**Summary**

The PTA wish everyone a slightly belated Happy New Year and hope you are looking forward to all our exciting events this year. We are delighted to let you know that the Wine Tasting evening raised £1300 and Christmas Fair raised just over £4000, so a huge thank you to everyone who made these events happen, by making things, setting it up and clearing away, helping on the stalls and in the kitchen and of course to everyone who came to enjoy the events. We’ve also raised £191 from 49 people who have used our new cashback scheme.

This money is used for the benefit of **your children**, recently the PTA funded some lovely new outdoor Maths resources for the whole school, a new interactive flat panel for a KS2 classroom and will pay for the KS2 storytelling workshop, there is more planned for 2018 and we couldn’t do this without your support.

**AGM – Thursday 18th September**

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 18th January, in the school ICT suite (just behind the entrance to the library) from 7:45pm. It’s a great opportunity to find out what events are planned and to put forward any great ideas you have for fundraising, also to find out how the PTA work and how lovely the committee are! Refreshments will be provided, we hope to see you there!

We have an enthusiastic committee but we would love to see more people, so if you would like to get involved you will be made very welcome, please email [pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk) for more information. There is also a PTA box in the school reception where we would be pleased to receive any comments and ideas for fundraising.

**Valentine Children’s Disco – Thursday 8th February**

The PTA are holding two Children’s Discos just before half term. The first Disco is for KS1 (Kites, Y1 and Y2) from 4:15 – 5:45pm. The second Disco is for KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) from 6:00-7:30pm.

The Discos are £2.50 per child payable on the door which includes a drink and crisps.

**Important:** Please collect KS1 children at 6pm at the back entrance to the hall (in the Kites garden) to avoid tangling with the incoming KS2 children queuing at the office door.

**PTA Quiz Night – Friday 26th January 7:30pm**

The SCPS PTA Quiz will be on Friday 26th January at 7.30 pm (for the quiz to start at 8pm sharp) in the School Hall, with a licenced bar (wine and beer) and snacks available to purchase. Thanks to Mrs Dunstan for setting the questions, if you would like to book a team (maximum 6 people, cost £18/team) please contact the PTA as soon as possible by email [pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk)

**On Your Bike Sunday 25th March**

Join the annual '[On Your Bike](http://www.onyourbikesonningcommon.co.uk/onyourbike/cycleride/index.html)' event, the largest family cycle ride in South Oxfordshire (last year nearly 600 people joined in!) The ride explores leafy lanes and stunning local countryside with three routes of 5.5 miles, 12 miles and 20 miles. There will also be a supervised [playground cycle](http://www.onyourbikesonningcommon.co.uk/onyourbike/playgroundcycle/index.html).

Go to our website [www.onyourbikesonningcommon.co.uk](http://www.onyourbikesonningcommon.co.uk) to register now and get all the up to date information, registering in advance is just £5 per person and gives you entry into the prize draw too.

We need volunteers to run the playground cycle (usually someone whose child won’t go on the main ride and who would prefer not to cycle themselves either) and for marshalls on the route (to make sure people go the right way) . If you can help with marshalling please contact Richard Dixon on [rdixon21@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rdixon21@yahoo.co.uk) For all other queries please contact [pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk)

This year we are raising money for SCPS, FISH and First Responders.

**Bag2School Wednesday 18th April**

There will be a Bag2School collection on Wednesday 18th April, the bags will be distributed nearer the time but why not start collecting now when you spring clean your wardrobes and make money for your school. We are paid by the tonne so the more you donate, the more money we get. Remember they will accept any good quality clothing or shoes that can be re-worn (also handbags, soft toys, household linen, curtains, towels and bedding). They do NOT accept blankets, duvets, textile offcuts, torn or damaged clothing or school uniform.

**Buying in the January Sales?**

Please use our cash back scheme, which is run by Easy fund Raising. It’s easy to join and will help us raise money to be spent on your children. Just go to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/) and search for the school, then register. You can install a donation reminder and an app to make it easy. So far 49 people have raised £191, but we have over 400 children at school so it would be great if everyone could start using it and raise even more money. You’d be surprised at how many retailers are listed, even Amazon!

**Desperately Seeking Sponsors**

Do you work for a large company that offers matched funding? Some companies will offer to match funds raised, so if you help with an event the PTA could receive additional money, all of which goes to provide equipment or events for your child. Could your company offer to sponsor some equipment for school?

If you think you could help please contact us on [pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk)

**On Going** **Collections**

We also have ongoing collections for unwanted cables, printer cartridges and used pens as well as collecting supermarket vouchers for schools when these are offered, collection boxes are in the bike shed, opposite the school reception.

**Want to Know More?**

We are always pleased to accept new people on the committee. For more information about the PTA please see Wendy Perry (the Chair) or Caroline Conway (in Kites). There is also a PTA box in the school reception where we would be pleased to receive any comments and ideas for fundraising or you can email [pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk) for more information.

**Further Dates to Note**

**Thursday 18th January 2018 PTA AGM**

**Friday 26th January PTA Quiz night**

**Thursday 8th February Children’s Valentine Disco**

**Frodau 16th March Village Quiz night**

**Sunday 25th March On Your Bike (cycle ride)**

**Wednesday 18th April Bag2School collection 9am**

**Saturday 23rd June Summer Fair**

**Saturday 7th July Camp Out weekend (camp at school!)**

Just a final note, we have had to revert to an “old school” type of newsletter. Despite favourable comments about our new look, we have found some people prefer the text only style as it is more easily read when sent out via ParentMail, so we have decided to go back to the old style. Check out the pta pages on the website for photos of our events in the future.