

**SPONSORSTARS**  
Creating a brighter future

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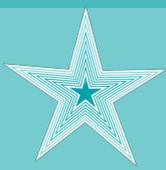
## Another productive Season for Sponsorstars

*"The COVID-19 outbreak affects all segments of the population and is particularly detrimental to members of those social groups in the most vulnerable situations, continues to affect populations, including people living in poverty situations, older persons, persons with disabilities, youth, and indigenous peoples. Early evidence indicates that that the health and economic impacts of the virus are being borne disproportionately by poor people." \**

*<https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/everyone-included-covid-19.html>*

**TOGETHER WE CAN LEVEL UP THE FIELD AND HELP YOUNG PEOPLE LIVE BETTER LIVES AND ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL.**

**WE HOPE YOU WILL ENJOY READING OUR NEWSLETTER!**



# WELCOME TO TWO NEW TRUSTEES

## KARN DASGUPTA

Karn is a private equity professional, involved in the due diligence of new potential investments and also working alongside management teams of portfolio companies. Prior experience includes investment banking, where he was involved with large-scale global M&A and restructuring transactions. Having been involved in various charity endeavours around education and social mobility, Karn is keen to support Sponsorstars in their efforts to support disadvantaged children and reach their potential.

## CHARLIE WATERKEYN

Charlie is an organisational design consultant with a background in Telecommunication, Media and Technology and secure government. He is currently a senior consultant at boutique management consultancy firm Q5 Partners where he has worked internationally in New York, Sydney, the Middle East and his home-town London. With Q5, he also helps deliver their award-winning pro-bono programme 'Q5 Pop-Up', and has supported a variety of SMEs and non-for-profit organisations through this.

Recent experience with several educational charities abroad, twinned with the unavoidable impact COVID-19 has had on educational equality, led Charlie to gladly learn of the critical work Sponsorstars has continued to offer. He was delighted to join the board of Trustees in June 2021, at such a pinnacle time for schools and schoolchildren.

# MEET OUR AMBASSADORS

### Our Ambassador **BOBBY SEAGULL**

Bobby is a Maths teacher and Cambridge University Doctorate student. Before moving into education, Bobby was an investment banking trader at Lehman Brothers & Nomura, and qualified as a Chartered Accountant from PwC.

Presenter for an Open University course on personal finance for young adults, a regular contributor to Radio Four's Puzzle For Today and a columnist for the Financial Times.

Author of The Life-Changing Magic of Numbers (which reached #50 Amazon UK best sellers over Christmas 2018) and co-presenter of the podcast Maths Appeal. With University Challenge friend, Bobby co-wrote The Monkman & Seagull Quiz and co-presented a BBC TV series Monkman & Seagull's Genius Guide to Britain.



### Our Ambassador **ANNA MAXWELL MARTIN**

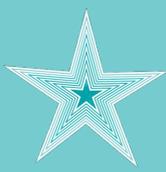
Anna Maxwell Martin is an actress from stage and screen. Best known for her work in His Dark Materials and Consent at the National theatre and most recently on screen in BBC's 'Motherland'. She has won Baftas for her work in 'Bleak House' and Channel 4's 'Poppy Shakespeare' and is currently working on a film adaptation of 'David Copperfield'. Since 2017, Anna has played the lead role in BBC TV comedy Motherland for which she was nominated for the Bafta Award for Best Female Comedy Performance. Anna is also known for her role as DCS Patricia Carmichael in BBC police procedural Line of Duty.



### Our Ambassador **KATIE MARSHALL**

Katie is an Award winning Soprano. Since she started Classical singing at 6 years of age, Katie has performed at the O2, sung on Warner Music's 'Christmas at Downton Abbey' album with the Downton Abbey & Broadway actor Julian Ovenden, and duetted with the King's singers' Paul Phoenix. Katie is one of the most exciting young artists in the classical world today and captivates audiences with her pure tone, artistry and compelling stage presence. She is equally at home performing both classical and contemporary works.





# IMPACT OF COVID-19

The beginning of 2021 has been a tough one, with another lockdown imposed to control the number of deaths across the United Kingdom, resulting in closure of all schools until March 2021.

Home-schooling can be a real challenge when pupils do not have the equipment to help them study. They can feel isolated and abandoned.

We got in touch with the schools and asked what materials our Sponsorstars pupils needed and boxes of individual packs of stationery were sent to them.

