



THE FRIENDS OF EAST MEON

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 would 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 Friends of East Meon School (FEMS) and has been running for several years. We are registered with the Charity Commission and our charity number is 1051080.

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, such as Halloween disco, shop and wraps, Christmas fair, cake sales and so much more. Sometimes we hold free events to say thank you for supporting us.

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. We also have class reps who are part of our PTA team. The head teacher or a teacher is always invited to our meetings to represent the school. We might sound like an abstract group of people, but we are parents, carers, friends and allies – just like you. Not so long ago, we were new too.

Recent events held and how much we raised.

Halloween Disco October 2023	£200
Christmas Fair Dec 2023	£820
May Fair & Boat Race 2024	£260
Cricket Lunch 2024	£600
Sports Day 2024	£230
Mother's Day and Father's Day Shop and Wrap 2024	£170
Mufti Days / Cake Sales	£143
Charitable Business Donations	£2,500

What the PTA funded with the money.

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

What did we buy?	Who for?	What were the benefits?
Shelving	School library	Make the wide range of school books more accessible to the children
School trips	Voyagers – Winchester Science Museum Explorers – Butser Ancient Farm Adventurers - Farm Trip Discoverers – Farm Trip	Made the trips more affordable for parents
Forest School Shelter	All pupils	Being able to run forest school sessions for all pupils

How do we keep you up to date with our activities?

Facebook group	We post notices about all upcoming meetings on our Facebook group as well as reminders about events and requests for volunteers. Please follow our Facebook page Friends of East Meon Primary School - FEMS .
Flyers	We put flyers and notices in school bags.
Newsletter	We add information to the school's newsletter and on the noticeboard.
Online Communication tools	We post notices about all upcoming meetings on our Facebook group as well as reminders about events and requests for volunteers. We also send out emails using the school emailing system and post in the individual school years WhatsApp groups via our class reps.
Website	We have our own tab on the school's website where we will post relevant information.

What are we raising money for next?

We know all schools are struggling right now for funding, so we are raising money to top the school up with those items needed for our children's day to day life at school. Items such as craft essentials, reading books and renovating reading areas. We are looking to raise a larger amount of money for other ideas such as a running track for the field.

When are the next meetings?

Everyone is welcome to come along to the following meetings:

Purpose of meeting: AGM	Date: Wednesday 16 th October 2024 Time: 15.40 Location: The Lodge
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How can you get involved?

New and existing parents are automatically members of the PTA when their child starts at the school. 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.

Contact details.

We would love to hear from you. Sofie Blood is the 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 eastmeonprimarypta@outlook.com.

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