

# Sutton Grammar School PTA

## Spring '18 Start of Term Newsletter



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Trust you all having a great start to 2018.

### Message from the PTA

The end of a calendar year always gets extremely busy for the PTA with the Christmas Raffle, Car Parking and the Christmas Fair all seeking their fair bit of attention and importantly volunteering time. With your support, we have been able run these effectively. Thank You.

Our International Evening which has been gaining popularity year on year is scheduled for Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Mark this evening down in your diaries - it's very much a social occasion.

Since the last newsletter, SGSPTA has approved funding for the following expenses/activities within the school:

£600 IT Department - Hard drives and power cables for 6 laptops donated to the school.

The PTA requires continuity in the below areas/activities. If you could assist it would be very much appreciated.

- Assistant Treasurer
- Raffle Draws (Summer and Christmas)
- Double 100

### Christmas Fair (Sarah Tozer, Cassian Mendes)

The Sutton Grammar Christmas Fair, held on Saturday 9th December 2017, was a great success. It was wonderful to see the community of Sutton Grammar, with their friends and family coming together at this fundraising event, which had a special festive atmosphere. It was held in the main hall, with a few side rooms, consisting of three types of tombola's, home crafts, cakes, books, second hand games and many more stalls. It was a decent opportunity to pick up Christmas bargains.

As ever, the Supermarket stall was a huge success with the locals, some of whom were queuing up in advance to pick up some bargains on the kindly donated food items from the Sutton Families. Also, the Tombola's were hugely popular, with both the bottle tombola and the chocolate tombola being a complete sell out. The chocolate tombola was run by our PTA teacher representative, Mr Turner, and various helpers, who did a superb job of attracting customers with their festive cheer (and of course the mound of chocolate treats helped to pull in customers). Then in the canteen, we had wonderful hot food being cooked and served by Freddy and his team.

So many families helped hugely by donating gifts, helping to organise the fair set up, running stalls on the day, and with the clean-up.

Collectively, we have raised £4,348.50 out of which £1,603.50 is from the Christmas Raffle. Furthermore the Car Parking team raised around £1,100.

Thank you to one and all.

### Your SGS Needs (Mr. Turner)

#### Props and Furniture

On the 14th-16th March, students will be taking part in this year's joint musical collaboration with Sutton High School for Girls. They will be performing *The Addams Family Musical*, based on the cartoon characters created by Charles Addams and the stars of several television series and films.

As preparations get under way, the school are looking for a variety of props and furniture for the production. Whilst they have been able to track down or make most things, there are a couple of items outstanding:

- A couple of fending foils. Neither of them will be used for fighting, merely brandishing and posing;
- A chaise longue.

If you have any of these and are happy to lend them to the school for the production, please could you let Mr Price know ([nprice@suttonmail.org](mailto:nprice@suttonmail.org)). Having lent them a leather armchair for a previous production myself, I can confirm that they will take very good care of them indeed!

### Upcoming Events

The next two scheduled PTA events are below:

- International Evening, Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 5pm - 7.30pm (Edyta Zjawiony)
- School Quiz, Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March (James Humphrey-Evans)

Event specific emails will follow in due course of time. Please support these activities.

### Invigilating

Such was the interest in the PTA's mock tests this year that our booking system struggled to cope with the demand for places when we went live. Understandably, parents were frustrated; we worked hard to reply promptly to all emails. By late afternoon, booking was running smoothly. Over 70% of spaces were sold within 12 hours of the launch, with the rest sold out by the following Tuesday morning.

After half term, we will be starting to put together our team of invigilators, ensuring that we have a good mix of experienced and new volunteers as well as our student helpers (see below). Last year we had over 100 parents involved, roughly one third of which were new. If you are interested in helping but have not yet come forward, we would love to hear from you. Please email us at [ptainvigilators@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ptainvigilators@yahoo.co.uk) and we will add you to our list.

For the first time, this year we offered some sessions at the end of the summer holidays. These were clearly very popular as they were the first sessions to sell out. In order to reduce the number of parents that will be needed at these sessions, we have invited year 12 students to help in return for a small payment. As Mr. Ironside said in his covering email to students inviting them to apply, they are being paid but "not very highly, but when you are saving for university or holidays, every little helps!"

### Car Parking

During the Mock Test days the school opens its ground to enable the parents of the Mock Test to park their cars whilst the children undertake the test. There are multiple slots that are required to be filled to support the Car Parking operation. Separate emails will be sent out requesting volunteers to help. Until then, if you have any questions on how you can help, please get in touch with the Car Parking Team [sgscarparking@gmail.com](mailto:sgscarparking@gmail.com)

### Mock Test Dates

- May - 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>
- June - 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>
- August - 31<sup>st</sup>
- September - 1<sup>st</sup>

## Easy Fundraising (<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/sgspta>)

Since the beginning of the school term in September 2017 we have had 14 new members join Easy Fundraising (EFR). With their help, we have raised over £400 for the school with EFR averaging over a £100 per month. There is plenty of scope for increasingly this further and taking advantage of their offers (see on-line).

If you are not already a member, why not join us. To register simply access [Easyfundraising.org.uk](http://Easyfundraising.org.uk) through your web browser and choose 'Sutton Grammar School for

Boys PTA' as the charity you wish to support. When you shop on-line, instead of going direct to your on-line retailer, you first go to [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk), and then click through to your chosen retailer. This generates a donation which is then passed onto the school.

Join today and help raise money for the school the easy way!!

### Next meetings

Meetings at 7:30 in Room 74 on the dates below:

- 26<sup>th</sup> February (Monday)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> April (Monday)
- 11<sup>th</sup> June (Monday)

We look forward to seeing you at PTA events and working together for the benefit of the school!

Many Thanks,

SGS PTA

Email: [info.sgspta@suttongrammar.sutton.sch.uk](mailto:info.sgspta@suttongrammar.sutton.sch.uk)