



St Benedict's PTA

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'd 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 St Benedict's PTA and has been running for two years in an official capacity. We're a lively group of volunteers.

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 our famous discos! 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 two class reps in each year, plus lots of active volunteers from the school community and staff.

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.

Recent events held and how much we raised

Summer Fair	£2660
Valentines Raffle	£107
Easter Disco	£936
Christmas Cinema Night	£450
Halloween Disco	£1160

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's 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?
Playground Equipment	Reception Playground	Keep the children healthy, promoting social interaction, developing self-confidence
New technology	Whole School	Allows the children to feel empowered and collaborate their learning.
Wet Play activities	KS1	A range of activities to aid learning, enhance social interaction and develop motor skills.

Leavers party contribution	Yr6	Help to facilitate a party to celebrate they year 6's school years and achievements.
Easter egg prizes and gifts	Whole school	Fully inclusive and feel good fun.

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

Facebook group	We run a facebook page called 'Electronic Notice Board', the clues in the title really, check it out for lots of helpful information.
Book bags	We put flyers, sponsor forms and notices in book bags.
Newsletter	We have a newsletter once a term which we put into book bags and also gets emailed out.
Noticeboard	We add posters of upcoming event to the school notice board which is next to the entrance gates.
Whats App	Each class has a 'whats app' group running which we encourage everyone to join, the class reps update the members about day to day school matters and PTA events.

What are we raising money for next?

We have just raised over £2500 towards school playground equipments, exactly how this is to be spent is being discussed. We also have our ongoing 50th anniversary piano fund ticking away, but our next main focus is to be decided.

Next Meeting:

Welcome drinks (open to all) at the Bulls Head Weds 25th Sept 7:30-9:30

AGM Tues 22nd Oct 7pm at School

How can you get involved?

We actually have an opt-out system at St Benedict's, so you are all members of the PTA but the more people become actively 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 hope to see you at meetings and events very soon.