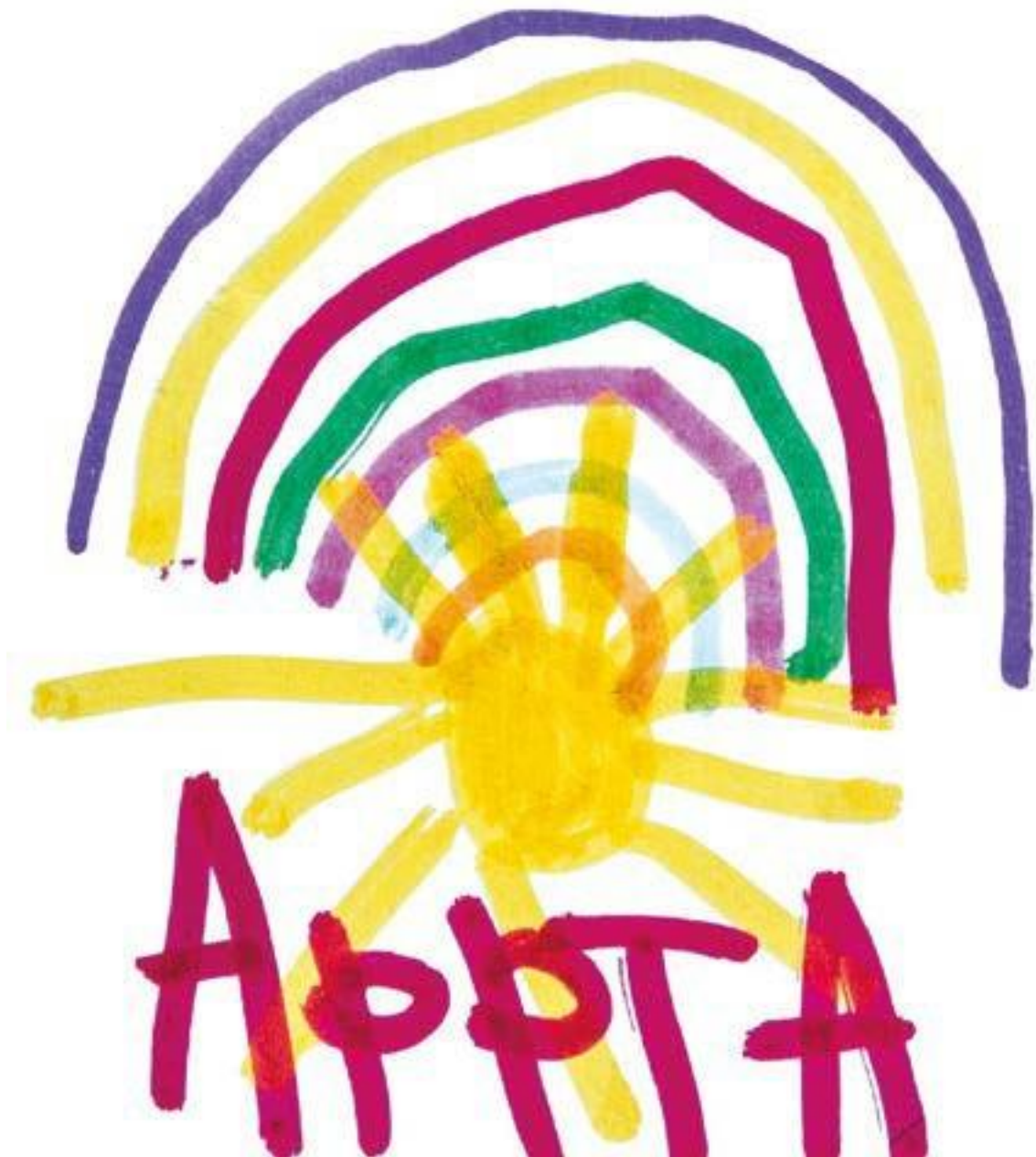


APPTA NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2022



WELCOME TO YOUR PTA NEWSLETTER



FOREWORD FROM MR. TOFALLIS

Dear Parents and Carers

Once again, this year, I am really looking forward to working alongside our amazing APPTA Committee with Roza Aufogul (Chair), Sonal Shah (Vice Chair), Vinod Nakrani (Treasurer), Andria Themistokli (Vice Secretary), Caroline Bon (Secretary) and Dale Wightman (Elected Trustee).

