

Longsands PTFA Newsletter

2019/2020



Our Year

It has been a very strange academic year to say the least. We managed to do a few fundraising events before the world turned upside down. Going forward, there will be a 'new normal', but we will adapt and carry on, and probably just be more electronic for a while 😊

However, we have **BIG** news for the start of the new term in September . . .

They're coming . . .

OUR BENCHES! ALL FIVE OF THEM!!

They have been ordered and will be in school for the start of the new term.



So, a **big thank you** to all parents who helped and supported us to raise money. Without it, we wouldn't be able to complete big projects like this one that will benefit all the children. There will be enough seating for a whole class to have outside learning.

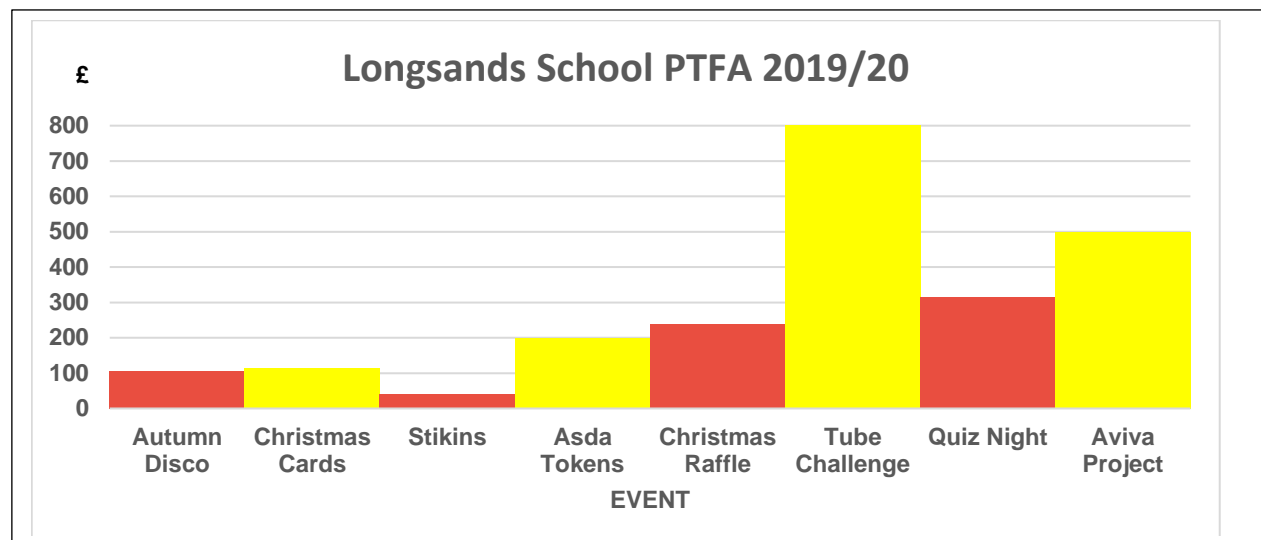
Our Aviva project helped us to raise money for our fifth bench. To all those contributors, we are so grateful.

With the school celebrating its 25-year anniversary, we are really pleased we could mark it by completing a big project, something which a portion of our fundraising has been going towards for a few years. So, many, many people have been involved in helping us finally finish it – thank you!

OTHER THINGS TO CELEBRATE

Monies Raised

Here is a summary of our events and how much we raised at each:



A very respectable £2,105 was raised in this (half) academic year!

Autumn Disco

DJ Slug had all the kids boogie-ing away in October.

Card Project

This year we did it with a new company who offered to do any kind of card, e.g. Christmas, Thank You, Eid. It was great to see the diversity in the artwork!

Silver Change Tube Challenge

To recap what the years bought:

Reception: Outdoor Equipment
Year 1: Classroom Resources
Year 2: Maths Resources

Year 4: Listening Station
Year 5: Listening Station
Year 6: Laptop

Christmas Raffle

There were three performances held and we had generous donations into our raffle.

Quiz Night

First place went to The Snitchers, second place was The Super Fluffy Budgies and third place was The Titanic Deckchair Attendants. The children had kids' quick bingo, beat the box, lob-a-choc and 20p on a lemon and guess the football team cards to keep them amused as well.

And that was all we managed to do before going into lockdown. We couldn't run our Easter raffle, but we had some great Easter projects done by some children.

FUNDING THAT YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE ALLOWED US TO PROVIDE THIS YEAR

Times Table Rock Stars (big hit with the children!)

