

PTA Autumn Newsletter – October 2018

Welcome back!

A very warm welcome to all new families joining URC this term and hello again to those of you returning! We hope you had a lovely Summer and are now settling back into the routine.

Firstly I would like to introduce the PTA team:

Chair of the PTA – Nina Whitehead, my son Alfred is in Red group and I previously had another son attend URC.

Vice Chair - Georgie Love, her son Jack is in Red group.

Treasurer - Emily McPherson, her daughter Lottie is in the main room.

Secretary - Emma Deutrom, her daughter Audrey is in Red group.

There is also fabulous team of other committee members, made up of Mum's of children at the school past and present. **If you are interested in coming along to a meeting or would like to help out at any of our fundraisers please let us know or speak to Mrs Robinson. We need new members for the pre-school to stay open so any time you can donate to us is very welcomed.**

The PTA was set up in order to help the Preschool with a shortfall of funding as new legislation meant that preschools could no longer charge top up fees once children were entitled to their 15 hours free childcare. Unfortunately, the money provided by the Government does not cover the Preschool's running costs – this means there would be two less members of staff and the outstanding level of provision would be threatened if the PTA didn't help raise extra funds. It was decided that the PTA would not cover the cost of wages, but instead buy equipment and resources.

To highlight how such funds have benefited the preschool, last year alone we were able to carry out the following:

- 6 brand new IPADS and ipad covers.
- New outdoor equipment such as the little reading hut & the red seesaw.
- Pre-school learning equipment such as numicon.
- Christmas party & Easter gifts for the Children
- Safety dividers so your children are safe in the garden from the steps.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Alongside your valuable contributions, the PTA also organises events throughout the year to help us raise further funds and provide a fun setting to socialise within the 'URC family'.

Please put the following dates in your diaries with further details to come soon:

- **Coffee morning - Thursday 18th October**, after drop off in Rainbow room. Please come along for a cuppa, cake & chat, to meet new parents & get to know the old ones better!
- **URC Family Party & Open day - Saturday 10th November, 2-4.30pm**, everyone welcome. We will be hosting a party at the pre-school for URC families & new families, including a disco, biscuit decorating, a glitter bar, cafe & bottle tombola - please see poster for further information.
- **Bags 2 School - Thursday 29th November**. Please keep & start collecting all unwanted adult & kids clothes, handbags, shoes, textiles including bedding & towels. Please see poster for further information.

Easyfundraising

PLEASE SIGN UP!

Do you shop online? If so, please consider using 'Easyfundraising' and register using the link <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/urcharpendenpta>, there's absolutely no cost to you, but URC will receive a % of the value of your purchases whenever you shop through this site. There are some great shops registered including Amazon, John Lewis, Waitrose, Boots, M&S, Boden and many more!

Keeping in touch

To keep up to date on our news and events please join our Facebook page – just search URC Preschool PTA Harpenden and you should find us. This is also an easy way to ask any questions or to receive useful reminders!

Please also see the new PTA notice board for information.