



ANTON FRIENDS PTA NEWSLETTER



MARCH 2026

Introduction

Last term was a busy and unusual time for our PTA, so we would like to share an update about the PTA and changes starting to be made going forwards...

What is the PTA?

The PTA is an enthusiastic team of parents and teachers who want to help ensure that your children have fun while raising additional funds to subsidise school activities, trips, and resources. The PTA has a core committee (see below) supported by a wider team. We work hard – over the last 13 years over £125,000 has been raised for the schools which is simply amazing. We are delighted to confirm that last year we raised **£8,481.96** which was a great effort.

Thank you to everyone who helped us to achieve this – let's do everything we can to raise even more this year. We are still waiting for this year's requests to come through from the schools but some of the activities supported by the PTA last year were:

- Author visits
- Roman & Egyptian Workshops
- Books for the school libraries
- Trips to the Living Rainforest, Hilliers Gardens, Ufton Court, Marwell Zoo
- Year 6 Paultons Park Trip
- Leavers hoodies
- And our own events!



PTA AGM

Each year an AGM is held to validate the PTA Committee Members. At this year's AGM we sadly said goodbye to Lindsay as our Chair and to Nikki as our Vice-Chair. We thought that the PTA may have to fold but we have a solution with the following short-term committee members:

Chair – Angela Carter
 Vice-Chair – Charlotte White
 Treasurer – Stacey Smith
 Secretary – Karen Helsdon