The APPTA have worked tirelessly since we set up our school to help raise thousands of pounds for so many school projects with all the money raised going back to benefit all our children. We have two brilliant libraries with hundreds of books for the children. We have utilised the creativity of our parents to create wonderful playground markings and a vibrant and colourful environment in the school building. Our APPTA helped to create our Wildlife Garden which we are revamping again this year. Thank you to the group of parents recently that helped to prepare this area so that it can be used again for class sessions. In addition to all this, the APPTA have helped to purchase both classroom and outdoor resources for our children, supported music initiatives as well as school trips.

We are so grateful to all our parents that have given up their time for the benefit of our school. We have all been working tirelessly to continually improve the whole school environment inside and outside the school. This is always something that is ongoing and we really appreciate our parents and carers giving up some of their valuable time to help our school.

With the funds already raised from last year, we are now about to build, with the APPTA, a new outdoor classroom structure that will be based opposite our Year One classes by the climbing frames. We hope for that project to be completed in the next few months. In addition to this we are now looking at how we could build on our group room spaces. We would really like to create at least two extra group room spaces opposite our school offices. Even having our own 'school bus group room' would be an amazing project! Other resources that our school would benefit with include even more books for Reception to Year 6; playground equipment for all classes; extra funding to help with the promotion of sports and play at school; enhancing the Wildlife Garden; building on recycling projects; the possibility of school pets/ animals; outdoor benches and tables; table tennis; author visits to school and promoting Arts.

In addition to all this support we also have many parent/carers volunteers that give up their time to support our children with reading and group work. With your support and help, we can continue to help create exciting and fun events for all our children and families. The APPTA plays an important role in organising social events for all our year groups such as the year group parties coming up, large termly events, as well as social events for all our parents and carers over the year. We look forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming Winter Fair in December 2022!

Thank you for all your support.

Best wishes.

Mr Tofallis

Head Teacher

YOUR CURRENT PTA COMMITTEE

As a parent/carer with a child at the school, you are automatically a part of our APPTA community, and we are really excited about the potential of our PTA as a full school for the first time. We'd love every parent/carer to be actively involved in the PTA – information on the many different ways you can get involved is provided in this newsletter.

We would also like to ask parents/carers to suggest and lead on fundraising and community-building events, with the support of the PTA committee. We are planning to have a full calendar of events scheduled for 2022/23 including year group events, cake sales and events for parents. As always, we need your support and ideas to make these events successful.

In other news, unfortunately, our former elected trustee, Trupti had to step down earlier in the year, and we are now inviting anyone who is interested to contact us to take on this role, especially in the run up to the Winter Fair.

If you are interested in joining the committee until the AGM, please email us at ashmoleprimarypta@gmail.com and we will be happy to have a conversation.

We'd also like to remind you that last year we agreed to move the Annual General Meeting (AGM) from November to January going forward. This is for 2 reasons:

1. Allowing reception parents to settle in and familiarise themselves with the school and associated processes.
2. New committee members not having the burden of organising the Winter fair within a short time of being elected; this change allows the committee time to get to know each other and fully prepare for and understand all the activities involved.

Finally, please do come and say hello if you see us in the playground at pick-up or drop-off times! We look forward to meeting you

Andria, Caroline, Dale, Roza, Sonal & Vinnie
PTA Committee

MEET THE COMMITTEE



ANDRIA THEMISTOKLI – VICE-SECRETARY

'I'm Andria, Amelie's mum in Lyra class. I also have Ariana who is in year 10 at the Academy. I hope that my background in the hospitality industry and accounts management will be put to good use in the PTA's activities and initiatives. My real passions are organising fun events and arts and crafts.'



