



Newsletter

February 2010

HAPPY NEW YEAR! A bit belated, but the snow seemed to extend the Christmas holidays. At the start of the Spring Term we felt it timely to summarise last terms activities and provide an outlook for the rest of the year.

The **Quiz night** in October was very well supported with over 100 parents and friends in attendance. It was great to see a significant number of new families joining in the fun. Competition was high and the winning team, "St Rictly Come Dunstan's" went home with the St Dunstan's quiz trophy (to be returned at the next quiz please). A team, led by Marion Golding, held their own quiz as they had a previous commitment on the same night. I am not sure what their scores were but they made a significant contribution to the PTA for using the questions – thank you. Thank you to James Connatty, Trevor and Corinne Doherty, Alex and Rod Cant for organising this successful event that raised £723. Horsell Fish and Chips successfully supplied the 106 delicious portions hot on the night.

Thank you to all parents for your support, so far we have raised £3,300.

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The **children's disco** in November, again proved its success and popularity raising £867. There was a strong attendance with over 280 children buying tickets; sweets and glo stock. Thank you to Julie Smith for organising the last disco. We are still looking for a volunteer to organise the next disco in May. There are always plenty of helpers available on the night, so we're looking for someone to book the DJ and purchase the consumables. Julie is more than happy to have a chat with anyone who would like to co-ordinate the May disco.

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The **cake sales** have taken on a slightly different format this year, with each class taking turns to run the sale, now known as the 'Tuck Table', after school on a Friday. Typically each sale is contributing £80-£100.

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Thank you to Catherine Illingworth who's leading the sales and all the parent helpers and contributors.

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Our **Christmas activities** were well supported with many children creating their own Christmas cards, contributing £305. A huge thank you to Sue Padua and Liz Langley for organising this activity and ensuring the cards were available in good time for posting. The Christmas raffle, organised by Heather Prideaux-King and Sam Conatty raised £606.

We've made a great start to the academic year and hope you will continue to support the PTA. Key resources for which we are raising funds this year will benefit all pupils. These include a listening post and living eggs for the foundation stage, new reading books for key stage 1, additional musical instruments and keyboards for key stage 2, and swimming lessons for all children in the summer term. We have some great events lined up over the coming months – so make a date of them in your diaries.

Thank you to those that replied to our questionnaire last term. There have been some great suggestions for new events and we hope to be able to incorporate them in the calendar soon.

It is important that everyone feels involved as the PTA represents us all. This year to make it easier, we'll be breaking larger scale activities into smaller more doable tasks, so it's easier for parents to understand what's involved/needed to get the job done. Everyone can contribute something whether it is folding raffle tickets, making coffees, buying drinks and snacks for an event, setting up tables and chairs, or even offering their talent as a prize in a raffle! We hope this way more parents will feel able to get involved in supporting and enjoying our PTA.

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To improve communications with parents, the PTA will be having their own page on the St Dunstan's School website. If you are interested in advertising in the PTA newsletter or on the website, please contact us.

Pamper Yourself - Because You Are Worth It!

Treat yourself and a friend to an evening of pampering, pure indulgence and a glass of wine at St. Dunstan's on Thursday 20th May 7–9pm.

Among the many treats in store for you:

- Pure, effective, Swiss botanical skincare and make-up make-overs from Arbonne.
- Stunning, affordable and unique beaded jewellery by Patricia Reddy
- Holistic massage (head neck and shoulders) by Tara Von Spreckelsen
- Handmade, natural and therapeutic foot creams by Feet Treats
- 20min mini-reflexology treatments
- And Prize Draws to win fantastic prizes and treatments.

Tickets and appointments to be arranged in advance; limited slots available. Help raise funds for the school and look and feel great at the same time!



Heather Prideaux-King,
Co-ordinator



Alex Cant,
Treasurer



Sam McPherson,
Secretary



Catherine Illingworth,
Cake Sales



Mike Chenery,
Grants



Leader needed!
Children's Discos



Michael Derrick,
Spring Ball



Corinne Doherty,
Newsletter



SPRING BALL **Saturday 8th May 7:30-11:30pm.**

This is to be a Spring Masquerade in the school hall. Dress code: Black tie, with a prize for best original mask and fines for no masks! Tickets £20 each or 10 for price of 9, available through the office.



Musicians still to be confirmed but there will be dancing and a raffle of great prizes.

If you are able to help Mick Derrick with preparations or on the night, please contact him directly.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

8th May	Spring Ball 7:30 – 11pm
May	Children's Disco
20th May	Pamper evening 7 – 9pm
12th June	Summer BBQ 4 onwards
11th July	Summer Fair 12-3pm

SUMMER FAMILY BBQ **Saturday 12th June, 4pm**

Sam McPherson has volunteered to run this popular event, along with the support of Catherine Illingworth and the PTA committee. This is a family event and we hope to show the World Cup match, England vs USA, on big screens in the hall. There will be a BBQ and Bar. We plan to run into the evening so fingers crossed for good weather.

Tickets and more details will be available after Easter

If anyone has a bouncy castle or is interested in running some simple games for kids (& adults) please contact Sam.



