

PTCA - Autumn 2018 update

Dear Parents and Carers,

First of all, a MASSIVE thank you to everyone for all the fundraising last year, we know it was hard work and we know we asked a lot, BUT we smashed our £40k target!

This means that for this year, the focus is less on fundraising and more on the kids / parents / staff of the school having some fun and socialising. Plus, we get to build our amazing playground structure!

Playground update

The playground proposal of 3 interlinking towers was inspired by the children's own designs and models. Each tower has 2 access points for getting on and off, these include a slide, rope climbing structure and climbing wall. The towers link together via bridges which will lead into the woodland area and eventually onto the next phase of the playground.

Planning for permitted development has now been submitted and we are currently confirming the finer details with the designers and builders, London Play. If all goes to plan, we will be starting the building work this term and it should take 6-8 weeks to complete. We will keep you posted on our PTCA Facebook page. Thank you to the Playground Committee who helped turn this from an idea to reality! Below and at the end of this newsletter is a sneak peek of what it will look like.



Keep in touch

Join our Facebook group – search 'Whitehall Park school PTCA'

Join our whole school WhatsApp group

Take a look at the PTCA pin board in the playground

Email us at wpsfriends@whitehallparkschool.org.uk

Class Reps

Thank you to everyone who has signed up as a class rep – your help is invaluable. To keep up with what is going on with your class, please let your reps have your contact details.

Upcoming events

All our events rely upon parent volunteers so please do get involved. Our biggest event of the year is the summer fete (in June) but we have smaller events for the kids and parents planned throughout the year. Here's what is planned for this term

Friday 2nd November 6-8pm

Halloween 'Spooky' Disco

We are hoping to organise some spooky events for the kids, including a disco for the older children. Details TBC but we'll need volunteers to help make this happen. Please email your class rep if you would like to get involved.

Friday 23rd November

Quiz Night – hosted by Wendy Wason

Brush up your general knowledge and book your baby sitter, the Whitehall Park quiz is back, bigger and better and this year in our own building!

Tickets £10 including 1 drink.

Class reps will be in touch when tickets are available, and we'll keep you posted on the PTCA Facebook and WhatsApp groups.

Date TBC

Festive celebrations of carols and mulled wine

This year we will not be having Winter Wonderland but will be having smaller celebrations with family, friends and the school community. All the magic of Christmas but without the stress! Details to follow shortly.

Donations

£10,000 – anonymous donation

We have received an incredibly generous anonymous donation of **£10,000** – WOW!

We can't thank whoever it was enough – your amazing generosity will make a huge difference to when we can start the next phase of developing our Woodland and early years play spaces.

Waitrose Community Matters

We received a donation from Waitrose in Crouch End of £120 from their community matters fundraising scheme. Thank you to Amy Simmons for organising this.



Please sign up to easyfundraising.org.uk .

This is probably the easiest way to raise money for the school without having to spend anything. Simply go to easyfundraising.org.uk and register to support '**friends of Whitehall Park – North Islington**'. They have links to thousands of retailers all of whom will make a donation when you shop online via the easyfundraising link.

So far, we have raised over £2000 this way

Charity Status

We are delighted to say that after filling in a LOT of paperwork we are now a registered charity. The benefits of obtaining charitable status include:

- Being able to receive charitable donations from local and national companies
- Being eligible to apply to grant-making charitable trusts: most charitable trusts will give grants only to groups formally recognised as charities
- Being able to receive donations made through Payroll Giving and Company Matched Giving schemes
- Being eligible for work 'volunteer days'
- Being able to receive donations with Gift Aid

Please email us at wpsfriends@whitehallparkschool.org.uk if you would like more information on how you can make a donation through any of these schemes.

More playground pics....

