

A warm welcome to St Andrews PTA

We will keep this brief because we know you already have a lot to do before you join our school community. But, since we're a friendly bunch, we'd really like to introduce ourselves and tell you some key information about the PTA (that's Parent Teacher Association), how you can help us, and what's in it for you.

Why do we have a PTA?

We are fortunate at our school to have a PTA that is an integral part of the school community. Over the last few years, we have raised **thousands of pounds** to enhance, enrich and improve learning experiences for the children.

Our association is about much more than simply fundraising. The PTA exists to provide closer links between home and school, and it is an excellent way to bring staff, parents and friends together socially in support of the school, working towards a common goal.

Role of the Committee...

The PTA is run by a committee who are all volunteers...We might sound like an abstract group of people, but we are parents, carers, grandparents, friends and allies – just like you. Not so long ago, we were new!

Our committee consists of **Emily Jenkins – Chair, Naomi Christie – Vice Chairman, Zinnia Parr– Treasurer, Helen Wood– Secretary**

The Committee meet on a regular basis with smaller working groups meeting as necessary when we are planning larger events.

The Committee also hold open PTA meetings, any member can come along (every parent is automatically a member), find out what the association are planning, share ideas and get involved.

Volunteers – How can you get involved?

We welcome any help from parents, grandparents, carers, teachers and friends, and have a growing list of volunteers who commit some of their time to helping the association – you don't have to attend all the meetings or help out at all the events. **But as Tesco say Every Little Helps!** So just one hour of assisting at an event or wrapping pop up shop presents or folding raffle tickets (just a few examples) would be invaluable. Perhaps you have a professional skill you could help us out with? You don't have to come into the school; many of our volunteering tasks can be done from home. You don't need to be a stay-at-home parent, many of our PTA members work full time. The more people become involved, the more we can achieve and the easier it will be.

Contact Details...

We'd love to hear from you! Helen Wood, our secretary, has offered to be a contact for all new parents wanting information about the PTA and our activities. You are also free to get in touch with any of the committee members if you have questions, or you can email the PTA at; pta@st-andrews-pri.cambs.sch.uk or contact us on our Facebook page!

How we raise money...

Like most PTAs, most of our funds are raised through the events that we run. Some of our most popular events are:

- Elfridges
- Mothers and Father's Day pop up shops
- End of Term Discos
- Raffles
- Cake Bakes and so much more! Join our facebook page to find out what we've been up to over the last year!

Donations from parents are extremely important. You can donate time, money, items for sale, raffle prizes and auction or offers of services and skills.

How we keep you up to date with our events...

Facebook group	We have a PTA page as well as individual year group pages. We post notices about all upcoming meetings/events on our Facebook group as well as reminders about events and requests for volunteers.
Book bags	We put flyers, sponsor forms and notices in book bags.
Newsletter	We have a newsletter which we put online and on the PTA noticeboard.
Online Communication tool	We have our own platform where tickets for our events are sold, newsletters are updated, and volunteers can apply. https://www.pta-events.co.uk/standrewsptasoham/
Noticeboard	There are 2 noticeboards, one near the entrance to the school and the other on the wall near the swimming pool. Notices are also put up in classroom windows. These are updated regularly.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Our Annual General Meeting is usually held in November, it provides an excellent opportunity for all volunteers to come along and hear in more detail about our work, the events we have run, the funds we have raised and how the money has been spent. It is also when we elect our new committee members!

We look forward to welcoming you to our amazing team!