

Parents, Friends and Teachers Association (PTFA) of Ranskill Primary



Parentkind
Member Association

Ranskill Primary PTFA

Our PTFA needs you!

Due to changes in commitments for 3 of the committee members we now find ourselves in the position of having no Chair person, no Treasurer and no Secretary for the PTFA committee. All these are vital roles and Parentkind (The PTA body) recommends that there is a minimum of these 3 core roles on a PTFA committee.

Why do we have a PTFA?

We are fortunate at our school to have a PTFA that's an integral part of the school community. Over the last 9 years we have raised thousands of pounds, which has been spent on equipment and resources to enhance our children's educational experience and the school's facilities.

Our association is about much more than simply fundraising. Friends of Ranskill Primary 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. It's fun too - just ask any of the Committee members or volunteers.

All parents and members of the school community are encouraged to get involved, even if they only have a small amount of time available. All families are automatically members of the PTFA when their child joins our school.

Attached a reminder of the '6 reasons why...' it's great to get involved.

Role of the Committee

The committee should consist of Chair/Treasurer/Secretary/Vice Chair and Ordinary Committee Members, currently we have no Chair person and the Treasurer and Secretary are planning to hand in their notice– there are currently 2 ordinary members who wish to remain on the committee.

The Committee had met on a regular basis, prior to the pandemic, with smaller working groups meeting as necessary when we are planning larger events.

The Committee also hold open PTFA meetings, any member can come along, find out what the association are planning, share ideas and get involved.

Volunteers

We welcome any help from parents, teachers and friends, and would like to have a growing list of volunteers who can commit some of their time to helping the association. Every little helps, so just one hour of assisting at event or wrapping lucky dip prizes or folding raffle tickets (just a few examples) would be invaluable. If you would like to join us please speak to a committee member (Sarah Veitch, Treasurer; Karen Plant, Secretary; Hollie Bee, Ordinary Member or Dorota Matuszewska, Ordinary Member) or email us – ranskillptfa@gmail.com There is also a reply slip at the back of this booklet you can complete and return to the committee or the school office.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Our Annual General Meeting is usually held in December but has been postponed because of the pandemic however, it would usually provide an opportunity for all parents 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 may have to be done differently this year due to continuing restrictions on parents within school premises. The AGM is also when we elect our new committee members.

Support from Parentkind

Our PTFA is a member of Parentkind, which is a national charity and membership organisation providing support and guidance to over 13,500 parent associations in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Membership includes comprehensive insurance cover by Zurich Insurance plc for all our association events and gives access to support and advice on running the association plus fundraising ideas and good practice hints and tips

Parentkind also provide resources for Parents, if you would like to sign up to their Parent e-Bulletin please visit <https://www.parentkind.org.uk/Signup>

How we raise money

Like most PTFAs, the majority of our funds are raised through the events that we run. Some of our most popular events have been:

Coffee mornings, Christmas Fayres, Mothers Day stall, Fathers Day stall, Bingo, Avon and Body Shop events

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

We are hoping that over the next year we will be able to begin doing some of these events again.

We also have an easy fundraising account which you can support by going via this site to do all your online shopping. It doesn't cost you anything but means we get a donation from the shopping companies towards our PTFA funds. You can join our easy fundraising page by following this link <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/YOG3JC/>

How we spend the money we raise

The PTFA committee are responsible for deciding how our PTFA funds are spent. Usually the School Leadership Team provide a 'wish list' of items that the school would like us to consider funding.

We also invite input from parents too, so if you have an idea of something that would benefit all the students in the school, please do share it with the Committee.

Funds are typically spent on the 'extras' that are not provided by the school's budget, thus making our children's learning experiences so much more fulfilling and exciting. Funds are not generally spent on improving the fabric of the school building, as this is the responsibility of the

school. Our Constitution commits the association to spending money on things that will benefit the children directly.

Some of the items we have donated to the school are listed below:

Support to Year 6 leavers activities, Theatre Group WW1 workshops, Bike Shed, Ice cream on Sports Day, Sun Canopy

How we keep you up to date

The school newsletter includes information on upcoming events and dates, as well as details of the help we are looking for at larger events. Following an event, we always display posters at school and write in the newsletter to let you know how much was raised, and tell you what the money will be spent on.

If you have access to Facebook, please join our Friends of Ranskill Primary page.

We look forward to welcoming you to your PTFA!