This year our PTA Christmas Fair is a ‘Festive Friday’!

On Friday 1 December, from 3pm to 5.30pm, we will be holding Festive Friday at the school to raise funds for the Dormansland Primary School PTA by celebrating all things festive.

Come and join us, starting with hot drinks and festive music in the playground from pick-up time. The children will be collected from school as normal and Amigo’s after-school club will also run as usual.

The children will be decorating the whole school the day before Festive Friday during Friendship Day. As part of the day, children spend the morning in different classrooms working with children from all over the school to create new Christmassy art displays to revamp the school display boards. Festive Friday is a great opportunity to see your children’s art work and the new displays!
Festive Friday: what’s on?

- The school hall will get a Christmas make-over and there will be refreshments (hot/cold drinks and cakes), a bar serving alcoholic drinks (including mulled wine…) and snacks. There will be crafts (suitable for two year olds+) and a play area with soft mats and toys for babies and toddlers to explore while mums and dads get a few minutes peace to enjoy the festivities!

- The PTA will be running two stalls; one in the main hall with edible treats and our popular Silent Auction and one selling our beautiful crafts, which we are already making! More to follow soon on the Silent Auction and the wonderful prizes we are gathering….

- Several external sellers will be running stalls selling a range of products and handmade crafts – perfect for Christmas presents.

- For the children, there will be indoor and outdoor activities including the Jolly Jar tombola and lucky dip! Santa will be making time in his busy schedule to stop by; this year the elves will be setting up his cosy winter grotto in the outdoor classroom for an extra Christmassy experience. (Cost £2.50). A pre-booking form will come out shortly.

- We are delighted to be running the Secret Santa room again this year as the children love this (and the parents… usually!). Children get to go to the Secret Santa room without their parent or guardian and choose a Christmas gift for a parent or loved one. They will be given help to wrap the present and then they take it home to give on Christmas Day. (Cost £2.50). A pre-booking form will come out shortly.

We do remind you that unfortunately we do not have any card payment facilities so please bring plenty of cash and help us to support the school!

Christmas Challenge Days: what are they?

We start off our celebrations with two Christmas Challenge days (Thursday 16 and Thursday 23 Nov) where children are asked to bring in a donation for us to sell at Festive Friday.
For each item the children bring in they will be given a bauble to hang on their class Christmas Challenge trees at school. The class with the most baubles at the end of the two challenges wins a prize!

If we get a total of 500 donated items, Mrs Stokes has agreed to dress up in a ridiculous costume of the children’s choice!

1. Jolly Jar Christmas Challenge: Thursday 16 November

Each child is asked to decorate a jar (or as many jars as they like!), fill it with sweets or toys and bring it in to school on 16 November to donate for the Jolly Jar Tombola at Festive Friday.

There will be a box for each class in the playground. The boxes for Reception and Year 1 will be on the deck outside their classrooms. Please ask your child to put their jar(s) in their class box. The PTA then collect and count them ready for the teachers to give the children their baubles for the Challenge trees!

We would be grateful if you could save any empty jars and leave any spares you may have in the trolley by the school office for others to use. If you need an empty jar, please help yourself!

2. Secret Santa Christmas Challenge: Thursday 23 November

Each child is asked to bring in a donation for the Secret Santa room, which can be given as a present.

What to bring?
Unopened toiletries
Perfume
Candles
Wine
Chocolates
Anything else that would make a good gift.
We need donations of gifts for men as well as the ladies!

The PTA then collect the donations from the classrooms.
Why we need you?

We are so grateful for all the support the parent community at Dormansland gives to the PTA and appreciate that Christmas is an expensive, busy time of year.

The Christmas Fair (Festive Friday) is a key fundraising event for the PTA and we would therefore love to see as many people at the fair as we can. All the money we raise goes straight back in to the school to give the children the ‘cherry on top’, supporting their learning and development.

We also desperately need donations of the following items if possible:

- **Empty jars** – for Jolly Jars. Please place them in the trolley by the school office.
- **Christmas tree baubles**
- **Wrapping paper (lots!!)*** – for Secret Santa and Santa’s grotto gifts.
- **Prizes** – we would love to hear from you if you are able to donate any prizes for the Silent Auction or know any local businesses who are happy to support our event in some way. In particular, any gift vouchers for goods or services, restaurant vouchers or any free trips or entry to places.
- **Outdoor lighting** – both flood lighting and lots of LED fairy lights for Santa’s grotto (all will be returned after use).
- **Light up reindeers** – for the grotto.
- **Your help on the day!**

If you have any questions at all please let us know by email at pta@dormansland.surrey.sch.uk or via the school office.

Many thanks,

*Helen Smith & Catherine Thompson*

*PTA Co-Chairs*