

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had an enjoyable summer.

We wanted to get this newsletter out at the start of the year to update you on what the PTA funds are used for and to share the events we already have planned. More will be added as the year goes on, but the dates at the end of this letter are those confirmed so far.

PTA Funds

With your fantastic support, the funds we raise are used for a variety of things, including:

- £1,000 each year to help with transport costs for school trips
- Money for each class to purchase extras that enhance teaching and learning
- A Christmas gift for every child (usually a book)
- New books for the children

We also fund the leasing of a class set of iPads (approximately £3,000 per year), which is currently one of our main fundraising focuses.

Fundraising

To ensure we can continue providing these and more, we run events throughout the year, including fairs, discos, Scoot & Skate, movie nights, and hot chocolate/ice lolly sales.

We also have a couple of steady income streams:

- **Clothing bank** – located just inside the main gate. They accept wearable clothing, paired shoes, belts, and handbags.
- **Easyfundraising** – this gives the PTA cashback when you register and shop online through their platform. There's a banner in the playground with a QR code, or you can use this link:
<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/stjamesprimarytaglossop/IG1BEF/c2s/qZ6MRT9B/C E929/facebook/>

Additionally, the school office has a jar for any loose foreign coins left over from holidays or trips abroad—these don't even need to be current tender!

Plans for 2025/26

This term, we have:

- A disco on **Tuesday 7th October** with DJ Chris
- Our Winter Fair
- A Christmas Breakfast & Story with Santa



In 2026, we'll be holding:

- Our popular Movie Night
- A 'Golden Ticket' event for World Book Day
- Discos in May
- Our Summer Fair & BBQ at the end of June (with donation days beforehand)

The PTA

We are a small but dedicated group of staff and parents, and we are always looking for extra help. We understand that everyone has busy lives and may not be able to commit to meetings or being a permanent member of the PTA. However, if you can spare even half an hour to volunteer at an event, it would be greatly appreciated.

PTA Dates 2025/26

Date	Event	Details/Notes
Tue 7th Oct	Glow Discos	3.45–4.45pm (Rec/Y1/Y2) 5.15–6.15pm (Y3–Y6)
Fri 24th Oct	Donation Day	Winter Fair – Children's Tombola
Fri 14th Nov	Donation Day	Winter Fair – Christmas items
Fri 28th Nov	Donation Day	Winter Fair – Bottles
Fri 28th Nov	Winter Fair	5.00–7.00pm
Sat 7th Dec	Family Breakfast & Story with Santa	Morning event
Tue 3rd Feb	Movie Night	Straight after school
Fri 6th Mar	World Book Day – Golden Ticket	Special event
Fri 1st May	Donation Day	BBQ & Summer Fair
Tue 19th May	Discos	3.45–4.45pm (Rec/Y1/Y2) 5.15–6.15pm (Y3–Y6)
Fri 12th Jun	Donation Day	BBQ & Summer Fair
Fri 26th Jun	Donation Day	BBQ & Summer Fair
Fri 26th Jun	Summer Fair & BBQ	5.00–7.00pm

Letters with further details (timings, costs, etc.) will be sent closer to each event. Updates, including PTA meeting dates and the AGM, will be posted on Dojo.

If you would like any further information about anything in this letter, please contact the school office.

Thank you for your support.

Wendy Rimmer

PTA Lead, Whitfield St James PTA