

PATCH

newsletter



Summer 2020

Welcome to the last PATCH newsletter of the school year. This would usually be a time when we fill the newsletter with lots of sunshine, lollipops and rainbows, everything that's wonderful when we're together. However, despite no Easter Disco or Summer Picnic to fill the pages, there are still a few loose ends to tidy up and, as another PATCH year ends, a few bits of business to take care of before we break for summer. Yes boring stuff I know, just when you wanted to play with the games you'd brought in on the last day, but nevertheless important things that you should know about.

From the Committee

We try to keep PATCH as informal as possible, however the rules that allow us to run as a charity say that we will hold an annual general meeting (AGM) in the summer term. The AGM allows the Committee to present what has happened within the charity over the previous year (and financial year) and also gives you, the members, the chance to elect a new Committee.

Of course the Covid-19 restrictions meant that we have been unable to hold our AGM this term. Since we know many of you will be disappointed by this, the Committee met by video on 23 June about working with these restrictions.

Business

- The PATCH year will have been brought to an end in June as normal.
- Reports from the Chair, Treasurer, Events Co-ordinator and Newsletter Editor will be collected and entered into the minutes of the June Committee Meeting, as they would at the AGM.
- These minutes will be posted on the PATCH page on the school's website for you to read (see **Contact**, above).

Committee

- We will hold a **Special General Meeting (SGM)** on **24 September** so you can elect a new committee.
 - We will let you know as soon as possible if we need to change this date because of Covid-19 restrictions.
- As the Committee only sits for a year, those present at the meeting agreed to carry on to look after the affairs of the charity until a new committee can be elected at the SGM.

Interim Committee (as of 23 June 2020):

Sarah Stones, Jemma Linnell, Melissa Foxon, Liz Mee, David Mumford and Ian Waldram.

More details of the Special General Meeting on page 3

events

PATCH has a very enthusiastic but small events team. There is so much more we can do with a bit of help and we welcome anyone who would love to get involved in planning or running events – you don't have to join the Committee to be part of the fun!

There are loads of ways you can get involved with your school community.

Check out our **Volunteer Leaflet** on the school website to see how you can help us to help your school!

contact

email: stmarysfieldspatch@gmail.com

Find us on FaceBook: **St. Mary's Fields Primary School Community**

Our webpage now has a very long address so please go to:

st-marysfields.leicester.sch.uk

► Our parents ► PATCH (PTA)



Click the tablet to take you to its website.

Does not work on printed copies!

Constitution

Following the 2019 AGM, the Constitution, our 'rule book', has now been updated and will be available on the schools website over the next few weeks.

Fundraising update

Our final figures were not available as we went to press, so our usual summary of how you have helped the children at St Mary's Fields will appear in the new school year.

However, we are pleased to let you know that PATCH has contributed towards the Year 6 leavers gifts.



Walkabout WEDNESDAY

- FREE to join in!
- It's great to be active!
- Come along when you can
- Buggy friendly!
- Meet other parents and carers

Sara Coy at Leicester City Council contacted the school before Christmas about starting a walking group, giving people a chance to meet up and get moving whilst exploring their local area.

Following Sara's introduction, PATCH kept this project going as a friendship group. It costs nothing to take part and we aim to make the walks open to as many of you as we can.

Each walk starts at school and where we go each week will vary. However, the route will be buggy-friendly and should take no more than an hour at a steady pace.

We hope to start our walks again in the new school year but only when it is safe to do so. Look out for the poster!

smile.amazon.co.uk

Although lockdown has meant we are unable to hold our fundraising events, remember you can still help the children at St Mary's Fields when you order from Amazon. Use this link and PATCH will get **0.5%** of anything you buy:

smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1027183-0

Excludes VAT, returns and delivery charges.




Let's raise a glass to wish Mrs Young, a very happy retirement.



Mrs Young celebrating her retirement.

