



Hello and welcome to Wroxall Primary School!

All parents/carers who join our school community automatically become a part of the Parents, Teachers & Friends Association (PTFA). We thought you would like to know a little but more about it.

What is the purpose of the PTFA?

The PTFA is a group of volunteers with the following goals:

- To advance the education of pupils in the school by developing effective relationships between the staff, parents and others associated with the school and
- Engage in activities or provide facilities or equipment which support the school and advance the education of the pupils.

What does this mean in practice?

To achieve these goals, we put on an event that we hope the children will enjoy. Sometimes these events and activities will be with the goal of raising money for the school. We usually have a good time ourselves along the way!

Give me some Examples

Our popular events have included end of year parties, school discos and Summer Fairs.

The money raised does not go straight to the school. The PTFA have their own bank account and the PTFA committee members choose how the money is spent through discussion with the school team. Money raised is usually used to pay for additional things for the school that are not otherwise funded. For example, the money has been used to subsidise school trips, buy year 6 leavers' hoodies, pay for an online Christmas Panto and the school Christmas tree, and bought emotional wellbeing books and sensory equipment for the school's calming room.

Raising money is not our only goal – we hope our events have helped build and strengthen relationships within the school and wider community, and provided enjoyable opportunities for children of the school and their families.

If I wanted to be involved, what might that look like?

There are two ways to get involved.

You can volunteer to be on the PTFA's committee. The committee members come up with ideas for events, which are then agreed, planned and prepared collectively. We are mindful of what we commit to, as we do not want PTFA activities to become a burden to anyone.

Most of our committee discussions take place via a private Facebook group, as we know not everyone can make it to meetings. We do also meet in person, as and when we need to - this is usually before an upcoming event which is about once a term. Individuals volunteer to undertake actions to complete – no one is forced to do anything they do not wish to, and it is ok if you are unable to help, you can still be part of the committee.

Another way to be involved is to volunteer to help out with any given event – you can do this without joining the committee and being part of the discussions.

How can I find out more or let you know I'd like to be involved – either as a Committee Member or as a Volunteer – and what if I'm not sure?

At the start of the new school year the PTFA hold a meeting, the Annual General Meeting (AGM), where we talk about how the last year has gone, what the new year may hold, and elect the positions of Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Ordinary Committee Members. Please look out for further information about this year's date in the school newsletter and/or your emails.

The AGM is a very informal meeting – attending does not make any commitment on your behalf. Anyone can come along, meet other PTFA members, ask questions or hear about what the PTFA do. If you are unsure if you'd like to get involved and to what extent, this is a great way to simply find out more, with no commitment.

You can chat to any of the current committee members at any time (their names are listed at the end of this letter), including Jess in the school office, especially if you would like to volunteer to help. The committee member can then let you know what help is needed, and you can decide if you can commit to any of those opportunities (eg. running a stand, helping to decorate or helping to prepare items for the event).

We hope this has given you some idea of what the PTFA is and what we do. The current PTFA committee members will move on as their children leave the school, or their commitments change. We love being able to provide these activities for the school community. We hope that you will consider joining us to help renew and refresh our membership, ensuring the continuity of this rewarding voluntary group and all that it provides.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Best wishes,

The PTFA Team

Current PTFA Committee Members: Kristine Avey, Susan Clay, Natasha Coombe, Gemma Evans, Jo Hunnisett, Emma Illman, Helena Laws, Andy Newton, Emma Harris-Silk, Kate Smith, Jess Steele, Jason Thorpe.