



Saint Gregory's Bath

**PTFA**

*Parents, Teachers & Friends Association*



## Welcome to the Saint Gregory's PTFA

On behalf of the Saint Gregory's PTFA we would like to offer you a very warm welcome to our parental community. We hope that you will actively join us to enrich and improve this stage of your child's educational experience. We are convinced that a strong link between the school and the parent body can bring enormous benefits for everyone. Our PTFA has two main functions: one is to support and strengthen the links between parents, school, and community, and the other is to create funds that can support the diverse extras that enrich school life for our children.

At times parenting isn't easy, and in recent times it has become even more demanding. Coronavirus has changed the world we live in and the very way we conduct our everyday lives. Belonging to a parent body that not only values the faith at the heart of our efforts, but also believes in the wide-ranging benefits of such a body, can make a significant difference to the way we deal with these challenges. This sense of community can only exist as much as you identify and interact with it. Initially, you might think the PTFA isn't for you – but there are lots of different ways to contribute!

## So what could you do for the PTFA?

- **Sign up to join our new 50/50 Club**
- **Register for EasyFundraising**
- **Start a new fundraising initiative or volunteer to help someone else set one up**
- **Volunteer to help at PTFA events**
- **Year Group Coordinator**
- **Join the team and help shape the future of the PTFA**

We are a small but committed group of parents and we are always open to new ideas and new members who are willing to share their knowledge, skills and experience. We guarantee that being part of what is going on at school is so much better than NOT being part of it!

Our aim is simple: **to make a positive difference and ensure a thriving and effective parent body at the heart of the school.**

We look forward to meeting you when the situation allows and telling you more about the hugely rewarding opportunities to get involved.

*Lisa, Paula, Kylie & Jeremy*

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*on behalf of the Saint Gregory's PTFA committee*



Join us on [www.facebook.com/saintgregoryspfta](https://www.facebook.com/saintgregoryspfta)

# How we support Saint Gregory's

## Last year's success

Despite the challenges of COVID-19, the PTFA have maintained income streams through new initiatives and projects. This year, we have raised:

**£487** – PTFA Cookbook

**£242** – EasyFundraising

**£248** – PTFA 100 Club \*soon to be our NEW 50/50 Club

**£1,572** – Pre Loved Uniform Shops

**£5,000** – Donation from the Medlock Trust

## Supported projects

Added to funds raised in 2019-20, this has enabled the PTFA to support a range of projects at school this year, including:

- End of Year Rewards Day treats for all students in all year groups
- A donation to the Leavers' Committees for Year 11 and Year 13
- A donation of £5,000 towards the cost of school development and master planning
- Equipment and supplies for a new Lego Computing Club
- iPads for the PE department to assist with interactive teaching and learning
- Video cameras for GCSE and A Level PE to record performance and evidence for exams
- £500 towards specialist SEND equipment
- £500 towards Pastoral facilities and resources

## Building on this success

As school life hopefully begins to return to some sort of normality for our children and school this year, we look to the future and how we can continue to build on this success. And this is where we need your help! Some of our favourite fundraisers in the past have included:

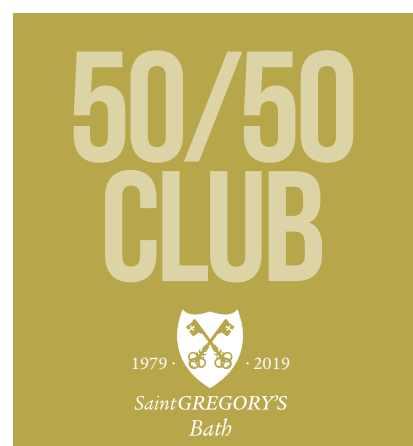
- Quiz night
- Cheese & wine party
- Auction of Promises
- Pop-up bars for performing art shows
- Ice skating rink
- Ceilidh
- School discos
- Pre loved uniform shops

## What would you like to see on this list?

We're open to ideas but here's a few to start with!

- Crowdfunding
- Christmas Arts Fair
- Summer Festival
- Gin-tasting evenings
- Cookery classes
- Saint Gregory's business directory
- School calendar or Christmas cards

Drop us an email with your suggestions.



# How we support Saint Gregory's

## Did you know that the benefits of volunteering are known to include:

- a sense of well-being and achievement as you make a positive difference to a community that matters
- belonging to and working as part of a team
- meeting new people and networking both personally and professionally
- getting to know other families and making new friends
- learning some new skills
- challenging yourself and having fun
- even increasing your confidence



## Upcoming PTFA Events

Tuesday 5 October 7pm

### **PTFA AGM**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is a yearly meeting for all members of the association, where elections take place and the year's events are reported on. It's an opportunity for the committee to show that it's accountable for the decisions taken and that the committee members have acted in the best interests of the association and also to discuss the PTFA events for the upcoming year.

