



OLD TOWN INFANT SCHOOL & NURSERY

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9th January 2025

Re. Parent and Teacher Association (PTA) Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Dear Parents/Carers,

As the new year arrives, I wanted to write to you in relation to relaunching our school PTA.

The PTA is a group of parents who work together to support the school and its children. The PTA is involved in a variety of activities, including:

- Organising events like coffee mornings, discos, cake sales, and fayres
- Helping with preparations for events e.g. Summer Fete, Bunny Bingo, Christmas quiz
- Donating money to the school
- Working towards larger projects, such as purchasing computers or playground equipment

The PTA is a voluntary organisation and members contribute their time as they can. Our PTA generally meets once a term. There is no doubt that the PTA has a positive impact on our children. In the past, amongst other things, they have:

- Funded books for Santa's visit
- Subsidised part of the cost of the pantomime ticket for main school (and paid for a Nursery entertainer).
- Provided personalised t-shirts for all of our Year 2 leavers e.g. Class of 2025
- Run the Leavers/Halloween discos and provided food and snacks at each event
- Provided Ipads and laptops
- Funded bug rugs for the classrooms

The PTA cannot do any of this without your support at different events across the year. For example, they need to raise at least 700 pounds to fund the Year 2 leavers t-shirts each year. To subsidise part of the next pantomime trip (bringing the cost down to ten pounds per child), they need to raise just over 1500 pounds. They simply cannot provide this assistance if their events are not supported.

You will note from the PFG minutes from December (published on the school website) that a lot of feedback was received in terms of fundraising and the financial pressures that this places on families as well as the frequency of times families are being asked to donate a particular item (for a raffle prize) across the school year.

I therefore felt the start of the year was the right time to call a PTA Annual General Meeting in which all parents are invited. The purpose of this meeting will be to (a) increase membership of our current PTA, (b) elect a chair and vice-chair, (c) generate fund raising ideas, (d) listen to people's ideas and suggestions and (e) map out a long-term plan taking us into 2026 in terms of events and fundraising – this will help manage expectations and provide clarity and balance.

Whilst I will facilitate this meeting, I am passionate that this should be a parent-led body who will liaise directly with me. I know that the existing team are incredibly friendly and welcoming and want the absolute best for our children – you will be amongst friends. If there are any parents who are unable to attend, but do have ideas about future PTA events, please do email the school office marked for my attention.

The AGM will take place on Friday 14th February 2025 from 1400-1500 in the school hall. It would be great to see as many of you as possible. Tea/Coffee/biscuits will be provided.

Wishing everyone a belated Happy New Year,

Doug

Mr Douglas Gubbins
Headteacher

