

PSA Newsletter – Autumn Term 2009

One World Evening

1396

Welcome!

Welcome back to the last half term of this year. We hope all the new children, parents and carers have settled in well and that everyone is ready for another very busy few weeks before the Christmas holidays.

The PSA (Parent School Association) aims to support the school by organising fun social events that raise funds for school and our children.

We all belong to the PSA, not just the people who come to the meetings - anyone is welcome to join in, at any time. Your help and suggestions are always appreciated and are in fact essential! We would really like to have some new volunteers. It's never too soon or too late to get involved – whether your child is in nursery or year six.

Where and when?

We usually meet on Fridays after drop off, but due to the building work we are temporarily homeless, so look out for a notice board in the playground to advise you of the venue. At the moment we're meeting in the staff room. Please come along to say hello and have a cup of coffee.

Save these dates

This term's PSA events to put on the calendar are:

Thu 12 Nov	Quiz Night
Fri 20 Nov	Year 5 cake sale
Sat 5 Dec	Christmas Craft Fair
Fri 11 Dec	Reception cake sale

More details overleaf.

Summer festival success

The Summer Festival in July feels like a long time ago but this is our first newsletter since then so we're delighted to tell you that it raised £3500 for the school. A huge thank you to everyone who came and everyone who helped before and on the day. In true festival style we had showers and sunshine, some brilliant live music from 3 bands featuring pupils, teachers and parents, an excellent barbeque, cakes, strawberries and cream, African drumming, craft and activity stalls and a raffle as well as fairground rides, pony rides and story telling. Phew! We all had a great day.

Overall last year we raised a fantastic £10,500 for the school. Thank you – we couldn't have done it without you! Keys events are listed below with details of the net funds raised:-

Events	£
Cake sales	1,676
Quiz night	345
Christmas craft fair	2,976
Rainbow day	507
Easter Raffle	235

This money has paid for :

Year 4 music tuition (Guitar & Violin)

Costumes for performances

Trip to the Phoenix cinema

Visiting musicians to school

Frames for the artwork in the corridor

And contributed towards:

Plants and flowerbeds in the playground

Fundraising goals

In addition to continuing to provide funding for:

Year 4 music tuition

KS2 Homework diaries

We hope to raise enough money for:

Improving and increasing the green spaces in school

(more details to follow)

Fundraising ideas

We would love to have some new ideas for enjoyable fundraising events. As always, we are planning an Easter Raffle, Rainbow Day, the One World Evening and the Summer Fair but it's always good to have different events too. Perhaps this year we could try a **Well-being Evening**, an **Auction of Promises**, a **'Highgate Primary's Got Talent' evening**. It just takes a bit of time and organisation so please let us know if you can help organise one of these or if you have any better ideas!.

The Quiz Night is Thursday 12 November from 7.30pm for an 8pm start. With our very own William Dean back as Quiz Master, the second Highgate Primary Quiz Night is bound to be a popular event. It was great fun last year, and the teachers' team will be extra competitive this year having been pipped to the post by the year 1 parents last year. Tickets will be sold in the playground at pick up time in the next few days. Teams of 6 to 8 work well so either form your own team or put your name down to join your class / year team. There will be a bar and snacks will be provided. Sorry kids, this is one for the grown ups.

The Christmas Craft Fair is Saturday 5 December, 12pm-3pm. Our annual jamboree of festive fun, jam-packed with craft stalls, art activities, presents (last year's magnificent buy and wrap stall is back) and Santa's grotto. Mulled wine, music, mince pies, hampers galore! We need lots of help to put this together. More details to follow but in the meantime please clear out your cupboards and gather up any good quality used or new unwanted books, dvd's, toys and games to be sold at the fair.

Cake Sales

Each year group will run one cake sale this school year. This involves, setting up, selling and clearing away. Although we are all encouraged to bring in cakes every time, please make a special effort for your class/es' sales. This year, as an



PSA Newsletter – Autumn Term 2009

added incentive, the host year group will keep half of the profits to be spent in the classrooms. The children love to be involved in making and selling the cakes – as well as just eating them.

The first cake sale of the year was hosted by Year 1 and made a record £250. Well done year 1! Sharon and Eleanor are delighted with their £125 for the year 1 classrooms. Year 3 also had a successful sale on the last day of term which raised £212 and the year 3 helpers enjoyed trying out their selling skills. Watch out Sir Alan.

So please keep the cakes coming in! Don't worry if you are not a domestic goddess, children really aren't very fussy in the cake department! Fairy cakes and anything chocolatey or pink and sparkly always disappears fastest.

Cake Sale Dates

Friday 20th November – Year 5

Friday 11th December - Reception

Class Contacts and PSA Committee

Now is the time to put up your hand if you want to be a class contact or get more involved with the PSA committee. Especially nursery and reception parents - we always love new faces!