Tuesday 16 November 7pm

### **PTFA Meeting**

Come along and join us on November 16th for our first PTFA meeting of 2021 and see what we are all about! Meet the friendly faces behind the scene. No obligation and commitments - just gather a bit of information on what we do to help the school and see if you'd like to be part of what we do.

10-12 February 2022 – save the dates!

### **Performance of Matilda & PTFA Fundraiser**

We are proud supporters of the performing arts at Saint Gregory's and are pleased to be able to raise funds for the school and faculty through our efforts at their annual performances. The PTFA provide a bar and refreshments and raffle for each night of the show and raise money that is then invested back into the school. We are always in need of helpers to run, set up or organise supplies for the bar or to help run the raffle, organise donations from local businesses or collect donations so please get in touch. If you have other ideas for raising funds at this event, we would love to hear from them!



# How you can help?

**We would love you to be involved in your PTFA in any way you can and know that support comes in all sorts of shapes and sizes. Here are just a few ideas of what you can do, right now, to activate your membership:**

## Join our team

We currently have a number of committee vacancies, including:

- Charity Secretary
- Volunteers Co-ordinator
- Crowdfunding Co-ordinator
- Events Co-ordinator
- Fundraising/Bids Coordinator
- Year Group Coordinator

We're all full time working parents/carers so try to keep the commitment of time and energy to a minimum but the more active committee members we have, the easier it becomes for us all! We aim to hold our meetings once a term (not quite so regularly this year!), either on Zoom or in the pub, to discuss forthcoming events at the school and how we can support, share ideas for fundraising or simply to welcome new members! Everyone is welcome, all we ask is that you let us know if you intend to join us so that we can make sure we have enough cups, saucers or wine glasses to go around!

## Sign up to EasyFundraising

You can help us to maintain a fluid income stream for the PTFA by signing up and using Easyfundraising for any online purchases (fashion, beauty, groceries, gifts etc.) or when considering a switch of mobile contract, energy supplier, holiday - even booking attractions or days out. There are literally THOUSANDS of outlets who support Easyfundraising and each one donates a small amount of the money you spend to us. For free. There is no admin on our behalf or yours, it's as simple as a click so please do have a look and join if you can. <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stgregptfabath/>

We have raised nearly £250 via Easyfundraising this year, with only 36 parents/carers signed up - imagine what we could raise if EVERY parent/carer or member of staff joined us!

**[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stgregptfabath](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stgregptfabath)**

## Join our new PTFA 50/50 Club

The PTFA 50/50 Club is a monthly prize draw, with a prize fund equivalent to 50% of the club's profit, with

the remaining 50% going to the PTFA funds. The first draw will take place in November and will be based on subscriptions received in October. To join, simply:

- Complete and return the 50/50 Club application on our website to [StGregs5050Club@gmail.com](mailto:StGregs5050Club@gmail.com)
- Set up your standing order for £3 per month, before 30 October 2021.
- Wait for the winners' announcement in the school newsletter!

**You've got to be in it to win it!**

## Volunteer your time

We are always on the look-out for willing volunteers or a helping pair of hands to help out at fundraising events. It's not all tea, coffee, cake and wine! Sometimes it's about sharing your journey with new families, welcoming prospective parents and carers to our community or simply offering your skills as a professional so that we and the school can benefit from your knowledge and expertise.

## Donate

We understand that, for some parents and carers, they would rather give a one-off donation or monthly donation to the PTFA. We are working towards a new crowdfunding scheme to facilitate donations easily and effectively, also allowing us to claim Gift Aid on your donations - but we need someone to run it! If you're interested in supporting through a regular donation, or by helping to organise our crowd-funding efforts, please get in touch via email.

## Business Sponsors

We're keen to develop mutually beneficial partnerships with local businesses and would love to hear from you if you own a business or if you work for a company that provides support to local charities. This could be in the form of:

**TIME** – some companies offer charitable schemes donating their employees for projects;

**FINANCIAL** – some companies will donate for specific projects to enhance school communities or facilities;

**GOODS & SERVICES** – many businesses will donate to raffles and auctions helping us to raise funds through events.

If you are a business, or you know of a business that may help, please get in touch. We would love to fill our next newsletter with the St Gregory's PTFA official sponsors' logos and thank them publicly for their support of our school.