

Welcome to the new UCPS PTFA newsletter. We'll be sending a newsletter out every term to let you know what we've been up to and how you can get more involved. If you want to get in touch, send us an email or join our socials using the links at the bottom of the page.



### Meet the committee

The new PTFA committee was decided by a closed ballot at the AGM in October.

**Chair:** Ian Bartram-Paddan/Sarah Rummens

**Secretary:** Jayne Donoghue

**Treasurer:** Natalie Murphy/Joanne Lennon

**PR:** Jenny Hill

**Communications:** Jennie Hughes

**Key Stage 1 rep:** Emma Sergeant

**Key Stage 2 rep:** Emma McComish

### What we've been up to

The AGM was held in school on Wednesday 11 October. Mrs Robinson, Mr Hampson and Mrs Pritchard attended along with the current committee and parents/carers. As required at every AGM, current committee members stood down and new members were elected by closed ballot.

Our current Chair, Sarah reflected on her third year on the Committee and gave us some highlights and also reported on funds that we've raised and what we've used them for. You can read more about that later in the newsletter.

We've also been busy planning our Christmas fayre. **We're still looking for more volunteers to help out in the lead up and on the day so please [get in touch](#) if you'd like to get involved.**

### Dates for your diary

#### Friday 24 November: own clothes day

★ Bring a gift for the Christmas Fayre tombola. KS1 (reception–Yr2) child gift/KS2 (Y3–Y6) adult gift ★

#### Friday 1 December: Santa Dash

★ Bring a donation for the [Waterloo Community Pantry](#), in memory of Ursuline parent Sam Mercer ★

#### Friday 8 December 3.30pm to 6pm: Ursuline Christmas Fair

★ Bring a bottle for the tombola ★

#### Monday 18 December: Breakfast with Santa

★ Bring a donation of £1 for the PTFA ★

#### Tuesday 19 December: Christmas jumper day and Christmas dinner day

★ Come to school wearing a Christmas jumper ★

#### Thursday 21 December: Christmas party day

★ Bring a donation of £1 for the PTFA ★

★ Please only donate if you can ★

★ One donation per family is welcomed ★

## Fundraising

Thank you to everybody who's contributed to PTFA fundraising. We know it's been a financially challenging year and we're really pleased that we were still able to fund some key resources for the school.

## Highlights from 2022/23





### What we'll be funding next

Our aim is to use any funds raised to support all pupils across the school with funding for projects that they will all experience once or as an ongoing event.

So far this year, we've agreed to fund £5,000 to equip every class with Reading Spine books. This is a collection of recommended books that are considered to be 'must reads' for everybody. Each book is carefully chosen to stretch vocabulary, expose children to different structures and timeframes, encourage critical and analytic thinking and promote a love of reading.

We'll keep you up to date on other projects that were funding in future newsletters.



### Myth busting

**You have to have a child in the school to be a member of the PTFA** The PTFA is for everyone; parents, carers, teachers, grandparents or other family members, community members, etc.

**You have to be on the PTFA committee to be a member** Everybody who has responsibility for a child in Ursuline automatically becomes a member of the PTFA.

**If you're a member of the PTFA you have to volunteer to help at all the events** How involved you get is up to you. There's plenty of opportunities to volunteer and if you have the time, that's great! But we know how busy family life is. We're all just doing our best to make the school experience as enjoyable as we can for the children, so your support whenever you have the time is enough.

**It makes no difference to my child whether I get involved or not** PTFA membership gives you direct communication with other parents and teachers, and also shows your child that you're interested and invested in their school experience.

The PTFA committee and members all know each other really well and are just a **clique/group of friends** We are just a group of parents who volunteered to work together and do our best to help the school and our children. Of course we work closely with each other on different events throughout the year, but everyone has a voice to be heard whether on the committee, a volunteer or a parent.

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***Ursuline PTFA is a member of Parentkind, an organisation who underwrites our constitution. See [www.parentkind.org.uk](http://www.parentkind.org.uk) for more information.***

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**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Ursuline PTFA**

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***Look out for our next newsletter in Spring term 2024***

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