

**Welcome to Lunt’s Heath Primary School from the PTFA**

This information has been put together by **Lunt’s Heath Parent, Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)** especially for you, as a new family joining our school community. Starting school is an exciting time for the whole family and you are joining a brilliant school where your child will thrive in so many ways!

 This short booklet provides you with information about **Lunt’s Heath PTFA** and lets you know how you can support us and be involved. Sadly, many of our current PTA members have children soon to leave the school, so we are really keen to have some new parents involved to keep our PTFA alive and achieving great things!

**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. Each year the PTFA raises over £5000, which is spent on equipment and resources to enhance our children’s educational experience and the school’s facilities, including purchasing educational software, sporting equipment and IT equipment. On top of that, we also try to create some magical memories for the children during their time at Lunt’s Heath providing events such as a pantomimes, discos and a whole range of other things.

Some examples of our favourite events are:

* Sponsored events such as the Readathon or walking/running challenges;
* Secret Present Shops, where children can buy a secret gift of their choosing for a loved one;
* Summer Fair;
* School Disco;
* Crazy Hair Day;
* Dress Down Days;
* Bingo.

But, the PTFA is about much more than simply fundraising. Lunt’s Heath PTFA also exists to provide closer links between home and school and it is an excellent way to bring staff, parents and friends and members of the local community 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. Because we include ‘friends’ in our title we welcome anyone to our group, grandparents, aunties, uncles, encourage them to come along too!

**The Core PTFA Members and Roles**

The PTFA is made up of a small number of ‘Core Members’. Out of these members there are 4 ‘Committee’ roles of Chair, Deputy Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. These roles are voted in at our Annual General Meeting (AGM) usually held in October. Core Members are at the heart of the PTFA and spend time directly organising events.

The Core PTFA meets on a regular basis, usually once a month but not in the school holidays, with smaller working groups being formed as necessary when we are planning larger events. All meetings throughout the year are open, so anyone can come along, find out what we are planning, share ideas and get involved. We need more core PTFA members to share the load and to ensure the long-term survival of the PTFA.

**Volunteers**

We welcome any help from parents, teachers and friends, and have a growing list of volunteers who commit some of their time to helping the association, but do not necessarily have time to be core members of the PTFA. Every little helps, so just one hour of assisting at event or wrapping lucky dip prizes (just a few examples) would be invaluable. Please look out for requests for help via Evolve, Social Media or School Newsletters. We couldn’t deliver some of our events without the help of volunteers!

**Donations**

We regularly hold events that involve winning prizes, such as raffles or prizes that are handed out at events like bingo or summer fetes. If you, or anyone you know may be able to make a one of donation of prizes on behalf of local businesses or individuals, or are able to access match funding through your employer we would love to hear from you. In the past we have had some amazing prizes at events including premiership football gifts, zoo passes and beauty hampers. Anything that could be donated and given as a prize helps us to raise funds to help your children. Again, look out for requests on Social Media or in the School Newsletter.

**What the PTFA doesn’t do!**

The PTFA does not have any responsibility in the day to day running of the school or school governance and decision making. Ultimately, we are parents or part of the wider school community just like you, so queries that relate to the day to day running of the school such as school uniform, term dates and all other queries should be directed to the school office rather than the PTFA. Messaging from the school will be clear about whether the event is a school event or a PTFA event.

**PTFA Events**

PTFA events are planned and coordinated with the school, and you will be notified about our events in one or more of these ways:

* Via email sent directly from the school email address.
* Via Evolve – this is the system the school uses for parental permission for in school events. Where our events require parental permission you will be sent an Evolve request.
* Via Social media: Twitter - @luntsheathPTA Facebook Group Lunt’s Heath PTA (note to join the group you will need to answer a set of security questions). Please note the PTFA and the school asks parents to adhere to its social media policy which can be found on the school website.
* Whatsapp – if the year group your child is in happens to have a Whatsapp group AND a parent in that group is also a PTFA member, they may share information about events in the group.

Payment for PTFA events is usually made via the School Gateway. Like the school, we try to avoid cash being bought in to school, as we wouldn’t want children to lose this from their pockets! Occasionally we do allow cash, for example for an on the day payment if you have forgotten to pay on the gateway.

**If you can’t join us, support us!**

Even if you are unable to spare time to help us, we would be so appreciative of your ongoing support as our events whilst your child is part of the Lunt’s Heath family. If you have any ideas for future fundraisers or comments about our events, please feel free to email us luntsheathPTFA@yahoo.com .

**Easy Fundraising**

Did you know that one of the ways you can help us is to shop at your favourite online shops? What could be better?! By registering for Easyfundraising and supporting our school, each time you shop via the Easyfundraising app a percentage of what you spend is donated to the school.

[**CLICK HERE**](https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.easyfundraising.org.uk%2Fcauses%2Fluntsheathprimary%2F&amp;data=04%7C01%7Clouise.plant%40arcadis.com%7C228aabc4f7c44bb0574008d90ee6118c%7C7f90057d3ea046feb07ce0568627081b%7C0%7C0%7C637557203999188950%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&amp;sdata=G9PQTMvlwbjjmB9KrZ4fj8HA2jRM7DS9OZG24dZRGoU%3D&amp;reserved=0) to sign up!

**Once again, welcome to our school, we hope your child and your family enjoy your time here! We look forward to hearing from you.**