Christmas gifts

Tubes for the Silver Change Tube Challenge

Books

Stationary to support the return after lockdown

And completion of our bench project!



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

Despite having to start next year in a different situation to what we thought, we want to continue to raise funds where we can and help the school celebrate its 25-year anniversary.

Pebble path – A Summer Project for the Children

Making part of the outdoor learning area really colourful and fun will create a positive place that can help wellbeing. If you can, pick up a pebble this summer and decorate it in any way you like, as colourful as you can. School can then create a path (health and safety permitting!) to our rainbow benches and create a bright, inviting outdoor classroom!



Have you got any Virtual Fundraising Ideas?

The PTFA would like to run fun and worthwhile events to let everyone participate and raise as much money as we can for reinvestment in this next academic year.

What do you think about a virtual balloon race? Or we could run class zoom bingo? Or how about a garage safari? Or even a sponsored giant aerobics class on the field! Let us know your ideas!

OTHER NEWS

School Ties

The PTFA have sourced school ties. The company uses recyclable material to create their spun cotton and have matched our school colours exactly. Benefits of buying ties from school:

- **Pick up from school** – no need to go shopping!
- **Environmentally friendly**
- **Choice** between elastic, clip on and Velcro
- **Cheaper** than buying in the shop – e.g. elastic tie is £3.99 in town; you can buy from school for £3.85!
- AND if you purchase from school, you'll be **supporting** the PTFA by donating 50p into funds.

Ties will be available to pick up during the first week back at school and can be purchased through ParentPay.

Costs will be: Elastic £3.85, Clip on £5.00 and Velcro (up to 36cm) £5.00



Second-Hand School Uniforms

All uniform items are £1. We would be happy to offer a complete uniform bundle to any parents who wish to buy (stock permitting). Please email longsandsptfa@gmail.com and we will be happy to sort this for you.

Key Supplies

Key Supplies have their online ordering system, making it easier and quicker to place any orders. Please visit their website for [more details](#). Also, they are no longer embroidering logos onto uniform that have not been purchased through them.

My Own Tutor Club

If anyone is interested in getting an online tutor, this may be worth checking out:

<https://www.facebook.com/myowntutorclub18143/> or email at myowntutorclub@outlook.com.

(We are just passing this information that has come into us, we are not endorsing it).

THERE ARE WAYS TO HELP US KEEP RAISING FUNDS

You can donate to the PTFA *without having to give us any money yourself*. Can you set any of these up?

Easyfundraising.org.uk

If you shop online, you can raise FREE donations for Longsands School PTFA. Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use #easyfundraising to shop with them! Please get involved! Visit

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/longsandsschoolptfa/?utm_campaign=raise-more

Also, any business can register and help us raise funds through their everyday office purchases, e.g. stationery. Would your firm be willing to sign up and help us?

Smileamazon.co.uk

You can access this site via easyfundraising.org.uk and log on as usual. It just puts the donation in 'their' Longsands PTFA pot to give to us. We've already had a £5 donation from them. If more people signed up, it's amazing what could be raised!

Stikins Labels

For anyone buying Stikins labels (www.stikins.co.uk), please use our code - **35371**. The PTFA receive 30% commission on orders, which is very beneficial to keep funds coming in.

SPECIAL THANKS

Mrs McKeown, Mr Coyne, Mrs Wilds, all the teaching staff at Longsands – you have kept us all going as much as possible, especially during Lockdown, from key worker children support to communicating regularly, keeping us informed and helping us to navigate through how we cope and get support if we need it.

To all those who contributed to our events this year, e.g. raffle prizes, coming along to support. Your generosity was greatly appreciated.

PTFA committee members (from the Chair) - your enthusiasm to make our events successful and your willingness to keep participating - thank you.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PTFA Meeting – September / October

We will be following government guidelines on this, so will issue information at the start of term.

PTFA AGM – October

Our next AGM will be in October and again we'll be following government guidelines on how we can hold this.

As always, anyone is welcome to our meetings. Come along and tell us your ideas.

Our next newsletter will be issued in September. Keep an eye on our FB page for any updates over summer.

Get in touch with us at:

LongsandsPTFA@gmail.com

Our Facebook page [Longsands PTFA](#)

Or on our dedicated PTFA section on the school's website

Or contact the school office who can put you in touch with one of the members.

THE PTFA WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE A FUN AND SAFE SUMMER HOLIDAY.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL YEAR 6 GOING UP TO THEIR NEW SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER.