

MEADLANDS UNITED

Parent Teacher & Friends Association

Issue 25/2025
Monday 16 October 2025

Welcome

Dear Meadlands United PTFA membership

We are pleased to share our first Newsletter with you all. We would really like to hear your fundraising ideas and plans you might have for the coming year. Please get in touch by email or find us for a chat. We look forward to organising some fun events and activities together with you all to benefit the pupils of Meadlands.

Your new MU PTFA Committee



Chair

Katy



Secretary

Louise



Co-Treasurer

Terri



Co-Treasurer

Vicky



Ordinary Committee Member - Transition

Viki



**SUGGESTION
BOX**



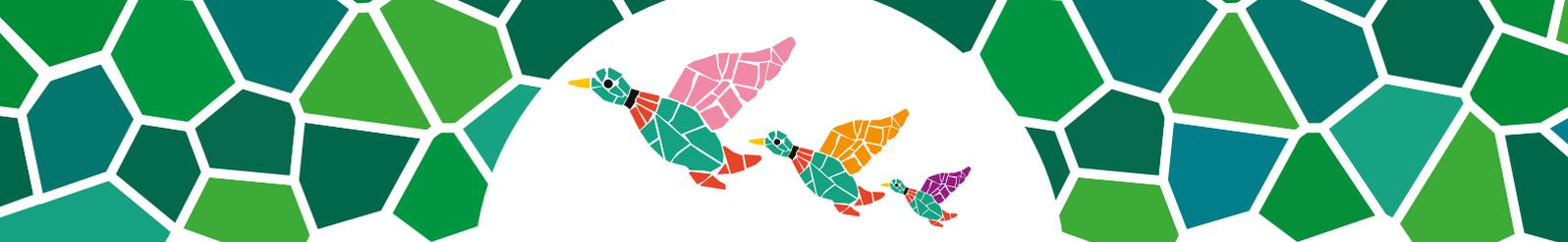
EMAIL



LET'S CHAT

Please do approach us with any suggestions or feedback

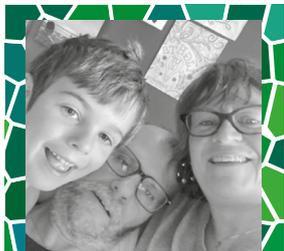
meadlands.united@gmail.com



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Katy Brown - Chair

Hi, I'm Katy, Mum to Noah 'Brown' in Y2 - there were 2 Noah B's in his class - and even though one's left, he still gets called by his full name :). My background is quite mixed and includes a Nursing Degree and a Health Visitor qualification, a BTEC in Floristry, and a Coaching certificate. I've worked within the NHS for many years, run my own Floristry business and supported clients with lifestyle changes. My faith is a very important part of 'me' too, and I've been a Christian for 10 years. I'm currently prioritising spending time with Noah and my husband, Paul, who has young-onset dementia. I feel I can bring creative ideas, enthusiasm and collaborative and inclusive working. I'm excited to be a small part of a very big team in a wonderful school and look forward to hearing how we can all achieve some great results together.



Vicky Adams – Co Treasurer

Hello, my name is Vicky, mum to Alice and Florence (Year 5), Albert and Freya (Year 1), and Charlie, who will soon join Meadlands Nursery. As a family deeply rooted across the school, I wanted to join the Meadlands United committee to give back to the school that does so much for them. My background is in the sciences—I hold a PhD in Immunology—but my professional focus for the last decade has been project management in Biotech. Although I am currently focusing on my children, I hope to use these skills to support our school community. I am committed to working collaboratively as a team with all parents and teachers to ensure our fundraising efforts run efficiently and effectively, ultimately creating the best experiences for every child who is lucky enough to attend Meadlands.



Terri Philip – Co Treasurer

I'm Terri Philip, mum to Sienna (Y2), Margot (Nursery) and Beatrix (at nearby Meadowview).

I'm a Chartered Public Finance Accountant and have worked in the civil service for the past 10 years. As Co-Treasurer, my priority is to maximise the resources available for each and every child at Meadlands, whilst ensuring we are honest and transparent with how we utilise PTA funds. I'm looking forward to getting the know the wider Meadlands community at upcoming events.



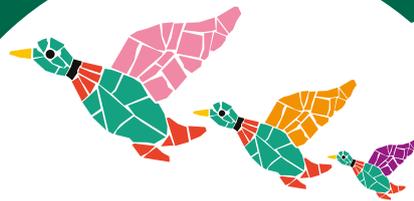
Louise Greathead - Secretary

Hello! I'm Louise — mum to Milo in Y2 and Felix, who's 18 months old. I'm originally from Yorkshire and have a degree in Chemistry and a PhD in Immunology. I've worked as a Clinical Scientist in pathology for the NHS for over 10 years. I hope to support the PTFA by using my organisational skills to help maximise fundraising opportunities for the benefit of all our children. I'm really excited to be contributing to our wonderful school community and look forward to working with everyone to help our children thrive.