Class Contacts

We are very proud of the progress we have made in setting up a successful class contact system over the last two years. We are close to having at least one class contact for each class in Highgate Primary! It is a fantastic way to involve parents and carers in school events, to pass on information and to enable parents to get to know other the other parents in the class.

The main role of a class contact is to:-

- create and maintain a class contact list with phone numbers and email addresses;
- organise the occasional social event, from an afternoon picnic in the woods to an evening in the pub;
- encourage parents to help out at school events like cake sale, Christmas Craft Fair, One World Evening, Summer Fair.

Ideally everyone would take it in turns to be a class contact rather than one poor parent doing it all the way through from reception through to year 6!

Class	Parent	Child
Nursery	Barbara Herberg/ Ria Butler	Tobyn/ Leila
RLM	Natalie Fenwick	Amy
RTB	Vacant	
1SM	Sabine Morris	Lucas
1EP	Helen Aberdeen/ Lizzie Bloom	Ines Molly
2RV	Karen Galadek	Heidi

2LG	Zoe Platt	Lila-Rose
3EH	Krishna Ramamurthy	Arjun/Anya
3LM	Barbara Herberg	Katya
4JS	Belkys Ledezma	Armando
4MK	Leslie Herbert	Claire
5NL	Karen Schroder-Smith	Katya
5LB/DB	Vacant	
6RO	Claire McArthur	Brianna/Layla
6PB	Claire McArthur	Georgia

If you have not already given your contact details (email address and mobile nos) to your class contact please get in touch them via your class teacher

If you would like to be a class contact please email

Karen Hives our Class Contact coordinator

karenhives@yahoo.co.uk

Gardening Club

Last year the amazing gardening club transformed the concrete jungle into a fragrant botanical garden (well almost) and there are great plans for the peace garden this year. So if anyone has green fingers, or is happy to give up an hour or so from time to time to make Highgate Primary as green as possible, William and the PSA would like to hear from you.

School Uniform

Although Highgate Primary does not have a school uniform, we do have some very nice sweatshirts, hoodies, fleeces and T-shirts with our logo, and which are available to order through the PSA. Order form is available on the school website or from the school office.

We need someone new to coordinate the ordering and sale of the schoolwear. If you think you would like to do this please email psa@highgate-pri.haringey.sch.uk

Lost property

If your child loses an item of clothing, it will make its way to one of two lost property black dustbins which are located in the gym (not the hall). To avoid the trauma of having to go through the bins, please label your child's clothes especially coats and jumpers!

Gift Aid and Charitable Donations

As the PSA is a registered charity we are able to claim gift aid on all donations for the previous 6 years and this helps us to increase the money that you, your family and your friends sponsor your child/ren on Rainbow day by 25%. If you are UK taxpayer please help us to increase the money you donate by completing the attached Gift Aid declaration now – also available on the website or from the school office.

If you would like to donate money on a regular basis throughout the year by standing order please find attached a standing order mandate to enable you to do this – also available to download from the website or from the school office.

PSA Newsletter – Autumn Term 2009

Parentmail

If you are not signed up to parentmail (email/text school communications service) and would like to find out more please visit www.parentmail.co.uk. It saves so much money and time to be able to send out school communication via email.

New PSA Committee

After a very busy and enjoyable year organizing PSA events, Kate, Helen, Barbara, Katherine and Ali are stepping down from their positions – although they'll continue to be very involved and active PSA members – and we're looking for some new people to take on more responsibility. Whether you fancy being the secretary, chairing some events, coordinating the cake sales or taking on the school uniform orders there are lots of positions up for grabs, some that will only take up a couple of hours or so of your time a term. The only requirement is a bit of enthusiasm! Nikki and Karen have agreed to continue as Treasurer and Class Contact Coordinator for another year. Thank you!!

For anyone thinking about taking on a PSA committee role, we have strong templates in place for organizing and running the events throughout the year, a great class contact system and lots of support from previous years' committees.

Highgate Primary is a fantastic school and we are proud and lucky to be here. It deserves to have an energetic PSA to ensure we continue to host good quality events which will in turn raise funds for the school. Please do get in touch to offer your support. We look forward to another fun-packed year.

AGM

Our AGM will be held on Wednesday 25 November at 8pm. Notice has been placed on the PSA noticeboard in the KS1 playground. Everyone welcome.

Getting in touch:

Either come along to a Friday morning meeting, leave a message in the PSA pigeon hole in the office or email psa@highgate-pri.haringey.sch.uk

Thank you!

Best wishes

Kate Imeson	CHAIR
Helen Aberdeen	CO-CHAIR
Barbara Herberg	SECRETARY
Katherine Nashnush	CO-SEC.
Nikki Sullivan	TREASURER
Ali Robson	CO-TREAS.
Karen Hives	CLASS CONTACTS

And all the rest of the PSA committee!