



# A warm welcome to your PTA

We'll keep this brief because we know you already have a lot to do before you join our school community. But, since we're a friendly bunch, we'd really like to introduce ourselves and tell you some key information about the PTA (that's Parent Teacher Association), how you can help us, and what's in it for you.

## Why does the school have a PTA?

Our group is called Highbury Primary School PTA and we are a registered charity. We have been running for over 10 years, and we're a lively group of volunteers.

The main function of our PTA is to support the school by raising as much money as we can to enhance, enrich and improve learning experiences for the children. We also provide those 'little extras' that make school memorable.

We also exist to bring the communities of school and home closer together because it makes sense for parents to be involved in the life of their chosen school.

Lastly, we're here for the simple reason that we want to get together socially, meet new people and have fun!

The PTA is run by a committee who are all volunteers, with support from teaching bodies at our PTA Meetings.

We might sound like an abstract group of people, but we're parents, carers, friends and allies – just like you. Not so long ago, we were new too.



## What the PTA have funded with the money raised from events

We always try to respond when asked to help the school, and after the work is done, it's so rewarding to see the children enjoy new resources and equipment provided by the PTA.

A list of some of popular events we run are, Summer Fayre, Christmas Fayre, School Discos and Easter Egg Hunt. All the events we run have funded the below.

What did we buy?	Amount raised	Who for?	What were the benefits?
Interactive Whiteboards	£7,000.00	The whole school	Advanced learning equipment for each classroom.
New Sound System in the School Hall	£950.00	The whole school	Upgraded the old system for a new one.
Classroom Reading Areas	£1,650.00	The whole school	Creating a quiet area for children to read.
School Value Boards	£700.00	The whole school	New boards to represent the new school values.
Phonics Books	£600.00	Year R - Year 2	New learning books for Foundation Level.
School Value Mascots	£584.00	The whole school	Classroom mascots based upon the new school values.
Leavers Medals & BBQ	£500.00	Year 6	All the children in Year 6 receive a leavers medal.
Christmas Parties	£900.00	The whole school	All the children enjoy the Christmas festivities.
Rock Challenge Costumes	£500.00	Year 3 - Year 6	New costumes for the Rock challenge performance.



Pet Area	£109.00	The whole school	Refurbishing the pet area, to create a better area for the pets and children.
Sports Kits	£60.00	The whole school	New sports kits for all the children.
Easter Concert Costumes	£54.00	Year 3 - Year 6	All of Yr3 and Yr6 children had a costume for the Easter Concert.



## How we keep you up-to-date with our activities?

<b>Facebook group</b>	<p>We post notices about all upcoming meetings on our Facebook group and page, as well as reminders about events and requests for volunteers.</p> <p>Our Facebook group for Parents/Carers only is a private group for those with children at the school, and is called '<b>Highbury (Portsmouth) Parents and Carers Information</b>'</p> <p>Our Facebook page is open to the public, and can be liked by friends and other family members, so they can see our events and what is currently going at at the school. We only shows our events on this page, no images or personal information is posted on this page. The page is called '<b>Highbury Primary School PTA Portsmouth</b>'.</p>
<b>Book bags</b>	We put flyers, sponsor forms and notices in book bags.
<b>Newsletter</b>	We have a newsletter once a term which we put into book bags and on the PTA noticeboard.
<b>Online Communication tool</b>	We post notices about all upcoming meetings on our Facebook group as well as reminders about events and requests for volunteers.
<b>Noticeboard</b>	The PTA noticeboards are located at the entrance to the main playground, and also at Year 1 Playground. These are updated at least once a month.

## What are we raising money for next?

Our next big project we are raising money for is outdoor sports canopies, so whether it be rain or shine the children can still benefit from PE/Sports, as our current indoor hall is not large enough for some sport activities.

To achieve this goal for the children and the school, we will be doing more fundraising events for the school and we are looking for any new ideas to help achieve our goal.

## How can you get involved?

The more people become involved, the more we can achieve and the easier it will be.



Even if you have younger children at home, or only a small amount of time, could you come to a meeting, help set up an event, serve food or design a poster? Perhaps you have a professional skill you could help us out with? You don't have to come into the school; many of our volunteering tasks can be done from home.

In this pack is a volunteer form that can be completed and returned to the main school office. By filling in this form you are not committing to attend all the PTA meetings or events, as we understand that not all parent/carers are able to attend every meeting/event, however we would appreciate your support where possible.

## Contact details

We'd love to hear from you. Stephanie Winter, who is Joint Chair has offered to be a contact for all new parents wanting information about the PTA and our activities. You are also free to get in touch with any of the committee members if you have questions, or you can email the PTA at **[pta@highbury-prim.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:pta@highbury-prim.portsmouth.sch.uk)**

## How you can support us right now.

Did you know that you can start fundraising before you join? Use these companies when you buy school essentials and the PTA gets paid without costing you more.

Amazon Smile	<p><a href="http://www.smile.amazon.com">www.smile.amazon.com</a></p> <p>Go to the link above and login to your Amazon account as normal, and then select <b>Highbury Primary School PTA Portsmouth</b> as your chosen charity.</p> <p>By using this link every time you purchase via Amazon they will donate 0.5% of the purchases to us. It is at no extra cost to yourself, you just need to shop as normal but via the link above.</p>
--------------	--

