

# PTA news



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This is just one reaction, from a member of the staff who was planning an Activities Week trip, to news of a donation from the PTA. Our work lets many of the extra things happen that make school life special and memorable for so many of the girls at Millais. Without your support it's just not possible.



## WOOHOO!

## That's so fantastic!

## Thanks to you all!!

### PTA Chair's Ramble

It has been a busy term from Easter to the summer, hopefully summer is on its way and we will bask in sunshine for the whole of August. We have had a busy time in the PTA attending all parents evenings, selling second hand uniform and having a car boot sale every month. Unfortunately we will no longer be holding the car boot sales as we are finding it increasingly difficult to man.

With the end of term approaching it means that as a PTA we are looking to the new term and looking for more people to join the PTA. This does not need to mean a huge commitment on your part, one meeting per term and help with events which usually are just parents evenings selling teas and coffees and second hand uniform. Obviously if we have enough people you need not do this once a month it can be as little or as much time as you can give. So think about it you would be more than welcome.

I will be stepping down this time next year and I view my time on the PTA as a happy one; it has given me involvement with the school that I would not have had if I had

not joined and I know my daughter has appreciated that.

Lastly I would like to thank all the members of the PTA who unstintingly give their time to the PTA, the girls in each year group who are the PTA reps and give the girls' perspective, and also the parents who support our events. If you want to contact me about anything you can do on 01403 240484 or email me on [moakleypsmith@bopenworld.com](mailto:moakleypsmith@bopenworld.com)

Melanie Oakley

### Millais PTA aims:

Raising funds and promoting links between:

- The School
- The Staff
- The Parents
- The Pupils
- The Community

### PTA pupil reps

A big 'THANK YOU' from all the PTA members to our student PTA reps who have helped us out during the course of this year: Lily Boniface, Bethany Hammerton-Cooke, Phoebe Rosamond, Chloe Shearer, Beth Verdon-Burton, Leyla Akbay, Katie Duffin, Georgia Campbell, Lucy Priestley, Emily Dean, Alyce O'Connor, Laura Harding, Caitlin Ward, Rebecca Wilkinson, Jasminder Sohota and Abigail Ward.

Any girls who would like to participate as a PTA pupil representative during the next year should contact Suzanne Stayton who will be taking over the co-ordination role from Caroline Harding during the coming year.

Existing PTA reps are of course also very much welcome to continue in their roles during the coming year if they are able to.

Suzanne Stayton / Caroline Harding

Date for  
your  
diary:

The MILLAIS Parent Teacher Association Annual General Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Sept 2011, 7pm** in the Mitex building (near Highlands Road entrance). All welcome. Come along and make a difference!

**Chair:** Melanie Oakley, 01403 240484, [moakleypsmith@bopenworld.com](mailto:moakleypsmith@bopenworld.com)  
**Website:** <http://www.millais.co.uk/pta.aspx> **PTA e-mail:** [millaispta@gmail.com](mailto:millaispta@gmail.com)

# MAMMA MIA!



The latest of our popular theatre trips visits Mamma Mia! at the Prince of Wales theatre in the West End on 8<sup>th</sup> July



## Theatre Craft Club

After the great success of the school production of Billy Elliot last year, the set designer and ex-pupil of Millais, Annalees Lim decided to try and get the pupils more involved in the process of designing and making the sets for this year's show, The Snow Queen.

With the help of funds from the PTA an After School Club was started called Theatre Craft. The students who participated were able to work with a professional set designer to fulfil the massive task of creating the set and props for the Snow Queen which was being staged at the Capitol Theatre in Horsham.

They started by making scale models of the stage space and put together designs for the stage flats. As well as helping to make prop food and set dressing, they then scaled-up their designs onto actual stage flats, painted cloths to be flown during the show and even helped with the scene changes during the production itself.

The Theatre Craft Club members' dedication to the production must be commended. They turned up consistently every week and quickly mastered the new skills demonstrated to them in each session. This culminated with the opportunity to take on a key role in delivering an enormous school project, but from a point of view that is often forgotten about - behind the scenes!

The two workshops leaders who ran the after school sessions would like to thank the school and the PTA for all their help to get

the Theatre Craft Club up and running. As far as we know, no other drama organisations or schools run clubs like this to encourage and enable pupils to take on the challenge of creating theatre sets.

Ellie Dear

## Second hand school uniform desperately wanted!

We have a big demand for second hand uniform, especially with the new academic year around the corner, but our supply unfortunately does not match our demand. If you have school uniform to donate it could not be easier. Put it in a bag marked FAO Mel Oakley PTA and get your daughter to hand it in to pupil services it will be picked up from there. Please please give generously - thank you

For all second hand uniform queries contact Melanie Oakley on 01403 240484 or email [moakleypsmith@bopenworld.com](mailto:moakleypsmith@bopenworld.com) Thank you for your continuing support.

Melanie Oakley

PS We are also very happy to take second hand Revision Guides off your hands in the same way.

## How you can support the PTA?

### Come along to an event:

As next year is the year of the Olympics we will be racking our brains to plan events with an Olympics theme. Our purpose is not only to fund-raise but also to socialise so keep an eye out for PTA events advertised in posters and in our termly newsletter.

### Help run an event

Get more involved by joining the PTA committee who plan and co-ordinate our activities and decide on projects to support. Come along to the AGM on 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm in the Mitex to find out more. Even if you don't want to join the committee we are very grateful to those who just volunteer their time to help out at events.

### Join us for a Theatre Visit

We have been running 2 or 3 theatre trips each year to see some of the top West End shows - recent examples have been Hairspray, Sister Act and of course Mamma Mia!

### Make a donation at Parents' Evenings

You will find PTA volunteers at every Parent's Evening, helping out by serving simple refreshments. If you would like to make a small donation at this time we would be very grateful.

### Make a GiftAid donation

It's simple just to make a straight donation. Any amount is welcome especially made if on a regular basis and as Millais PTA is a registered charity we can also benefit from GiftAid if you are a tax-payer. Forms for GiftAid and much more information are available from:

<http://www.millais.co.uk/pta.aspx>