



Henham & Ugly PTA Autumn News Letter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back!

It's been a return to school like no other this year, but how marvellous and heart-warming to see all the happy faces of children and adults alike, walking through the school gates over the past week. We all couldn't be happier to be reunited with our wonderful school community, and I think we can all agree that our respect and gratitude to our amazing teaching team at Henham and Ugley, headed up by the incredible Mrs Hall, is greater than ever before!

Last year represented significant challenges to our PSA fund-raising activities, with many of our major events being cancelled due to the COVID19 pandemic. These challenges still continue into the coming academic year. Therefore this year, we are going to need to get more creative and imaginative with our approach than ever before, and think of new ways to continue to raise funds for our wonderful school, whilst meeting all the restrictions and guidelines currently required of us.

Despite these restrictions, we will continue to be as active as we can, and will need your support and involvement in all that we do. So, how can you get involved we hear you ask? Well, here are a few ideas to get us started!

Getting involved with PSA meetings and the Committee:

Do you have any fund-raising ideas that could help us this year? Then come along to one of our meetings, or get involved in our PSA committee!

If you would like to come and get involved in the PSA, either by joining our committee, or coming along to meetings to discuss ideas for fund raising, just drop us a line, or keep an eye out for upcoming meeting dates, which will be published on our Facebook page, school notice board, and are also communicated via email. You can also drop Amy, Katie or Sharon an email, you can find contact details at the end of this letter.

If you've never been to a meeting before, they are very informal, in normal times usually involving a drink at the pub, or currently Zoom, with a catch up and chat on any ideas we have for upcoming fundraising schemes and events. It's a great way to get to know people and get involved in the school community. There is absolutely no obligation to take on any tasks, we are simply great believers in the philosophy that two heads are always better than one. We're a very friendly bunch, and love to see your faces and hear your ideas, so please do come along if you can, as it really is fun.

Our next meeting date is currently scheduled for **Monday 21st September on Zoom at 7.30pm**. Links and passcodes will be released the week before hand. So please do log in and come join us, with a glass of wine or cup of tea in hand!

Supporting Events:

Please do keep your eyes peeled for upcoming events over the next few weeks. This year more than ever, we need to think creatively, so once our meetings are up and running again, we will update you on how you can get involved in supporting our events.



Bag2School Fund raiser:

To kick off our fundraising this year, our first event will be a **Bag2School collection on Friday 2nd October**. This is a fantastic scheme, where you can donate old clothes and textiles, and for each kilo that we collect, the school receives cash in return. We will be sending reminders out nearer the time, but in the meantime, please do a good rummage, and save any items of clothing that you no longer have use of.

We would normally hand out Bag2School bin bags for you to fill, but given the current circumstances, please fill your own bin bags from home to drop off. Details of drop-off points will be communicated nearer the day.

Items that can be donated include 'good quality' items for RE-USE, such as:

- Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags, hats and bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Lingerie
- Socks
- Belts
- Soft toys
- Household linen
- Household curtains
- Household towels
- Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

I'm too busy we hear you cry:

Work load too heavy to dedicate time for the above? Well, here are a couple of very quick and easy ways you can help us to raise money, requiring virtually no time commitment at all, and you don't even need to leave the comfort of your sofa:



We are members of the scheme Your School Lottery, which is a fantastic scheme. You pay a weekly lottery entry of £1 per ticket, and from this 40% goes to our school. The remainder goes towards some great prizes, with a small administration fee deducted for running the scheme.

Each week, there is a prize winner from our school community, currently winning at least £10.80 each week, however this will increase as more of us sign up. You are also entered into a national prize draw to win up to a whopping £25K prize pot each week, as well as other seasonal prizes, which currently include a family Forest Staycation or £400 cash prize, prizes well worth having I'm sure you agree!

Since launching the scheme in 2018, we have raised a whopping **£1,652** for the school, which is fantastic, and with more of us signed up, this figure will only grow. It's a great scheme, and a really easy way to support the school, so if you haven't signed up already, type in this link and get cracking! Best of luck!

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/henham-and-ugley-primary-and-nursery-school>



The Giving Machine is another fabulous scheme that we subscribe to. It's an App that you can add to your phone or tablet, through which you can shop with heaps of retailers. Each time you shop with a retailer via the app, a donation is generated to the school, at no cost to you, and with exceedingly little effort – what could be better?!

With many well know retailers included, such as John Lewis, Amazon, Next, Smiggle and M&S, this is a fantastic initiative.

To sign up, simply follow the link below, and register, download the app to your device, and simply start shopping! You'll be given regular updates on your fund-raising achievements via the app to spur you on, so get spending!

<https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/giver/join/?pbid=58076>

As you can see, there are so many ways to get involved, we'd love to see as many of you supporting these initiatives as possible, to make them the best success that they can be.

Best of luck to all the children and staff at Henham and Ugley for the upcoming academic year, and we hope all the parents and carers out there are having a well-earned quiet cup of tea in peace this week too!

Henham and Ugley PSA

Amy Burgering - Chair, Sharon Garrett – Vice Chair, Katie Moxley – Treasurer, Stephanie Freeland – Secretary

a.burgering@henhamugley.essex.sch.uk Kathryn.moxley@hotmail.co.uk
sharon@wrighteventsupplies.com