

# Welcome to Our School

## St. Patrick's Primary School Parent Teacher Association

Charity Registration  
number 100474

**Parentkind**  
Member Association

## Welcome to St. Patrick's Primary School, Hollywood

This information has been put together by **St. Patrick's Primary School Parent Teacher Association** especially for you, as a new family joining our school community. Starting school is an exciting time for the whole family. Studies show that there is a direct link between parental/carer involvement and how well children do, so why not get involved from the start! This booklet provides you with information about **St. Patrick's Primary School Parent Teacher Association** and lets you know how you can join in.

## Why do we have a PTA?

We are fortunate at our school to have a **Parent Teacher Association** that is an integral part of the school community. Over the last number of years we have raised funds which have been spent on equipment and resources to enhance our children's educational experience and the school's facilities.

Our association is about much more than simply fundraising. **St. Patrick's Primary School Parent Teacher Association** exists to provide closer links between home and school, and it is an excellent way to bring staff, parents and friends together socially in support of the school, working towards a common goal. It's fun too - just ask any of the committee members, year-group reps or volunteers.

All parents and members of the school community are encouraged to get involved, even if they only have a small amount of time available. All families are automatically members of the **St. Patrick's Primary School Parent Teacher Association** when their child joins our school.

## Role of the Committee

Our 2024-2025 committee is shown below.



The Committee meet on a regular basis with working groups meeting as necessary when we are planning events.

The Committee also hold open PTA meetings. All are welcome to come along, find out what the association are planning, share ideas and get involved.

## Volunteers

We welcome any help from parents, teachers and friends, to commit some of their time to supporting the association. Every little helps - even just one hour of assisting with setting-up, or clearing an event, or helping out during one, is hugely valuable. The more volunteers we have, the more activities we can provide at our events. If you would like to join us, please speak to a committee member or year-group rep, come along to our next meeting or email us: [stpatspta@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stpatspta@hotmail.co.uk).

## Year-group Representatives

Our reps play a very important role, providing a link between individual classes and parents, and the PTA committee. The support from year-group reps is vital when it comes to organising our main events, from selling tickets to organising stalls and designing posters. We really could not manage without them.

## Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Our Annual General Meeting is held in **September** and provides an excellent opportunity for all parents to come along and hear in more detail about our work, the events we have run, the funds we have raised and how the money has been spent. It is also when we elect our new committee members.

## Support from Parentkind

Our **St. Patrick's Primary School Parent Teacher Association** is a member of Parentkind, which is a national charity and membership organisation providing support and guidance to over 13,500 parent associations in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Membership includes comprehensive insurance cover by Zurich Insurance plc for all our association run events and gives access to support and advice on running the association plus fundraising ideas and good practice hints and tips.

## How we raise money

Like most PTAs, the majority of our funds are raised through the events that we run. Some of our most popular events are:

**Halloween Party**

**Quiz Night**

**Sponsored Walk (to be replaced in 24/25 with a Colour Run)**

**Summer Fete**

Donations from parents are extremely important. You can donate time, money, items for sale, raffle prizes or offers of services and skills.

## How we spend the money we raise

The PTA committee are responsible for deciding how PTA funds are spent. The Principal (Mr C O'Neill) and School Leadership Team provide a 'wish list' of items that the school would like us to consider funding.

We also invite input from parents too, so if you have an idea of something that would benefit all the students in the school, please do share it with the committee. We can discuss it at a meeting and feedback.

Funds are typically spent on the 'extras' that are not provided by the school's budget, thus making our children's learning experiences more fulfilling and exciting. Our Constitution commits the association to spending money on things that will benefit the children directly.

### How we keep you up to date

We use year group WhatsApp groups to advertise upcoming events and dates as well as details of the help we are looking for at larger events. Following an event, we will let you know how much was raised, and later, what the money will be spent on.

This year we are working on increasing our social media presence and will update you on this when we have more to share. Minutes of our meetings can be accessed on the school website, here: <https://www.stpatrickspsholywood.com/parents/pta/>

If you would like to join our WhatsApp Group as a volunteer or rep, or would like to find out more about these roles, please email us: [stpatspta@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stpatspta@hotmail.co.uk)

### Committee and Year Group Reps for 2024 / 2025

<b>Role</b>	<b>Committee 2024/2025</b>
Chair	Rebecca Shannon
Vice-Chair	Claire Mohrholz
Secretary	Laura Henderson
Treasurer	Niamh Auscher
Vice-Treasurer	Jamie Bingham
<b>Year Group</b>	<b>REP Names</b>
P1	Siobhan McLoughlin, tbc
P2	Ciara Mac Guill, Siobhan McLoughlin
P3	Maria Thurston, Jordanna Kalla, Tessa Breslin, Vicki Fitzsimons
P4	Nicola McCarthy, Dee St John, Toni McStraw
P5	Pralita McCourt, Tessa Breslin, Dee St John
P6	Nicola McCarthy, Ciara Mac Guill
P7	Toni McStraw, Vicki Fitzsimons, Dee St John, Tessa Breslin, Pralita McCourt

**We look forward to welcoming you to our school!**