

Hi Everyone

Want to help us raise £10,000 for the school this academic year?

As parents, we can make a real difference in supporting our school to keep providing the first-class learning and nurturing environment we and our children are so lucky to have on our doorstep. One of the ways we do this is by running parent-led fundraising events for both parents and children.

With COVID-19 doing its best to prevent us raising much-needed funds for our wonderful school in the traditional face-to-face way, your class reps are very keen to find alternative ways of raising money to help school bridge the gap.

We have set ourselves a fundraising target of £10,000 for this school year. Primarily these funds will complete the toilet refurbishment which got underway last year. There are also other resources that the children and teachers would be very grateful for.

Introducing Ramsbury Primary School's alternative fundraiser

We are going to take a two-pronged approach to fundraising this year.

1. **For the children** - we will organise COVID-secure fundraising events over the course of the school year, to build a sense of fun in these strange times
2. **For the adults** – we will organise a few fundraising events so we can have some fun. But, critically, we will also ask for cash donations over the course of the year

While we develop our longer-term plan to raise the money, your class reps are keen to get the ball rolling with some half-term fun.

Introducing 'Project Pumpkin' - a series of fun Halloween activities you can do with the kids over half-term that can be entered into a competition. £2 per entry and prizes to be won! Keep an eye out for details in your ParentMail inbox.

For the parents – a tongue-in-cheek appeal for a serious cause

As much as the kids enjoy the events, we are sure in some quarters there will be a collective sigh of relief at being able to jump off the Halloween / Christmas event carousel this term ... For those that feel that way – you don't have to publicly admit it, but perhaps you could make a one off or termly donation to match your gratitude?! For those of you who are sad not to have our traditional events to go to, you might want to donate anyway.

There is absolutely no obligation to donate, and donating does not preclude yourself or your child(ren) from participating in any of the fundraisers. This is in place of the 'opt-in / opt-out' idea suggested earlier this term.

Would you like to donate?

Some ideas below on what you may want to donate in lieu of:

- **£5** – I don't want to bake, so here is the money I would have spent on ingredients
- **£10** – I don't want to buy my child a fancy-dress or nativity costume of dubious origin, so here is the money I would have spent buying one
- **£10** – you can have the pocket money I had set aside for the Christmas fair
- **£10** – I hate Zoom. Here's some money so I don't have to join an online pub quiz
- **£20** - I don't want to stand on the touchline while my child walks, swims or runs in any activity that has the word 'thon' in it. Here is the money I would have spent on my child's entrance fee and 'free' t-shirt
- **£50** – I don't want to attend a fancy ball so here is the money I would have spent on fancy clothes
- **£100** – Accept this donation as an expression of my gratitude for having nothing to buy, sell or make

If you want to make a donation, either as a one off or each term, you can do so via the ParentMail app. Just click on the three-line menu button in the top left-hand corner, head to the 'payments' page and select 'shop'.

Please be reassured that there is no expectation or pressure to donate. We are very aware that we are in very uncertain times and it will be easier for some than others to donate.

We are also keen to emphasise that if you donate along the lines of the above, your children and yourselves are still very welcome to join in any of the planned activities. The more the merrier!

Longer term fundraising plans – ideas and feedback very welcome

As we work on our longer-term fundraising plan, the lines of communication are open. If you have any feedback, questions or fabulous COVID-appropriate fundraising ideas, chat to your class reps. We are here to help and build a supportive community that can continue the wonderful experience that our school provides for our children, the staff and you.

Thank you

So much extra work is happening behind the scenes at school to ensure things run smoothly, safely, and most of all in a way the children are not affected by the changes as far as humanly possible. Your support and, very directly, your donations, will go a significant way in making a complex situation much easier for the teachers and our children.

Thank you in advance for your support this year. £10,000. Let's do this!

Laura Cooper
Chair, Ramsbury Primary School Parent Teacher Association (PTA)