

On the 18th of October 2019, Raughton Head PTA held one of our most successful events to date. Months of work and preparation went into a fantastic Promise Auction, featuring donations from many individuals and local businesses. The evening was a huge hit, everyone attending having a great time and making generous contributions. At the end of the night, we had raised over £5000 for PTA funds – we were thrilled and very excited to plan future events to not only raise funds, but foster a close community in and around our school. We started planning a charity fun run, Easter events, socials, fairs...

Then the world went into lockdown – and along with so many other plans, ours had to be shelved. We hoped it would be a few months, but as the months went by it became apparent that this pandemic thing wasn't going away quickly! At a time when many people were struggling through each day and facing uncertain employment, we didn't feel it was a good time to push online fundraisers – not to mention add to everyone's 'zoom fatigue'!



Over the last 3 years we have still been operating in the background, funding leavers and Christmas gifts, a new hot water urn, subsidising leavers hoodies and a number of small ongoing costs. Thanks to our last big fundraiser, our finances were and still are in good shape – but what we have felt the lack of most of all are the community events that bring people together, and help us all to get to know each other as a wider school 'family'. We have held a few events which you may have attended – a school BBQ, a mother's day lunch....but to get back to a solid planned programme of fundraisers and social events that benefit the school in more ways than just financial, we need a team!

The problem is, after 4 years and the unique challenges we have faced, our current PTA committee is low on energy and needs support and help! There are four of us – all parents, and three of us are also staff members. We have a lot on our plates, and as much as we love our school and its community, we know that it is time to allow new and capable people to get involved. This is where you come in – your level of involvement is completely up to you, whether being a part of the committee, attending the odd meeting, volunteering, baking, moving chairs or simply attending our events, we just need people!

We will be holding a PTA social and information evening on the 6th of February 2023 at 7pm at school, and we would love to strongly encourage you all to come along.

There will be refreshments (we do great refreshments!) and there will be absolutely no pressure. BUT we would love to see as many of you as possible to chat about what you expect from a PTA, how you might like to be involved and if you have any brilliant ideas to take us into 2023 and beyond!



We look forward to seeing you on the 6th of Feb at 7pm!

**Raughton Head PTA Committee** 

Judy Bainbridge (Chair)
Alison Dickinson (Vice Chair)
Helen Holgate (Secretary)
Catherine Stokes (Treasurer)