Viki Bonta, the outgoing PTFA Treasurer

I'm Viki, I have two sons, Aidan in Y4 and Alex now in Y7 at Grey Court. I've really enjoyed getting to know so many of you over the last two and a half years. In the interest of a timely and thorough handover, at the recent EGM I was elected as an Ordinary Committee Member. I intend to support and advise the newly elected trustees with operational requirements and best practices as long as it's necessary for the successful continuation of the charity.



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About Meadlands United Parents, Teachers, Friends Association

Meadlands United PTFA operates as a charitable organisation and is a registered charity. It is an independent body, like all PTAs, and its elected trustees (the committee) are responsible and accountable for governing and managing it lawfully and effectively. Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) by the PTFA's membership: parents, guardians, staff (automatically) and friends (upon written request) of Meadlands Primary School.

The framework within it operates is provided by the Charity Law and by its constitution that was adopted by its membership in April 2023. The Constitution can be found in the PTA section on the school's website. It dictates how the charity operates and what its objects are. The PTA's objectives (or objects) are a statement of its purpose as a charity: everything it does must be aimed at achieving these objectives. All committee members must act in the best interest of the charity at all times and to further its objects. Meadlands United PTFA's charitable objectives are to advance the education of Meadlands pupils. It is the right and legal responsibility of the elected committee to determine whether an activity or a spending of funds decision will help the PTA meet its charitable objectives and to make sure the funds are spent correctly. In short, monies raised by the PTA should be spent in a way that will be the most beneficial to pupils at the school.

The PTA, its activities and the funds it raises are what makes a difference to the education and primary school experience of the pupils at the school - both current and future. Please join the Meadlands United trustees in their endeavour to make this a journey of successful fun(d)raising for their term in the driving seat.

Financial update from July & September

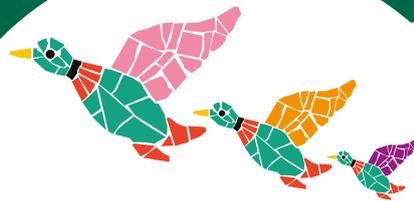
At the end of the last & beginning of the new financial year, the previous Committee was delighted to be able to support the school with the following donations:

1. Subscription to 'Sing Up' in support of Music curriculum for the new academic year: £250 (July)
2. School resources to be used by all the year groups (including white board markers, glue sticks, pencils, colouring pencils, scissors, tapes, pens, paints, paper, protractors, handwriting books and more): £1,288.96 (July)
3. Donation to school to fund after-school activities for vulnerable children: £1,008 (September)
4. Supporting the new Sustainability & Environmental education curriculum with 8 litter pickers to be used by the children during break times: £19.49 (September)
5. Ad hoc emergency maintenance contribution for the boiler repair: £2,185 (September)

Closing balance 2024/25: £7,983.59

Income since 2 September: £58.65 (second-hand uniform sale)

Current balance: £4,829.75



MEADLANDS UNITED

Parent Teacher & Friends Association

What has your new committee done so far?

We have had a busy few weeks with handover and initial committee meetings, updating details for the Charity Commission register, PTFA bank account and various other administrative tasks. We can't wait to start organising our first events with your help for our children and adults alike.

The new PTFA committee took up a fantastic ParentKind offer of a new card machine (with lower fees) that they managed to negotiate on behalf of their members. In addition, ParentKind are passing on their commission and Meadlands United will receive a £200 donation in the new year.



Christmas Project 2025 with Class Fundraising - A MU PTFA Fundraiser

This year we have registered with Class Fundraising to turn your children's artwork into Christmas cards, mugs, baubles, soft toys, keyrings, photo blocks, tree decoration, story books, tea towel, tote bag and puzzle just to name a few of over 20 fantastic products you will be able to choose from. Please check your child's bag for the template / form for more information - they were given these on Friday. You can find further information on the below website. For additional forms, please ask your class rep or one of us.

The deadline for submission is 20 October - please return the artwork to the class teacher.

A parent order card will be sent home with the children 7-10 days after this date (similar to the school photo order proof card). You will then be able to log onto the Class Fundraising shop using your login details printed on your card. The shop will stay open for around 2 weeks (date tbc) before production begins.

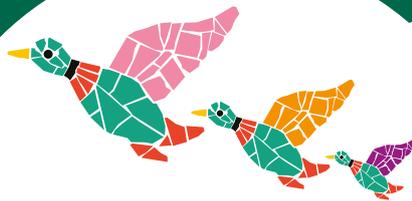
shop.classfundraising.co.uk

Meadlands United will receive 20% commission on every product sold.

