

Hello and a Happy New Year from the PTFA of Eastrington Primary School!

We hope everyone has had a restful Christmas break. With the turn of the new year, we would like to take the opportunity to introduce the school's PTFA. PTFA stands for **Parents, Teachers, and Friends Association**, and is the name typically given to volunteer groups found in schools up and down the country. PTFAs help to run events and fundraisers to support the school in buying extra resources and generally help to build a sense of community between families, school staff, and other stakeholders in the local area.

It is well known that budgetary pressures in our schools are an ongoing challenge, so having the PTFA as an additional platform for fundraising can really help add value to the children's educational and extra-curricular activities. In line with its charitable ethos, our school's PTFA account, Friends of Eastrington School, is registered with the Charity Commission (1087656).

Over the last few months, we have tried to strengthen our school's PTFA by adding new members and some more defined roles. Our current committee comprises parents, carers, and school staff – and we are always welcome for more people to join in whatever capacity that may be. Meetings tend to be held termly, usually in school on Friday afternoons but occasionally using village facilities or via a WhatsApp group chat.

The current committee members are:

Stephanie Holmes (Chair)
Katie Jackson (Vice Chair)
Nikki Lincoln (Treasurer)
Lucy Phillips (Secretary)
Amy Stroud (Communications Officer)
Emma Willis (Grants Officer)

Mrs Kay and Mrs Barker complete the school staff / teacher side of the PTFA, and a number of other parents and carers help to ensure we can run events and share new and innovative ideas.

The PTFA currently helps with subsidising the cost of coaches used for school trips, with contributions towards the purchase of new library books, and with funding the year 6 leavers' hoodies. Our current aim is to fundraise for new playground equipment to enrich the children's break times, and this is of course a long-term project.

There may be other things you would like to see at school where the PTFA can support, and we'd happily welcome any new suggestions to our list.

If any parents / carers have access to matched funding or matched giving schemes, we would really appreciate your support. Many businesses have initiatives as part of their corporate social responsibility to support charitable causes, and what better way than supporting your child's school.

Should you have an interest in helping to run PTFA events such as the coffee mornings and movie nights, or perhaps have some ideas on fundraising methods or goals, please email the PTFA on ptfa@eastringtonprimaryschool.co.uk.

We look forward to working with everyone this year! 😊