EACH FAMILY will shortly be receiving the Spring issue of the **Yellow Moon Catalogue**. It has lots of craft making ideas for the half term holidays plus party bag filler ideas and other interesting toys and games. When placing your order, please quote the source code **SST4829**, so that the PTA receives 25% of all orders (excl VAT and P&P). Every little bit helps to provide extra funds for the School.

SECOND HAND BIKE SALE

We're planning a second hand bike sale at the start of the summer. Please consider this option when clearing out your garage or to help your children trade up.

St Dunstan's Got Talent & so do the parents...

We're currently putting together raffle prizes for our summer events and are hoping that lots of parents will step forward and offer an hour (or two) of their time and talent as a prize.

It could be baking, teaching an instrument, gardening, teaching a language, babysitting, website design, painting. The winner would provide the tools, the donator just their time and their talent. It's a great way to give and help the community

If you are able to offer a talent for one of the raffles, please email stdunstanspta@live.co.uk.

GRANTS UPDATE



Mike Chenery is doing a great job investigating suitable grants that could help

subsidise some key resources, and has already made some applications. Many employers do community projects and perhaps your company can offer a team of volunteers to work on the gardens or help in the classroom. Employers also offer matched funding schemes - investigate whether your firm offers this facility – you never know it could be a massive fundraiser for the PTA with little effort on anyone's part eg baking cakes for cake sales can count!

Online Shopping via SchoolDeals and school gains

With spring and summer around the corner, please do think to use www.schooldeals.net to access your favourite online retailers.

Every time you make a web purchase through one of SchoolDeals' partners you'll be earning commission for St Dunstan's. Whenever you make a purchase you will know the minimum amount the school will receive. Here are some examples of the commission St Dunstan's will receive at no cost to you, the shopper

Marks and Spencer = 2.5%

Boden = 3%, Mini Boden = 2.5%

Disneyland Paris = 1.75%

Early Learning Centre = 4%

Many brands are continuing to offer some great discounts online - take a look.



DBay.....For Sale Board

In response to request from parents, we will be having a regular for sale board in the PTA newsletter and on our webpage, for the sale of quality items.

The advert will be free, but we ask that sellers donate 10% of the sold price to the PTA – a bit like ebay. See the PTA noticeboards in the playground for the list of items for sale.

If you have an item for sale please email: stdunstanspta@live.co.uk with the details.

School Jackpot: You have to be in it, to win it!

The Jackpot is the easiest PTA fund raiser that we have – for comparatively little effort - all the money that is paid in is either paid out in the form of prizes each month or to the PTA for the benefit of your children at St Dunstan's. Last year the jackpot raised £1,500 for the PTA.

The minimum cost is £1 a month but you can have as many numbers in the draw as you like at £1 each. Each month there are two prizes of £15 except for June and December when there is a prize of £100 and £50. A nice bonus for your family!

If you are interested in joining please contact Linda Aitken on 01483 479957

ADVERTISING IN PTA NEWSLETTER

Why advertise?

- PTA newsletters are published at least once a term
- The PTA newsletter is made available on the school website <http://www.stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk>
- Parents receive an email link to the website or a hardcopy each time a new edition is published
- St Dunstan's has approx 300 families living in Woking and the surrounding areas
- Many families also have children at St John the Baptist school thus word of mouth will carry to a much larger local audience.

What does it cost?

- £10 for 1/4 of A4 page per edition
- £20 for 1/2 an A4 page per edition

Payment must be by cheque made payable to: St Dunstan's RC School via the school office

If you are interested please email: corinne.doherty@uk.ibm.com

Discover ARBONNE

FANCY A FREE MAKE-OVER?

Can you spare 30 minutes or 1 hour?

I have just started a business selling award winning Swiss formulated botanical skin care and make-up products called 'Arbonne'.

1-2-1 makeovers available

or hold an Arbonne party in return for free products and big discounts (daytime or evening)

Amazing products:

Botanically based; plants and herbs together with science and technology
Formulated without mineral oil (a petrol derivative found in most skincare products)

No dyes or chemical fragrances used

Not tested on animals

PH Correct, Hypoallergenic and Dermatologist tested

Formulated without animal products or by products

VOGUE Beauty Blog Oct '09: "The results speak for themselves..."

Arbonne Head of Formulations & Science: Peter Matravers from AVEDA

RSVP Jane on 07525 206880 or 01483 776620 as bookings going fast!

Pilates Classes & Personal Training

PILATES CLASSES BEGINNERS/INTERMEDIATE

St Paul's Church, Maybury, Woking,
Mondays 7.30-8.30pm

Wednesdays 7.15-8.15pm & 8.15-9.15pm

Also Private studio in Send for small
group sessions

PERSONAL TRAINING STUDIO & MASSAGE CLINIC IN SEND

- Private one on one session
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Equipment includes cardiovascular
machines, weights, stability balls,
boxing and more

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Contact **Su Richards** on
01483 727037 or
07881 825911

If you would like to advertise here contact corinnedoherty@live.co.uk
Thank you to the Newsletter team: Corinne Doherty, Samantha Connatty and Su Richards.