



A warm welcome to your PTFA

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 PTFA (that's Parent Teacher Friends Association), how you can help us, and what's in it for you.

Why does the school have a PTFA?

Our group is called CJS PTFA and has been running for many years. We're a lively group of volunteers.

The main function of our PTFA 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.

This year's events so far and how much we raised

Autumn term mufti	£330
Christmas cards	£375
Change Challenge	£490

We have not been able to have our usual number of fundraising events over the last year so our fundraising has obviously suffered but we do have some events coming up during the Summer term and have started talking about next year's events already! Some of our regular events are - Break the Rules Mufti day, Sponsored Sprinter, Christmas Gifts for Giving, Christmas Cards, Cinema event (in conjunction with CIS!) and Summer Fair. We are always looking for new fun ideas - do let us know if you have a fundraising idea that you would like to suggest and help organise!

What have we funded recently?

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 PTFA. This is just a small snapshot:

What did we buy?	Who for?	What are the benefits?
Fitness equipment for the playing field	All years	This provides additional play equipment for the children whilst promoting exercise.
Virtual Christmas Panto	All years	We funded the virtual Christmas panto for all years – just for fun 'cos we thought the kids deserved a treat!
Subsidised Swimming Lessons	Years 3 and 4	This allows all children to partake in swimming lessons at 2 Rivers Meet at a reduced rate – Covid rules permitting!

What are we raising money for next?

We were asked by the school to fund the outdoor fitness equipment, we were well on track to achieve the target, then Covid hit and we had to stop our fundraising. The PTFA took the decision to pay for half of the fitness equipment to be supplied and installed when it was clear we were going to have to stop fundraising and therefore not raise the funds for the complete set of equipment. We are working hard this year to raise the money to complete the installation. We have asked the school team to put their thinking caps on so they can suggest to us what they would like us to provide next.

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

Facebook group	All notifications are put on our Facebook page – CJSPTFA
Twitter	We have expanded our social media presence this year and have learnt how to Tweet! @CJSChristchurch
Newsletter	Our Newsletters are emailed out to all parents via the school email system
Email	We are contactable on ptfa@cjsdoest.org

How often are the meetings?

Everyone is welcome to come along to the meetings, we meet once per half term, in line with the event planning that we need to do – we are also known to have adhoc meetings in Costa for small planning chats!! PTFA Committee meetings are generally held on a Monday night and via Zoom lately but we are looking forward to meeting in school (when we are allowed to!) – please do join us – dates are announced on Facebook and via the newsletter!!

Second Hand-Uniform Shop

We have been lucky enough to have been able to set up a second-hand uniform shop, thanks to one of our previous parents. They are contactable via email christchurchuniform@gmail.com or via the Facebook page Christchurch Schools Second Hand Uniform. An inventory list is available <http://www.portfieldhall.co.uk/uniform.html> Prices are £1 for log'd items and 75p for Grey items (trousers, skirts etc). Profits from the shop are paid directly to the PTFA.

How can you get involved?

New parents automatically become members of the PTFA 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.

We are looking to expand our volunteer base – we are always looking for people to take on events or responsibilities within the year! Are you good at written communication – we are looking to expand our match funding and need someone that can write our blurb for us! This is just a couple of people that we are looking for at the moment- if you have a skill / passion that you think may benefit us then please let us know – we are sure we can find a role for you!

Not all of the jobs we need have to be done in school hours or in school - most of the preparation work can be done at home with a cup of tea!

Contact details

We'd love to hear from you. If you would like any more information about the PTFA or think you can help with some of the areas we currently are looking to improve on then please do drop us an email to ptfa@cjsdorset.org or a message via Facebook!

We look forward to meeting you!!