



SHOBNALL ROAD, BURTON ON TRENT, STAFFORSHIRE, DE14 2BB

## Welcome to our school.

This booklet has been prepared by the PTA for you as a new family within the school. The aim of this booklet is to tell you a little bit about the Parents and Friends Association at Shobnall Primary School, what we do, what kind of events we organise and also to let you know how you can get involved.

### What is the PFA?

We are a group of parents and teachers who meet once or twice a term to plan events and help raise money for the school. The current PFA of Shobnall Primary has raised £12,000.00 over the last few years. This money has been spent on improving equipment and resources in the school, such as staging and lighting for the school hall, parasols, litter bins, wet weather games, digital cameras and much more. We are currently in the process of purchasing a new sports kit for the school and two sets of netball bibs. The monies are also used to pay for some of the 'extras' that the children enjoy, such as presents from Santa at the Christmas Fayre and also a theatre trip for the whole school.

The PFA is about much more than just fundraising. We also organise family fun events which help provide closer links between home and school, such as our Christmas Fayre or Easter Bingo. These events are a great way to bring staff, parents and pupils together socially in support of the school.

Many of the events we hold are now firmly established in the school calendar and are hugely popular with parents, teachers and pupils alike

### School Discos

The PFA organise and run a disco each term for KS1 and KS2. We make money by charging a nominal ticket price and selling sweets and refreshments on the night. The discos are always a huge hit with the children!

### Easter Bingo

An Annual event at our school. We hold the Easter Bingo in our school hall and our 'winners' get to take home yummy easter eggs and chocolates (plus other prizes)! We raise money from bingo ticket sales and refreshments. Many of our prizes for the bingo are donated. A very popular event and a real fun evening.

### Christmas and Summer Fayres

We either do a Christmas Fayre or a Summer Fayre. These are both firm favourites and usually bring in lots of money. We have games, stalls, fun activities, refreshments and much more and.....of course at the Christmas Fayre we have a visit from Santa!

## **Fund Raising**

New fund raising ideas this year have included the children designing their own Christmas cards and selling them to parents and 'Bags2School' a re-cycling company who pay us for re-cycling old clothing and bedding,

As you can see there is always something going on and so there is lots to be involved with.

We try to respond to the children's requests and ideas as it is always great to see them having fun at the events we have organised or see them enjoying a new piece of equipment that the PFA has donated.

## **How Do We Spend The Money We Raise?**

We agree how to spend the money raised at our PFA Committee Meetings.

Usually, Mrs Roobottom, our Head teacher, or Mr Cruise, our Deputy Head, will have a 'shopping list' of items that the school would like to purchase. Sometimes this will be as a result of the children asking for something – this year we are ordering a new summer house for the KS1 nursery play area. At other time it will be a request for resources to improve a particular area of the curriculum or school environment.

In the main the PTA funds are for the 'extras' not provided by the school budget, that will benefit the children directly. The money we raise is usually spent fairly quickly so that in supporting our school, your child will feel the benefit, along with everybody else. Even when we have been fundraising for a large project we have still managed to find funds for smaller items thanks to the generous and continued support of our parents.

There are some items that the PFA supports every year such as:

- Christmas presents from a certain special visitor!
- Sports day refreshments

## **How Can I Get Involved?**

There are lots of ways to get involved in the PFA :-

- PFA Committee – We hold regular informal meetings once or twice a term to discuss and organise forthcoming events and agree on purchases. The meetings usually take place at 3.30pm (after the school day finishes) and do not tend to take too long. Any parent can attend the meetings and this does not mean you have to make a regular commitment – so please come along, share your ideas with us and find out what's going on.
- Helping at Events – if you don't want to be involved in the planning or organising you can still help massively by offering to help before events or at other times during the year - it doesn't matter if you can't help on a regular basis, or even if you can't come into school. There are always little jobs that can be done from home if you have half an hour to spare e.g. wrapping gifts, preparing raffle tickets etc.

- Donating Raffle Prizes – We are always on the look out for Raffle Prizes – any type of business can help either by donating actual prizes (a meal, spa day, a haircut or facial etc) or you may feel you wish to donate a prize personally to help school funds.

### **How We Get Information to You**

We have many ways of keeping you updated with what's going on:-

We have our own website - [www.shobnall.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.shobnall.staffs.sch.uk) which has news items, details of forthcoming events, information on everything that is happening in our school.

- We also send home flyers or letters in the book bags.

### **And Finally!**

Thank you for taking the time to read this booklet. You can help us by letting us know how you would like to be involved, if you have any contacts or skills that we could use or if you can help in any way, no matter how small.

Please complete the attached questionnaire and return it to the school office with your other documentation.

Should you have any questions, please do get in touch with one of the PFA committee members, or ask via your class teacher or the school office. We look forward to meeting you soon, hopefully at one of our meetings.

**From all the PFA Committee**

