

PTFA

Information for New Parents



St Michael's CE Primary School PTFA
Boardman Fold Road
Alkington
Middleton
Manchester M24 1GD

Registered Charity Number : 1130140

NCPTA Membership Number : 36621

E-mail : stmichaelsptfa@sky.com

Welcome to your Parents, Teachers And Friends Association

Why Do We Have A PTFA?

We are very fortunate at St Michael's to have a PTFA that is and has been such an integral part of the school community for many years. In its time the PTFA has raised thousands of pounds, which have been spent on improving equipment and resources to enhance our children's education and the facilities in school in general.

But our PTFA is about much, much more than just fundraising. The PTFA 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 is fun too - just ask any of the PTFA committee members or helpers. Obviously as in any organisation, there are times when it is more 'challenging', but with the continued support of parents and staff, our PTFA has always succeeded in its efforts.

All parents and members of the school community can get involved if they want to, even if they only have a small amount of time available, and all parents are automatically members of the Association when their children join our school.

The PTFA is extremely conscious of the ethos and morals of our school, and we try very hard when organising and planning events to respect this. Not all of our events are run as fundraisers. Our Family Christmas Party is run with the aim of giving the children a good time and as a way of thanking families for their continued support for the PTFA.

Also, to ensure that every child benefits from our fundraising efforts the PTFA donate £10.00/head to the Y6 Leaver's Party each year.

Every Parent and Teacher is automatically a member of the PTFA

The group is organised by four officers who are elected at the Annual General Meeting, held at the start of each new school year. The current officers are;

Chairperson	:	Jill Brenchley—Our Head teacher
Secretary	:	Leasa Doran—who has a child in Y4
Treasurer	:	Joanne Lindley-Cross—who has children in Y3 & Y6.
Vice-chairperson	:	Meryl Bruen—Our Deputy Head teacher
Assistant Secretary	:	Susan Foex—who has children in Y2 & Y4
Assistant Treasurer	:	Joanne Monks—who has a child in Y3

All matters are discussed at meetings lasting approximately an hour which are usually held in the School Hall on the second Monday of each month (excluding School Holidays). Everyone is welcome to come along. You can put forward ideas or points of view and everyone who attends gets a vote on all matters to be decided. This doesn't mean that you have to attend the meetings; we have a large number of people who either can't make the meetings or who don't like attending meetings who still get involved at events, donate prizes or help in school during the day preparing for events.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Our Annual General Meeting is held in November and this is an opportunity for all parents to come along and hear in more detail about events run, funds raised and how the money has been spent. It is also the occasion when we elect our new committee.

Anyone wishing to keep up with PTFA matters can send their e-mail address to **stmichaelsptfa@sky.com** and they will receive updates and minutes from the meetings.

We produce a PTFA Newsletter after each meeting to keep everyone up to date with our fundraising activities and to feedback on how much money has been raised etc, this is sent out through school. Details of our forthcoming meetings and events are posted in the PTFA notice board at the front of school and on the school website.

How do we spend the money we raise?

Once money is raised from events the funds are banked straight away. It is at our PTFA Committee Meetings, that the decisions on how to spend the money are agreed.

Usually, Jill Brenchley (our Head teacher) will have a 'shopping list' of items that the school would like to purchase. Sometimes this will be as a result of the children asking for something, the children can put requests through the School Council. At other times it will be for resources to improve a particular area of the curriculum or school environment. In the main the PTFA funds are for the 'extras' not provided by the school budget, that make our children's learning experiences so much more fulfilling and exciting.

PTFA funds are not generally spent on improving the fabric of the school building as this is the responsibility of the school Governing Body. Our Constitution commits the PTFA to spending money on things that will benefit the children directly.

We always endeavour to spend our funds in ways that will benefit *all* our children across all areas of the school and curriculum. Many of the resources purchased have a direct link to the School Improvement Plan.

The money we raise is usually spent fairly quickly. That way, you can be sure that in supporting our school, your child/ren will feel the benefit, along with everybody else.

Of course there have been times when we have been fundraising for a large project, such as the new ICT Suite, to which the PTFA contributed £10,000. However, whilst saving for these, we have still managed to find funds for smaller items thanks to the generous and continued support of our parents. A few of these are listed below :

Examples of Past Funding Projects

New Piano = £300

Spanish Books = £1,000

Netball & Running Kits = £680

Playground Pals Equipment = £300

Viking/Roman Visits = £150

Garden Area in KS1 = £2,500

CPR Mannequins = £350

Various school trips = c£2,500

2010 Funding Projects so far ...

ICT Suite = £10,000

KS1 Outdoor Play Equipment = c£1,500 (tbc)

PGL Coach = £800

School Trips & Visits = £700

What events have the PTFA got planned for the future?

Below are some events organised last year and those scheduled in for this year, together with meeting dates for 2010. The PTFA is always looking for new fundraising event ideas. If you would like to help organise any of the events listed below or have any fundraising ideas you would like to put forward, please come along to our meetings, e-mail the PTFA at stmichaelsptfa@sky.com or speak to a PTFA representative (details below).

Examples of 2009 Events

Clothes Jumble Sale—raised £110

Fun Day & Ice Rink—raised c£4,000

Family Quiz—raised £400

Ladies Fashion Show—raised £900

2010 Events

Golf Day—raised £120

Bags to School Collection—raised £90

Children's Fashion Show—14th May

Football Fun Day—3rd July

Wacky Races Car Treasure Hunt— tbc

Ladies Night—tbc

Family Christmas Party—tbc

All New Ideas Welcome

All meetings start @ 7pm in the School Hall

Unless stated otherwise

2010

Monday 11th January 2010

Monday 8th February 2010

Monday 8th March 2010

No meeting in April—School Holidays

Monday 10th May 2010 @ 6pm

Monday 14th June 2010

Monday 12th July 2010

No meeting in August—School Holidays

Monday 13th September 2010

Monday 11th October 2010

Monday 8th November 2010—Inc AGM

Monday 13th December—Xmas Meal

PTFA Representatives

KS1

Susan Foex, Tracy Marples, Duncan Holden, Julie Morrish and John Murdoch

KS2

Sam Smethurst, Leasa Doran, Jo Lindley-Cross, Jo Monks and Jackie Street

If you have any questions regarding PTFA events, please speak to one of the above representatives.

Thank you for taking the time to read our brochure. We hope you now know a little more about *your* Parent Teacher & Friends Association. On behalf of all the children we would like to thank you for your very valuable support which enriches their learning experiences and makes their time in school so enjoyable.

From all the PTFA Committee