

RIVER BEACH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Parent Teacher Association

York Road, Littlehampton, West Sussex BN17 6EW

Email: pta@riverbeach.w-sussex.sch.uk
Website: www.riverbeach.w-sussex.sch.uk

Head of School: Mr D Ayers, MA(Ed)
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs R Wilkinson, BEd (Hons)



Telephone: (01903) 725500
Fax: (01903) 712700

Dear Parents and Guardians

11th September 2017

Save our PTA

We are writing to inform you that some of the school's PTA committee stepped down at the end of the summer term. Unfortunately this means that the PTA will no longer be able to exist unless we have more people who are willing to help and stand on the committee.

At present, we have three people who have put themselves forward for the positions of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer; however, they will need to be voted in at our AGM on Wednesday 13th September. In addition to this, we need a further 9 people to complete the committee. This is a requirement in line with our constitution, which is legally binding.

What we do

We are a large school with nearly 700 pupils and every parent / guardian who has a child at River Beach **is part of the PTA**. Despite this, there are a lot of people who do not know what we do. We are a team of working Mums and Dads with common goals: to support our children, advance their education and support the school. Whilst fund-raising is a major part of a PTA's activities and directly contributes to the improvement of the school, there's a lot more to it than that. PTAs provide a great way to build the whole school community, including links with the wider society, all of which benefits the school and offers a positive influence within the local area. In a nutshell, PTA members also provide a willing workforce for the school when extra hands are needed, hold social events to bond the school community and support parents through times of change.

The varied work means there's something for everyone - it's not just about baking cakes! Children love seeing their parents in school. You can benefit them, improve their educational environment and make friends too. Here are just some of the things the PTA has done in the past, things that will no longer happen if the PTA ceases to exist:

- Summer Fayre – due to all of your generous donations, we raised over £3000 for the school this year
- Santa's visit and a present for every child
- Christmas Fayre / Craft Fayre – £347
- Discos and Dress down days
- Equipment for the school – for example the new adventure playground
- School funding - we provide additional funding for many areas of the school for materials that the school is unable to provide, like lending money to the drama club for a licence to put on a show (this is normally £500) and money towards resources for after school clubs.

What Does the PTA involve?

There are many different ways you can help with the PTA, whether you have lots of time to offer or not. Some of the roles are time-consuming, although also very rewarding. If you can't commit to a big job, look out for things you can do less frequently like running a stall at the summer Fayre, sending letters out for raffle prizes, making reindeer food or even peeling onions before the summer Fayre!

We meet, on average, once a month to plan any events coming up, fund raising ideas and social events and discuss any funding needs the school may have. Meeting frequency will increase closer to events, but there is no obligation to attend all the meetings. What we do need is help organising, setting up, running the events and clearing up afterwards. The PTA is also a great way to meet other parents and teachers

How to get involved

The PTA AGM (Annual General Meeting) will be held at the school on Wednesday 13th September at 3pm and everyone is welcome. We will be providing a crèche (manned by teachers)

If you would like to attend, please contact us either through the school or via email at pta@riverbeach.w-sussex.sch.uk so that we can have enough teachers to look after your children.

If you are unable to attend, but would like to be involved, please contact us on the above email and we can provide you with minutes of the meeting and further information.

Yours sincerely

The River Beach PTA