Rounding off

Some extra-special PATCH thank yous:

- first to the school office for being brilliant;
- Mr Dixon and Mrs Summerhayes for opening and closing up for us;
- the Manor House for lending us their gazebos;
- to all our fantastic volunteers who have helped bring our plans to life;
- our FaceBook moderators.

And (almost) finally:

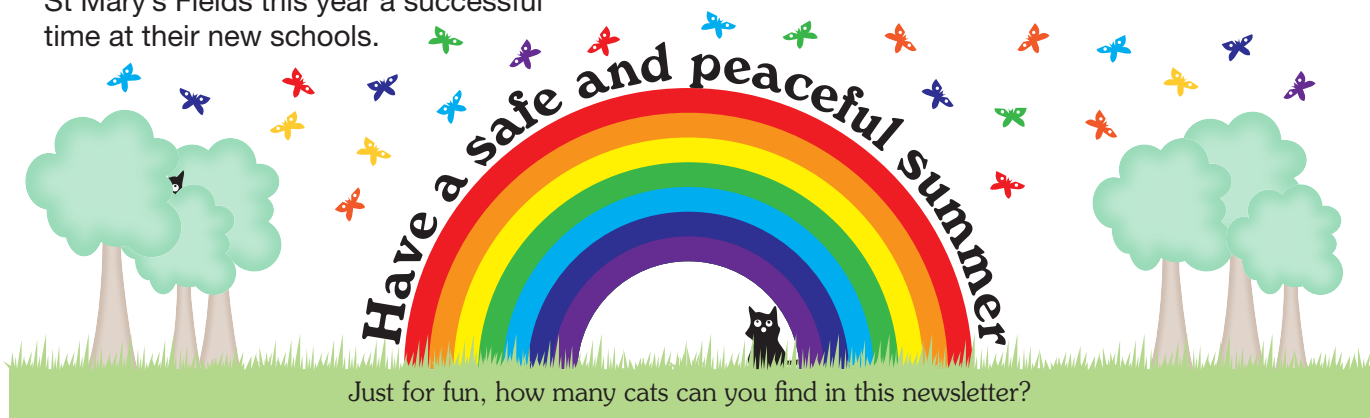
- please join us in wishing Mr Wilson, Mrs Smith, Mrs Liquorish and Miss Lawrence good luck for the future;
- and let's wish all those children leaving St Mary's Fields this year a successful time at their new schools.

So finally:

I'm sure many of us share Mrs Dulieu's sadness in the way the school year has had to end.

So everybody join in for one big, 'virtual', socially-distanced group hug with all the staff at St Mary's Fields for keeping the school open to our key worker and vulnerable children, and for staying in touch with the children who are at home.

However, I leave the final words of thanks to the Senior Leadership Team and Governors, who have put tremendous energy into reopening the school following the Government's announcements.



Special General Meeting

Thursday, 24 September 2020, 3.30pm at school*



PATCH

Childcare will be provided by the school whilst you are in the meeting.

PATCH is a registered charity, which is run by a committee. Our rules state that we will hold an **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** in the summer term. As Covid-19 restrictions did not allow us to do this, we will hold a **Special General Meeting (SGM)** so that the members, **which include all parents, carers and helpers of children at the school and the teaching staff**, have the chance to:

- choose a new committee.

The committee is chosen by an election so if you are interested in joining the committee, we welcome nominations at any time until the meeting begins.

You can nominate yourself or someone can do this for you, with your agreement.

To be nominated or vote at the meeting you must be a parent, carer or helper of a child at the school or teaching staff.

Nominations can be given by:

- emailing us at:
stmarysfieldspatch@gmail.com;
- leaving your details at the school office;
- contacting one of the interim committee members.

The committee is made up of:

- a chair
- a vice-chair
- a secretary
- a treasurer
- an events co-ordinator
- a newsletter editor
- other members.

Other committee members include people who want to help run the charity but without the extra responsibilities of the named roles.

Our rules also allow us to invite to the committee up to two people with special skills or knowledge to help the charity run smoothly.

* This date may change if Covid-19 restrictions do not allow us to meet.