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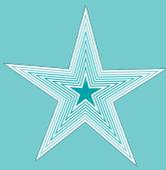
**Good Morning Francesca,**

**The parcel safely arrived yesterday whilst I was out of school. Thank you so much for the students packs, please can you pass on a big “thank your” to the charity sponsors.**

**Kindest Regards,  
Hayley**

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We have finally started receiving the replies from our sponsored pupils and are currently sending them to their sponsor.

Pupils were asked to answer four questions about themselves. These are general questions that guarantee that no overt personal information is shared, in order to work within Child Protection and GDPR requirements.

As is not unexpected from young people, some have given plenty of details, others have shared slightly less. It was interesting to see the variety of the answers and how some young people have an unclear perception of themselves and the future that they hold. We hope that, with the support of Sponsorstars and their sponsors, they will gradually become more confident and focused on their future aims.

Whatever the answers, full of details or somewhat sparse, we do hope that you will be pleased to receive the form so that you can feel that you know your student a little bit more now!

Below is an example of one we received from a Primary School pupil!

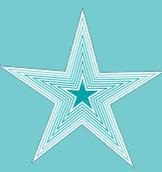
The screenshot shows a form with the Sponsorstars logo and tagline at the top. Below that is the title 'GETTING TO KNOW YOU BETTER' and '4 questions to:'. The name 'Paddy' is written in the center, flanked by a video camera icon on the left and a microphone icon on the right. A dotted line separates the name from the questions. The questions and answers are as follows:

*What is your favourite game?*  
Playing with trains and football

*What is your favourite book?*  
The Big Book of Landmarks, because I love buildings

*What is your favourite animal?*  
Nanna's dog Toby

*What would you like to be when you grow up?*  
I want to be Batman



# CHANGES TO OUR POLICY

**Sponsorstars is a close-knit community of people who are keen to help change the lives of young people in the UK, by improving their life chances and educational attainment. In the past months, we have received feedback from a number of Sponsors who have shown an interest in receiving more information about the specific children that they are sponsoring and would like the sponsorship to be more personal.**

With this in mind, the Trustees have discussed any potential changes whilst still maintaining the anonymity and adhering to the requirements, rigour and importance of Child and Data Protection policies.

After careful thought and consideration, the following changes and adjustments have been implemented.

- ★ All Sponsorstars pupils answer 4 questions about themselves. This helps their sponsor to get to know a little more about their child- for example, their hobbies and their wishes for the future. We have started receiving the answers, see next page to hear more about this.
- ★ Should they wish to do so, sponsors will be able to give an additional financial allocation to their sponsored pupil. We would let you know how this additional support has been used. The further "gift" donation can be any amount up to a total of £100 and would be given only once per year.
- ★ Although we are unable to accept presents for sponsored children, we will send a Christmas gift to each sponsored child on behalf of all sponsors. On occasions, we are asked for specific one-off requirements, too. Sponsors may make an additional contribution to these, should they wish to do so.





# IMPACT STATEMENTS

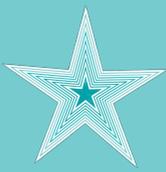
Impact Statements are sent by each pupil at the end of the academic year. They explain how the money has been spent and what the pupil hopes to buy next with the new allocation. Here is a very grateful parent, writing one on behalf of their Y1 child.



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## IMPACT STATEMENT – ACADEMIC YEAR 2020 – 2021

|  |  |
|--|--|
| SCHOOL   |  |
| YEAR GROUP   | YR 1   |
| CERTIFICATE NUMBER   |  |
| PLEASE WRITE WHAT ITEMS YOU BOUGHT WITH YOUR ALLOCATED MONEY   | School clothes, football boots & socks for school club, socks, pants, PE kit.  |
| PLEASE WRITE WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO BUY NEXT WITH YOUR ALLOCATED MONEY   | School jacket, bag, PE bag, school shoes, PE trainers.   |
| PLEASE LEAVE A COMMENT<br><br>(for example:<br>How this support has helped you this year;<br>Or what you would like to buy next year;<br>Or just a thank you message for your sponsor) | This has made a massive difference, not only can  partake in extra school activities but I was also able to supply him with the correct equipment because of this. Thankyou so much. |



# WE NEED MORE SPONSORS



**For our growing number of pupils**

