

HELLO WINTER!

SO THE STRANGENESS CONTINUES...

Children were back to school for most of last term and the majority are now remote learning. One day we will get back to be able to run discos and fairs for the children.

Despite the difficulties with holding events while social distancing, the PTA managed to raise £1,674 last term. Thank you all for your support, especially with the purchase of the Christmas card products, with those we raised £282 more than the previous year.

Christmas cards	£1,019
Dress down day	£544
Bracknell lottery	• £214

The PTA used this money to provide these well-deserved treats for the children:



PANTO

The virtual Panto was a hit with the children and teachers who watched it, oh no it wasn't, oh yes it was!



The cake bars, chocolate and popcorn seemed to go down a treat too. Thankfully the children who were at home were still able to watch it, which proved useful when Year 5 were at home during that period.

If possible, a live Panto will be provided by the PTA this year, hopefully using the same company that provided the virtual Panto, Bigfoot Arts Education.

SANTA MESSAGE AND GIFT

It was magical that the PTA managed to get Santa to record a personal message for each class when he was so busy.

Santa made time though as he knew your children deserved to have a treat when things had been harder than usual for them. He understands that most children might not have received their present and he asked us to let you know that it is being kept safe in school for your child's return.



MEADOW VALE PTA WINTER NEWSLETTER

FREE LITTLE LIBRARY

The free little library launch has been delayed until the children return to school and it is safe to run it.

This library is a free book exchange, sited on the playground, open to all the children and their siblings and will hopefully encourage reading and a love of books within the school community.



WINTER TRAIL

The Christmas Winter trail was a free event celebrating the creativity of the school community. We hope you enjoyed seeing all the festive window displays created by Meadow Vale School families.



POND UPDATE

We were so happy to receive £1,500 towards the pond renovation from the Lexicon, through the Berkshire Community Foundation. A big thank you to Mrs Sunderland for applying for the grant.

There has been some great progress on the pond renovation, although it has been slower than planned due to Covid.

- Over Christmas the ground clearance company, Easy Diggers, came in to clear the area. They did an amazing job and it is now so much safer.
- Calibra tree surgeons have also been to site and have removed some trees and have cut others back. The area is so much lighter now and it is a much nicer environment for the children and the pond wildlife. Unfortunately, due to the water-logged field they weren't able to get the chipper to the pond area so they will be coming back when it is drier to finish the work.



SPENDING

The reception children will shortly be receiving 9 new puddle suits, a gardening kit and a pump and play water station.



The PTA are investing in a shed to store most of our equipment, summer fair stalls, Christmas decorations etc. Currently it is in a shared cupboard in school and with the lack of storage space for the school this is no longer working.



- Easy Diggers are coming on 18th February to replace the fencing at the back of the area to make it safe for the children.
- A shed will be ordered shortly for delivery in the May half term holiday to store the equipment for bug hunts and pond dipping. Volunteers will be needed to paint the shed at some point later in the year.



FUTURE POSSIBLE FUNDRAISING PLANS

- Mother's day gift available for purchase and delivery
- Online Easter egg raffle
- Circus – 22 May 2021 (fingers crossed this still might go ahead)

We need ideas, if you have any ideas for ways in which the children's school lives can be brightened, or ways we can raise funds, please do get in touch. It doesn't mean you are on the hook for delivering it... but additional help is always gratefully received!

EVENTS FACEBOOK PAGE



Over Christmas many small local businesses advertised on the PTA events Facebook page.

We hope you managed to find some unique and local presents. As we all need some inspiration for birthday presents or treats for ourselves we are opening the page to small local businesses for a little while longer.

