

NEWS

Spring ISSUE 2021

St Thomas Becket Parents Association (STBSA)

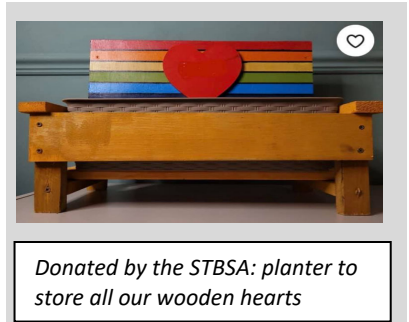
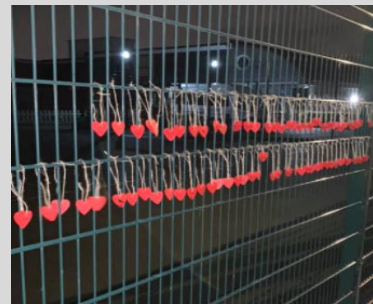
The STBSA are a voluntary group of parents who host events to help raise money for our school. All funds are used to enhance our children's learning experience.

Wooden Hearts

In February, wooden hearts with the names of those we love, care about, or were thinking of, began being looped on the school fence. By the Easter break there were 328 wooden hearts on display; this created an incredibly powerful visual of love and hope during a difficult time, when the school was closed and we were all locked down.

Thank you to everyone who supported this initiative, special thanks to the [Fox & Hounds](#) who sponsored this event. We raised £630 from heart sales, plus a parent's arranged for her company to gift-match £500 of the fundraised. **Total amount fundraised: £1130.**

All the hearts have been taken down from the fence, but they are all being kept in a dedicated planter, within the school building. This enables the children to continue to remember these special individuals, they will always be in our hearts.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **26th May:** Creative Coin Challenge – Details to follow – Tubes to be returned on 7th June
- **27th May:** Non-Uniform Day
- **Throughout June:** Father's day gifts – plantable cards & 'Father's Day' books by Shirley Hughes to purchase
- **19th – 25th June:** Youth Sport Trust National School Sport Week 2021 – Sponsored sporting activities
- **25th June:** Non-Uniform Day
- **30th June:** Bag2School
- **17th July:** Becket Bash – family picnic, bar, BBQ, and entertainment

The STBSA Uniform Exchange

The STBSA have created a Facebook page to enable parents to exchange unused or grown out of uniform, to reduce the back to school costs and help protect our planet, by not being wasteful.

Items posted will not have a price. If parents would like to make a discretionary donation to the STBSA for uniform they collect from this page, then can, but there is no obligation – we are happy if uniforms are reused.

[Sign up here:](#)

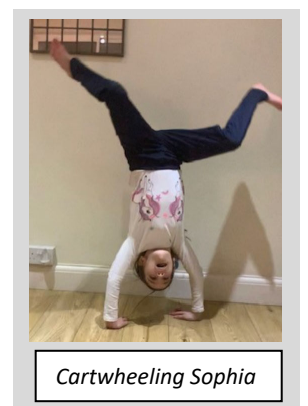
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1283717535329136/>



DonateMySchool

Thank you to everyone who donated money to the STBSA 'DonateMySchool' initiative – all funds from this were donated to the school to go towards IT equipment for families struggling with remotely accessing lessons from home.

A special shout out to Sophia in Yr 3 raised £125 by doing 50 cartwheels every day for 7 consecutive days – Well done Sophia! **This initiative raised £420 for our school.**



Virtual Quizzes

In January 'Quizzy Rascals' continued their winning streak and beat 15 other teams who entered our 2nd family quiz night. Well done Ned in Yr 2, for yet another quiz victory!

Our first virtual 'grown-ups' quiz took place in February. The winners were 'It's all Zoom and Doom', winning by just half a point.

Combined, both quizzes raised £243 for our school. Thank you to everyone who attended, and to Breege Rawlinson, our resident Quiz Master.



Easter Eggstravaganza!

13 teams entered our Easter Eggstravaganza. This initiative included meeting the Easter bunny, an Easter themed quiz and a local scavenger hunt.

The overall winners were Team Ola, with team Sheridan coming in a close second. Prizes are being awarded to both teams and to Team Lewington and Team Smarties. The STBSA will be in touch.



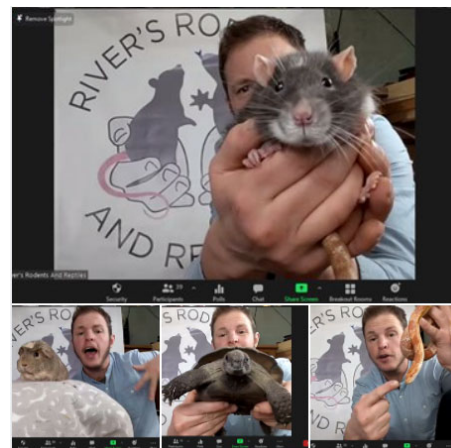
Easter Bunny @ School

Reptiles & Rodents....

During the February half term, the STBSA paid for River's Rodents and Reptiles to put on a virtual show for all Becket children and their siblings.

This event was a resounding success, with 38 families (over 50 children) dialling in. Feedback was incredible. Thank you everyone who attended and thank you River for putting on such a brilliant session.

River's Facebook page is here : <https://www.facebook.com/riversrodentsandreptiles>



Easyfundraising

In March the STBSA registered with Easyfundraising: www.easyfundraising.org.uk. This means that whenever families are shopping online, if they first visit the www.easyfundraising.org.uk, have "St Thomas Becket School Association" as their chosen charity, then select the retailer they wish to shop with (over 4000 companies are listed on this platform). If the user ultimately goes onto to make a purchase, a small donation will be made to the STBSA, and does not cost the individual anything.

We currently have 18 supporters, and raised £24 in the first month, if we raised this much every month, and encouraged more families/friends to select us as their charity and shop online in this way, we could raise well over £250 a year without it costing families anything. Please support us and Sign up!



School Tea Towels

Thank you to all the children who contributed their fantastic portraits for our school tea towels. The likenesses were uncanny.

The STBSA sold 290 tea towels and raised £930 for our school. One of our year 3 parents secured gift-matching from her employer, meaning **this initiative raised £1860 for our school**. It's our biggest fundraiser of the year so far!

We still have extra copies of the infant's version of the tea towel if anyone needs additional copies.

The STBSA are on Twitter! this Twitter feed is purely for STBSA promotional purposes: please follow-us and share our posts!
[STBSA \(@STBSA2\) / Twitter](https://twitter.com/STBSA2)



Thank you for all the Bag2School donations in March. We raised £138.

Another collection has been arranged for the 30th June.



Our School Lottery

The STBSA are launching a school lottery, through "Your School Lottery". The first draw is the 29th May, and will run weekly thereafter, please support us!

Tickets cost £1 (40p comes straight back to the STBSA), with a chance of winning £25k a week. You can buy tickets here: <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/play> > Select "St Thomas Becket School Association"

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The STBSA are now registered to receive Gift Aid!. This means we can claim 25% back on all voluntary donations that have been made over the past 4yrs!



Raise funds for your school or organisation the easy way.

- ✓ No Startup Fees
- ✓ No Admin
- ✓ Zero risk



[STBSA website](http://www.stbsa.org.uk)



STBSA Committee: Sarah Ellis, Breege Rawlinson, Giulia Dallas and Emlyn Pratt



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