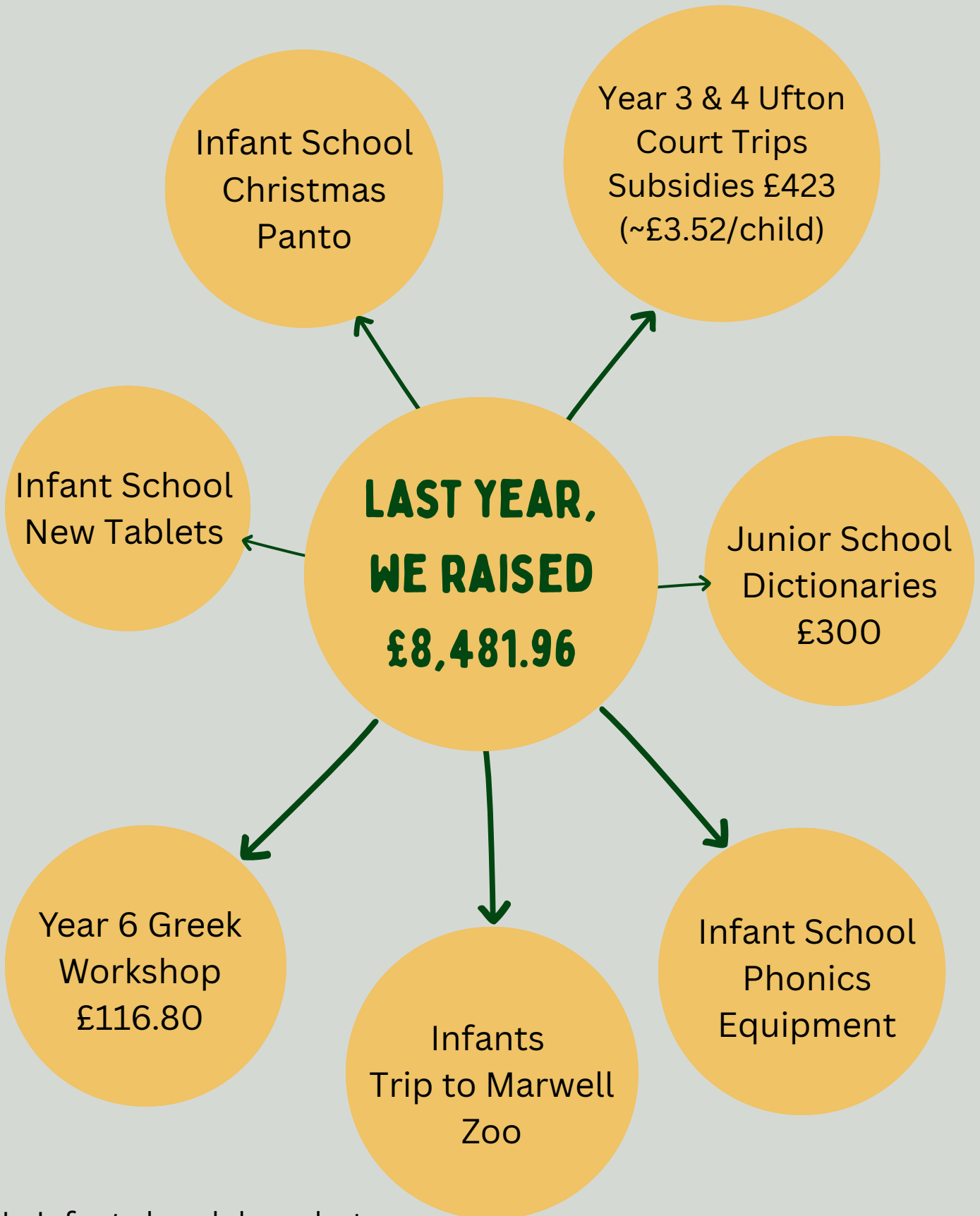


At the second part of the AGM (the 'Save Our PTA' meeting) we welcomed lots of new members into the PTA, which was lovely and they've already shared some great ideas and are helping to change the way we do things.

Our New Approach To Event Planning and Organising

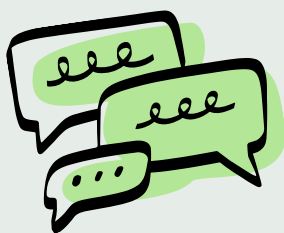
Rather than the core committee running all events, we agreed that events will be led by smaller teams of parents. This sharing of the load shows the truth behind the adage "many hands make light work". This is already starting to happen but if there is an event (existing or new) that you, and some of your other parent friends, would like to lead and make happen please let us know. As we start to move into the planning stages for existing events, we will be reaching out to see if you would be able to support in this way. We will obviously be there to support you so don't think you'll be thrown into the deep end on your own!

Some examples of where the fundraising has been spent!



No Infants breakdown but donations totalled £3,727.35

Changes to Communications



To reach as many of you as an audience as we can, we will start to share information in a variety of ways – emails via the schools, posts on Facebook and messages through WhatsApp on the different Year Groups. We won't apologise for any information overload – we need to make sure you are receiving our messages as we have had feedback that not everyone was seeing everything previously.

Fundmatching

In previous years, we have been fortunate enough to receive Fundmatching from local banks and businesses so please let us know if this is something your company offers so that we can reach out to them and hopefully gain some additional funding. every pound and penny counts!



Events So Far



We hope that you and your children have enjoyed the events we have already held this year:

- Bags2School collection £53.00
- Infants Glow Party raised £528.10
- Infants Break The Rules Days raised £216.70
- Juniors Break The Rules Days raised £261.40
- Juniors Silent Disco raised £542.81
- Dress Down Days for our Christmas tombola and raffle
- Father Christmas's Grotto and Christmas Fayre raised £2,409.80
- Family Bingo Evening raised £250.81
- Half Term Snack Sale £47.60

The amazing total raised so far this year is £4,310.22

A special thank you to all our volunteers who have helped to organise and run these events. We couldn't do it without you!



What's coming up?

We've got a lot of exciting events coming up for the rest of the year, so please do get involved!

- Easter Raffle Dress Down - Friday 13th March
- Easter Raffle Prizes Handed Out - w/c 16th March
- Break the Rules For April Fools - Friday 27th March
- Spring Family Cafes - w/c 13th April (dates TBC)
- May Picnic
- Dress down days
- Summer Fayre - Friday 19th June after school
- Discos



The PTA will share more details of each event nearer the time, but we have mapped out the events for the rest of the year (dates will be shared once finalised with both schools). We will be having more meetings to organise these so please do come along to support us!

Next Meetings:

Full Committee: Wednesday 4th March at 6.30pm (Junior School)

Sub-Committee to discuss the Summer Fayre: date tbc on 4th

Everyone is welcome to attend!



A final message...

THANK YOU!

Firstly, we would like to say a big **THANK YOU** for your ongoing support with fund-raising. Remember, the PTA works extremely hard throughout the year to hold events in order to raise money for your children's benefit. We run some very successful events throughout our school year however we would not be able to do this without the help and support of **YOU**. We always need help; especially in the form of manpower for our events. All we ask is for half an hour of your time at an event.

We welcome your feedback and input to the PTA – if you have ideas for helping us to raise more money then please put the suggestions forward. Please get in touch if you would like to join, or discuss more about anything in this newsletter.



You can contact us on our email address pta.antonfriends@gmail.com or find us on Facebook at the Anton School PTA group (this is a closed group & requests will be accepted for parents of the schools only).