

BPSCA BUZZ

KEEPING YOU IN THE LOOP



Issue 08

Oct 2020

Meet The Team

It's hard to know where to start.

We wouldn't usually issue a Buzz until the end of the Autumn term but we missed both the Spring and Summer editions due to the pandemic and wanted to update you on our plans for this academic year.

We welcome all the new children, parents and carers who joined Reception last month. Under normal circumstances we would have met you in school during new parents evening, but we all know that nothing is normal right now.

Like so many registered charities, BPSCA is facing a difficult period and finances are going to be tight but we are utterly determined to ensure that the children continue to benefit from many of the 'extras' that the school budget simply cannot meet. It's the very least they deserve right now.

We recognise that many within our school community are facing financial challenges too but for those who are able, we hope that you will continue to support our fundraising efforts this year.

**Clare Roberts &
The Entire BPSCA Team**



Hopefully there are many recognisable faces here.

From top left; Clare Roberts (Chair), Lucy Sexton (Treasurer), Rosie Silvester (Secretary) and committee members; Beth Gibson, Cheryl McGeorge, Jane Hammond (also Year 5 Teaching Assistant), Rachel Brown, Luisa O'Mahony, Becky West, Julie Hamilton, Bex Thurston, Miruna Turland, Alex Cooper, Jo Eames and Monika Finch.

We are also joined at our monthly committee meetings (currently held via Zoom!) by either Miss Williamson or Mrs Wattam.

We said a very sad farewell recently to Claire Fraher who has hung up her BPSCA mic for the last time. We miss you Claire and thank you for all you did!

AGM

Annual General Meeting

**WEDNESDAY
11TH NOVEMBER
4PM
via ZOOM**

This year's AGM will be held via Zoom and any member of our school community is welcome and encouraged to join us.

We are planning for the call to last no more than 30mins.

If you would like to join the AGM, please email us at bpsca@billingshurstprimary.org.uk and we will provide you with a link to the call.

All Officers retire, and nominations may be received for any position, whether vacant or not. All such nominations must be received by the Secretary, Rosie Silvester in advance of the meeting. All such proposals must have the consent of the nominee, and the support of a seconder. All existing Officers have already offered themselves for re-election but we always have room to welcome more!



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JustGiving

At the beginning of each academic year, we issue our 'Diary Dates' of fundraising activities. For the Autumn term this would usually include Quiz Night, Film Night, Children's Quality Sale, Coffee Morning and Second-Hand Uniform Sale. Sadly, none of these activities can currently take place. We hope that the annual Welly Walk, Spring Fair and our biggest fundraiser of the year, the Summer Fun Day will all be possible in 2021 but there is absolutely no guarantee whatsoever.

Earlier this year we of course had to cancel the Spring Fair and Summer Fun Day. This was such a huge disappointment for everyone. Both events require a significant amount of planning and raise about half of our entire funds annually. They are also much anticipated and hugely enjoyed by the children.

Our funding opportunities lost since March through to the end of this year will be in the region of £13,000.

Faced with this reality, we have decided to open a JustGiving page for anyone who wishes to make a donation.

Please click this link if you are able to offer your support and do share the link widely:

JustGiving™

or go to:

www.justgiving.com/campaign/bpslibrary

THANK YOU!

Festive Fundraisers



With careful thought around health and safety requirements, we're delighted that two of our planned activities can take place this year.

The children are currently busy creating their festive designs to be printed on cards, mugs and coasters. Yes, Christmas is on the way!

Working closely with John Painter at The Brothers Anyhow and school Leadership, we have been able to create a timeline that incorporates extra quarantine time between each step of the creative and order process to ensure that we can safely deliver orders.

If all goes to plan (fingers crossed!), parents & carers will receive an example of their child's artwork along with an order form just before half term.



**2019 Best Decorated Trug
Winners - Russia Class**

Our second festive fundraiser is the Trug Raffle. Every year this particular activity has grown bigger and better than we could have ever thought possible. This year is no exception because not only will we be raffling **21 decorated trugs bursting with festive delights** but with huge thanks for generous donations from Paul and Samantha Goldstein of local business, Climachill, **we also have a brand new Series 4 Apple Watch worth over £250 and a FIFA 20 500GB PlayStation 4 Bundle worth £200 to be won!**

Thank you very much to:



Once again, we will also be collecting donations for Crawley Open House who provide support to those suffering the effects of homelessness, unemployment, loneliness, discrimination, or other forms of social exclusion.



Look out for more details coming home in the next few weeks.



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Lottery Update



Over the past year, registered as a good cause with the Horsham District Community Lottery, BPSCA has received:

£2,388.50

We would like to say a huge thank you to all lottery players who are supporting our cause. We have had 96 winners so far!

The lottery is an even more important source of income for us this year as we cannot run so many of our usual events.

Taking part is easy and costs just £1 per week, 50p of which goes straight to BPSCA. In return for your support you'll have the chance to win up to £25,000 cash every week

Register to play using this link:

[Click Here To Support BPSCA](#)

or visit

www.horshamdistrictcommunitylottery.co.uk

and search for

Billingshurst Primary School

Support the lottery by the 31st October for your chance to win a Family Forest Staycation too. See website for terms & conditions.