Fundraising for any occasion!

They also offer a 10% commission to Meadlands United on every order all year round when parents use their Photo Gift Shop. Please consider using them for your personalised birthday cards, calendars, mugs and keepsake gifts! You just need to register / login and select Meadlands Primary school in the drop-down.





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EasyFundraising - Turn cashback from online shopping into free donations

Not joined yet? Sign up to *easyfundraising* and when you shop online with over 8,000 retailers, they'll donate to Meadlands United. It's free and your shopping won't cost you any extra - your favourite brands you shop with will donate, not you!

The Free £2 App-eal: The more new supporters sign up using the Easy Fundraising app by 31 October, the more bonus £2 donations we get! Plus if we get 10+ supporters to sign up via the app this October, we will unlock up to £150 bonus donations as well.

Sign up today here or scan the QR code on the banner on the school gate!

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/meadlands-united/

Regular Giving

Please donate the cost of a cup of coffee (or two) every month if you are able to, by setting up a direct debit to our charity bank account. These micro donations can add up to thousands of pounds by the end of the year! Thank you to those families who have set this up already. We really appreciate your help!

Meadlands United PTFA - Registered charity 1111542

Bank details: Sort code: 55-50-39 / Account number: 71600477

ParentKind - FREE Parent webinar series back in session!

'At Parentkind, we support everyone in a parenting role. And let's face it, that's a challenging job. Tackling a wide range of topics, our webinars are designed to share insight on how you can support your child with a wide range of learning and life experiences, strengthen your understanding of education and school life, and foster solid parent-child relationships along the way.' To register please follow the link:

www.parentkind.org.uk/your-pta-expert/parent-webinars



Meadlands United

© Ham, Richmond

£178.13 raised

65 supporters

Refer a friend and earn £1



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About Meadlands United

Charity number: 1111542

Supporting Meadlands Primary School as a PTFA & registered charity to enrich the education of its pupils, through organising various fundraising activities and by other means.

Parentkind

Parent webinars

We've curated this series of free webinars for parents, run by our team of parenting experts and professionals.

Share    





Earn an App-solutely FREE £2 donation for:



- 1 Use the QR code right to install the free easyfundraising app
- 2 Use the app to find our PTA and sign up as a supporter
- 3 We get a £2 bonus donation each time this happens before 31st October

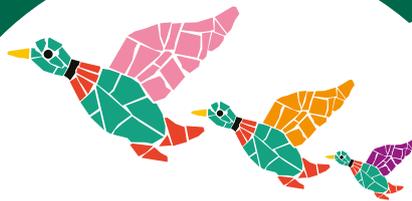


Free donations for our PTA when you shop online



JOHN LEWIS
& PARTNERS

8000+
online retailers



MEADLANDS UNITED

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Polite Notice:

Please do not put anything in the container by the bike shed. This is only for uniform donations, however we are not collecting any at the moment as we have a lot to sort and sell already and have limited storage. Many thanks for your understanding.

Preparing for Meadlands Christmas Fair 2025: Stars of Meadlands

Similarly to previous years, we would like the children to create the ceiling decoration for the hall. In 2023 we had the Angels of Peace installation, followed by the Bells of Meadlands last year. This year we would like the children to cut out and decorate stars that we can string up and hang in the hall. We need hundreds of them so please encourage your children to create lots! We'll collect them w/c 24 November. The shinier the better! Please use cardboard or paper only so they don't weigh too much once fastened to the string across the hall.

Upcoming Events & Dates for your diary

Class Fundraising™

20 October

Return artwork for Christmas products to class teachers



w/c 24 November

Send in decorated paper / cardboard stars for hall decs

28 November (evening)

Dec the Hall - School hall decorating for Christmas (a volunteer sign up link will be sent out for this via your class reps / whatsapp group closer to the date)

5 December

Wear your Christmas jumper & non-uniform day! (Please bring in a donation for the tombola that day - details to follow)



6 December

Meadlands Christmas Fair



7 March 2026, Dorking

Winter Nuts Challenge - we would love to enter a brave team to raise money for Meadlands United PTFA! As you'd be entering to run as a charity competitor, your company might even match fund you! The PTFA would advance your entry fee and hopefully you'll raise much more than that for the Meadlands pupils and have loads of muddy fun in the process! Please email us or let us know if this is something you would like to take part in! More info below:



thenutschallenge.co.uk/about

13 June 2026: Ham Fair

Many thanks for all your help and support - we can't wait to get started! You can get in touch via our MU gmail or come and have a chat at the gate.



MU PTFA Committee
Katy, Vicky, Terri, Louise and Viki