many creative parents out there and we'd like to hear your ideas.



The Giving Machine™

If you don't have enough time to help at events but still want to do your bit, the easiest way is by doing your shopping online. That's right. Joining The Giving Machine for free as a giver by simply registering at

www.thegivingmachine.co.uk, you can select **Ickleford School PTA** as one of up to four causes to donate to.

With Christmas coming up or the booking of your next holiday, you can **generate money** for the school PTA **every time you shop online** through The Giving Machine website. They will convert a **percentage of the value of your purchases into donations** for the school PTA, and it doesn't cost you anything - Easy!

We've already **generated £319.32** with just a hand full of people registered; just think of the difference if more of us did the same.

Please register and shop through The Giving Machine to **donate...for FREE!**

Christmas PROJECTS

With the success of last year's project, we are running the personalised Christmas package including Christmas cards, wrapping paper, mugs, coasters etc. again, but with the edition of Thank You cards as part of the package. Each child will receive a free sample card of their design. Instead of tea-towels, we're also bringing back the school calendar this year where the children will see their own artwork printed on the month of their birthday. For those wishing to take advantage of these opportunities, keep looking for details and deadlines coming out over the next few weeks.

Thank you for your continued support, it is very much appreciated and valued.



FAMILY PHOTOSHOOT



There will be the great opportunity of having a family photo shoot session at the school on **Sunday 20th November.**

With the chance to book your 10minute slot for a £10.00 fee and the opportunity to choose from a range of sittings - whether these are festive themed, full family pictures, or simply of your child(ren) - these make for great family memories and gifts.

With no purchase obligation, prices start from £12.00, meaning you could have Christmas all snapped and wrapped up with a short visit to the school . . . Further details to follow.

All-weather multi-sports surface

We are continuing to put all our efforts into raising funds towards an amazing all-weather multi-sports surface which will go on part of our school field. This will make such a fantastic difference and addition to the school and will create an additional safe environment for the children to play their much loved outdoor games and sports all year-round. Not only for PE lessons and after school games, but also during the winter months where the children are currently limited to the playground area. If anyone wants to know what a great impact this will have, you just need to speak to Mr Martin who has endless ideas and enthusiasm! We would love to hear from anyone who has ideas or suggestions to help towards this project. Please get in touch.



Ickleford Primary School PTA, Ickleford, Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG5 3TG
pta@ickleford.herts.sch.uk