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| Dear Parents/ Carers  The Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA) depends on a continual cycle of parent involvement, as children reach their final year and leave, so do their parents, therefore volunteers from the new influx of parents is vital. | |
| The active members of the PTFA work together for the benefit of the children at Archbishop Runcie First School, some are full-time parents, some work part-time, some work full-time. Every little bit of time offered counts, the PTFA works best when we have a lot of people, all contributing small amounts of time.  Taking an active role with the PTFA can be fulfilling and help with your child’s success and enjoyment of school, here’s why: **1. You are vital to the success of the school** |  |
| With tighter budgets, schools are becoming more dependent on their PTFAs to raise funds through planned events and ongoing fundraising activities. PTFAs are also an essential element to keeping a good dialogue going between the school leadership team and the parents; and in organizing events which children, parents and teachers can enjoy alongside one another.   **2. It’s totally flexible!** There’s a variety of ways you can help and be involved: the Summer Fair, researching a fundraising idea, baking with your kids for a cake sale, soliciting raffle prizes from local businesses….there are so many ways. If everyone gave 30minutes a term to help, so much can be achieved! You don’t have to attend PTFA meetings if you don’t want to – you can email a committee member to sign up to the volunteer list or get in touch via Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/717356231652649/?ref=bookmarks](http://www.facebook.com/groups/717356231652649/?ref=bookmarks) **3. You’ll feel more connected** There’s no better way to know what events are being planned, have your say on new fundraising suggestions, and have an influence on the spending of the funds raised. You’ll also get to know the school, the teachers and the school leadership team much better. **4. You’ll be part of a great network** Every PTFA event is an opportunity to meet other parents in the same situation as you; you will be part of a like-minded network of people who all share a common goal of improving Archbishop Runcie school for all our children. **5. Use your skills** You’ll definitely be able to use whatever talents and skills you have for a cause that should be close to your heart; perhaps you have a particular skill: graphic designer, accountant, chef, gardener, builder, etc., or maybe you have a talent for soliciting raffle prizes or professional help from local businesses.   **6. We’re not just for mums! Dads ... we need you as well!** It’s important to our PTFA, our school and our pupils to have dads represented on our PTFA and to help reach out to other dads. Are you a dad with a skill that would come in useful? **7. Be a role model** Getting involved illustrates good teamwork and community spirit to your children, you’ll show them that not only are they important to you, but their school and education is as well. The children love to see their parents as the school getting involved!!   **8. What the PTFA does affects every parent and pupil** Your voice matters! The PTFA Committee is made up of people elected to represent you, so help us to do this effectively by bringing your ideas and getting involved. See the smiles on your children’s faces and know that you have played a part in making school a little more special, a little bit more fun!   **9. It’s fun!** Whilst at times it can be hard work, our meetings are fun, we get to witness first-hand the excitement of the children when purchases are made, we get to plan fun events for the children and their families, and there is a huge sense of achievement when funds are raised and events are enjoyed by so many.   **10. Finally…make a difference** Our children are only at school for a relatively short time. PTFA events such as the Summer Fair will be remembered fondly by our children for a lifetime. The equipment and resources the PTFA helps fund, make learning more engaging and enjoyable for our children. **Come join us and help to continue to create lasting memories for our children!** | |

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