

# A WARM WELCOME TO THE ECHELFORD PTFA



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

## WHY DOES THE SCHOOL HAVE A PTFA?

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 provide those 'little extras' that make school memorable, such as the *Year 6 Colour Run*, *Autumn Disco* and *seasonal fairs*.

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 PTFA is run by a committee who are all volunteers. The main roles being Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. We also have two PTFA reps per class who pass on PTFA information to their class WhatsApp groups. Meetings are attended by parents/carers as well as a member of the teaching staff, and occasionally by one of the Co-Headteachers.

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 HAVE THE PTFA FUNDED WITH THE MONEY?

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. Below are a just a few of the things the PTFA have funded recently.

**OUTDOOR PLAYGROUND SHELTER - £15,000**

**SCHOOL HALL AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT - £11,200**

**RECEPTION SANDPIT - £2,500**

**INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP FOR SCIENCE WEEK - £800**

**SCIENCE EQUIPMENT - £1,450**

**THEATRE GROUP PERFORMANCES - £1,050**

## HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

All parents and carers are automatically 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.

# HOW WE KEEP YOU UP TO DATE WITH OUR ACTIVITIES

## WHATSAPP/CLASS REPS

There is a PTFA WhatsApp group, as well as individual class groups, where Class Reps relay PTFA notices to parents and carers.

## PTFA FACEBOOK/ INSTAGRAM PAGES

We post reminders for upcoming PTFA meetings and events on our Facebook & IG pages

## PTA-EVENTS.CO.UK/ECHELFORD

We post notices about all upcoming meetings on our site [pta-events.co.uk/echelford](http://pta-events.co.uk/echelford) as well as details about events and requests for volunteers.

## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

We have a section at the bottom of the school newsletter where we add information for upcoming events.

## 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 PTFA gets paid without costing you more.

We have partnered with several label companies.

**stikins.co.uk** using code: 23093

**mynametags.com** using code: 32069

**stampstastic.co.uk** using code: TW151EX

**nametags4u.co.uk** using code: Echelford

**easy2name.com** using code: FR-ECHELFORDPS-22



WE RECOMMEND LABELLING EVERYTHING!



**Your School Lottery:** Our weekly lottery draw.

Tickets cost from just £1 per week. There is a guaranteed weekly school winner and the opportunity to win the national prize of £25,000 & bonus prizes. Visit: [yourschoollottery.co.uk](http://yourschoollottery.co.uk) and search for: Echelford. 45p from every ticket is donated directly to the PTFA.

1. Go to **easyfundraising.org.uk** and join for free.

2. Every time you shop online, go to [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) or app first to find the site you want and start shopping.

3. After you've checked out, the retailer will make a donation to Echelford PTFA at no extra cost to you whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and The Echelford PTFA will be really grateful for your donations.

easyfundraising  
feel good shopping

## CONTACT DETAILS

We'd love to hear from you. You are always free to get in touch with any of the committee members via our email at: [pta.echelford@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk](mailto:pta.echelford@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk), the PTFA Lite WhatsApp Group or through your class representative. Keep an eye out for our first meeting of the year in mid-September.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU!



Maria Houghton  
Chair



Lucy Garrod  
Secretary



Bernice Baumann  
Treasurer



Mandy Bye  
Member

WE ARE ALWAYS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS