



PTFA Newsletter

2025 / 2026



Welcome

by **Laura Acland, Jo Vitiv, Co-Chairs**



September 2025 saw the birth of a brand new PTFA committee - With new co-chairs, co-secretaries and co-treasurers (luckily, the existing treasurer and secretary have stayed on board as members, which has been a real asset to helping us newbies find our feet). A big THANK YOU to the entire PTFA committee for stepping forward to help out, it really does make a big difference.

The PTFA work (almost) quietly in the background to organise events and fundraisers throughout the year, the money raised goes entirely back into the school to fund essential resources to enhance learning and experience, which otherwise, simply wouldn't be possible.

Without the support of our volunteers at events, we just wouldn't be able to go ahead, so this is a personal and heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you who have come forward to help, whether it's to donate goodies for a cake sale, or to volunteer for a stall at the Christmas Bonanza, or OtFest. Every little helps!

Class Reps are often the unsung heroes, dedicating time and effort to keeping classes organised (when is PE again?!), rounding up and co-ordinating volunteers and forwarding information on our behalf - we really appreciate you, so thank you!!

Funding

by **Sam Bennett, Carly Symes, Co-Secretaries**



Teacher Requests

Due to an outstanding amount of fundraising over the past few years, we have been in a fortunate position to ask teachers what they want for their classrooms, to enable better learning... Here are some of the requests we funded!

- ★ 16 iPads, so each class has access to at least one.
- ★ Fine Motor Skill Resources for our Reception class, Hedgehogs
- ★ Flowers and seeds for the Reception playground area



A note from Miss Hill:

"I just wanted to say a huge thank you to the PTFA for funding the flowers and seeds to bring our Early Years garden to life ready for summer. We had a lovely afternoon with lots of parents coming in to help plant everything including the beanstalks."

- ★ Handwriting resources, in use across KS1 and 2
- ★ Science workshop for years 1-6, organised by Mrs Balcombe
- ★ Song-drawing with Mrs Brown



A note from Mrs Brown:

“The sessions really are joyful and the children love them. Freedom to express themselves, move around the room, 'invisible paint' on each other and draw on huge pieces of paper.”

Finance

by Kerry Randall, Amy James, co-treasurers





We started off the year with our Christmas Bonanza and stall at the Otford Village Fair, which together raised **£1,293**. Our next event was the Easter Hunt which raised **£561** and provided lots of fun for the children!

Our afterschool Cake & Ice Lolly sales have raised an incredible **£1412**.

Our very popular Pre-Loved School Uniform has raised over **£260** already this year with more donations coming in every week!

During the year, we were incredibly fortunate to receive a very generous donation of **£5,754** from a retiring Governor. This money will be invaluable in continuing to enhance the school environment for our children and we are incredibly grateful for this and all the donations received this year.

Finally, our biggest fundraiser of the year, OtFest, raised an incredible **£6510**! This was the first event of its kind, and it was a huge success - thanks to everyone who supported this event!

This year the PTFA have benefited the pupils of Otford Primary School by funding expenditure totalling just over £9,000. This includes the completion of our new playground equipment, a Wonder Dome for British Science Week, a new rug for the Year

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4 classroom, a new coffee table in the office, the Christmas pantomime, a Christmas tree from Stonepitts Farm, Christmas crackers for the Christmas lunch and outdoor resources for the reception and Year 1 playground areas, plus the teacher requests detailed above!

With more exciting projects planned for the future, we are looking forward to continuing our fundraising efforts in 2026/27.

Hear From The PTFA Committee....

"I joined the PTFA as I wanted to give back to the school. My highlights this year have been:

- ❖ *Seeing the new outdoor gym playground equipment, fully funded by the PTFA*
- ❖ *The Christmas Fayre, where the kids' faces lit up, we're creating some really special moments, which will stay with our kids for a long time."*

"The best thing about being part of the PTFA committee is the sense of community, every member has something different to bring to the table and I've made some life-long friends. Seeing the children's excitement at the events we have planned is amazing, and worth all the effort that goes into it!"

"I joined the PTFA because I wanted to be part of the school community and help improve the resources and environment for the kids to enjoy school life."

"My husband and I joined the PTFA as we were new to the area so it was a way of meeting and getting to know local people, this was our first experience of school life so to be involved with our child's school really helped us to know what happens within a school and to support them anyway we can to help the school community and we do love a school fete to be involved in 😊. "

"The PTFA are a wonderful group of like minded parents who want to raise funds for the school & create fun, memorable events for the children. I have made some lovely friends & it's been very rewarding, it's great to feel part of the community."

How You Can Help



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15010

AND THE PTFA WILL RECEIVE A 30% COMMISSION!

PRE-LOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM

OUR PRE-LOVED UNIFORM IS A GREAT WAY TO SUPPORT THE PTFA AND
CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT - HIGH QUALITY, DONATION-BASED AND
AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE! LOCATED IN THE SCHOOL HALL - JUST ASK AT
THE OFFICE TO POP IN. WE ALSO HOLD OCCASIONAL UNIFORM SALES IN THE
PLAYGROUND SO KEEP AN EYE OUT!





VOLUNTEER DAYS

MANY EMPLOYERS OFFER 'VOLUNTEER DAYS' AS PART OF YOUR BENEFITS - USE THEM OR LOSE THEM!

CLASS REPS

OUR AMAZING CLASS REPS HELP SHARE PTFA INFO, GATHER VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORT EVENTS. EVERY CLASS HAS AT LEAST TWO. WANT TO GET INVOLVED? JUST DROP US AN EMAIL OR SPEAK TO A COMMITTEE MEMBER.