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older.



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THANK YOU, SARAH!

Oh my goodness, what a brave lady! We would like to say a massive **THANK YOU** to Miss Williamson's Assistant, Sarah Johncock for so bravely launching herself out of a plane in August to raise funds for BPSCA. Her original jump date was postponed due the COVID-19 restrictions but we were of course delighted when the rescheduled date was able to go ahead.



Sarah's jump raised an incredible:

£1,503

Thank you so much to Sarah and everyone who so generously sponsored her.



Spending Allocations

This year things are very different in terms of how we will raise money but how we will spend it is broadly unchanged. The major difference is that the money which usually helps to subsidise school trips will instead be spent on additional resources for the classrooms.

Here's a summary of our spending allocations so far for this academic year:



£4,050: Classroom Resources
£4,000: Ukulele Lessons for Yr3
£1,000: Celebrations
£750: Science, English & Maths Week's Activities
£400: Playground Toys
£400: Festive Activities
£150: Class Rewards

Rewards



In addition to this, we are providing £5,000 to cover the cost of new sound systems for both the KS1 & KS2 halls. These will be installed within the next few weeks.



Shopping Websites



With Christmas fast approaching and the likelihood of more online spending than usual, please don't forget that we benefit from cash donations when you spend through Easyfundraising, Give as you Live and Amazon Smile. You just need to select BPSCA as your beneficiary.

All provide a free service where you can shop with your favourite online stores at no extra cost and raise funds for the school. You still shop directly with each retailer as you normally would by simply linking to them from the Easyfundraising or Give as you Live sites. For Amazon you link through www.smile.amazon.co.uk

Each qualifying purchase you make will generate a cash back donation to the school.

Click on the logos below to be taken directly to their websites:



or visit

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bpsca



or visit

www.giveasyoulive.com



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amazon smile

You shop. Amazon gives.

or visit

www.smile.amazon.co.uk

This is a fantastic way to raise money for the school and it's not just for Christmas. Feel free to shop via these websites at any time of the year and the school will benefit.



Film Night Refunds



If you had booked and paid for a ticket for your child to attend the Secret Life Of Pets 2 film night which was scheduled for 30th March and you would like a refund, please email us by 30th October and we will make arrangements to reimburse you.

If we do not hear from you by the end of the month, we will assume that you are happy for your payment to stand as a donation.

Thank you.

Bags of Help Update

TESCO

Bags of Help

Just before we went into lockdown in March, we received the exciting news that the BPSCA KS1 library project had been selected for voting on instore under the Tesco Bags of Help initiative.

We were all set to receive between £500-£2,000 towards the project.

We had literally just announced it in the weekly newsletter when Groundwork UK, who administer the programme on behalf of Tesco, contacted us to let us know that instore voting had been postponed for health & safety reasons due to the pandemic.

Whilst this was very disappointing, it was entirely understandable given the circumstances.

We recently applied for a £500 grant from the Tesco Bags of Help COVID-19 Communities Fund but unfortunately were not successful.

However, we have been assured that as soon as instore voting recommences, our library project will go straight into the vote, picking up from where things left off in March.



Year 6 Leavers

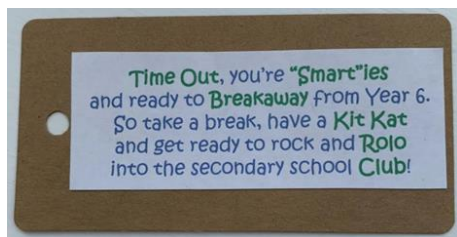
When pupils reach Year 6, BPSCA funds a Leavers disco and fish 'n chip celebration. We also cover the cost of the Leavers gifts presented to the children by school Leadership.

Back in July, Year 6 should have been partying the night away but instead they were being home schooled like the rest of the country.

Whilst we recognised that we could not replace the fun of a disco, we still wanted to do something special for the children.

Wracking our brains for an additional gift that would be fun and meaningful, we landed on chocolate and mugs with a twist.

We started out with a gift tag.....



set up a production line.....



and created one for each child.....



Although we couldn't deliver the mugs to the children ourselves, we did hear that they loved the gift and we hope that they are all now enjoying secondary school.

Got A Good Idea?

We are always looking for new ways to raise funds for our school so if you have any bright ideas, please do get in touch.



All Change Please

As mentioned earlier in this edition of Buzz, all Officers of BPSCA have offered themselves for re-election at the upcoming AGM.

However, this will be the last year for both our Chair and Treasurer.

Clare Roberts will stand down at the end of this academic year as her youngest daughter leaves for secondary school; having spent eight years on the committee, half of that time as Chair.

Lucy Sexton will also stand down from the role of Treasurer after six years but will remain a committee member.

Other committee members will be leaving too as their children move on to secondary school.



BPSCA cannot function as a registered charity, providing such terrific support for 630 children at our school without our dedicated team. We are all parents with family commitments and varying levels of work commitments so please be reassured that nobody is expected to do anymore than they are willing and able to.

If you are interested in finding out more about the roles of Chair, Treasurer or Committee Member, please reach out to us for a chat. You can get in touch through email or our social media channels.

We hope that you will join us!



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