CAROLINE BON – SECRETARY

'I am Caroline, mum of Esteban who is in Year 1. I am French and I have relocated to the UK 10 years ago. The French and English education systems are quite different, and I was keen to be involved in the PTA in order to understand better how the English school system works, to help improving the school environment and also meet lovely people along the way.'



DALE WIGHTMAN – TRUSTEE

'I have two girls at Ashmole, Maria (Year 4) and Sophia (Year 2). I have a little boy as well who will hopefully join the school in 2023! My professional life keeps me busy with video and photography work.'

I joined the PTA when Maria was in reception and for me, being part of the PTA is a wonderful opportunity to give back to the school. I do my best, working with many other people, to bring fun and funds into the school and events!'



ROZA AUFOGUL – CHAIR

‘ Hi I have Ibrahim in Lynx,; I joined the PTA so I can work alongside so many more parents to raise funds for the school in new and innovate ways. I work at King’s, introducing Enterprise Solutions for students and researchers. I enjoy exercising with my older children and hope to bring this energy to PTA activities! ‘



SONAL SHAH – VICE CHAIR

‘ I have 2 girls at Ashmole Primary – Anoushka in Year 5 and Millie in Year 2. My vision is for the Ashmole community to be fun, inclusive, and a great learning environment for our kids. Having been part of Ashmole Primary since the early days in portacabins, I’m really excited to see its first year as a full school. I also work in HR & OD for a national charity which keeps me busy. ’



VINNIE – TREASURER

‘ I’m Vinod Nakrani, my son Kiyani is in Year 1. I joined the PTA as I wanted our kids to have the best resources available to them to help them in the learning journey. Above all to have our children being part of a community and family. ’

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Join the APPTA broadcast channel to keep up to date with all APPTA news and activities.

Join our WhatsApp channel where we share all PTA news and activity information, so you can always stay up to date with what's happening! Simply click [here](#) to join the broadcast channel

We also have the Ashmole Weekly Bulletin, which is a weekly reminder of all school organised activities. You can join that [here](#).

(Please note that by joining these groups, you are giving consent for us to contact you about PTA events and activities; you may remove yourself at any time).

Your class reps will also share important information with you to ensure that you're kept up to date.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

1 BIMONTHLY PTA MEETINGS

All parents/carers are welcome to join our next PTA meeting on Tuesday October 11th, 8.30-9.30pm in person at school. We will be discussing all proposed fund-raising ideas and setting out a roadmap of events for 2022/23. Please join us – we would love to hear everybody's ideas.



2 YEAR GROUP CAKE SALES: NOVEMBER

Please support us by buying cakes at our regular cake sales. The first one took place on Friday 30th September by our year 1 parents. The next one is due in November with more details to follow.

3 RECEPTION DISCO: FRIDAY 7TH OCTOBER

Each year we have a special welcome for the new children and parents and carers to the school. This year it is taking place on Friday 7th October.



4 CYCLING GROUP EVENT: FRIDAY 7TH OCTOBER

This is a new group led by one of our parents, with the first event scheduled to take place on Friday 7th October after school. We are very happy to encourage more cycling within our community, and if you would like to get involved, please see details on page 10.

5 HAPPY SCHOOL BAGS

Happy School Bag is an easy fundraising scheme that helps schools, clubs and other organisations to raise funds through the collection of pre-loved reusable clothing. We have 3 collections each academic year where we request the following:

- Adult and children's clothing
- Paired shoes
- Fashion accessories
- Handbags and belts
- Hats and scarves
- Jewellery and perfumes



No Dirty, Damaged, Wet Clothes, Uniforms, Underclothing, Toys, Books, DVD's, Duvets, Pillows, Household linen, Carpets, Blankets, Curtains or Bric-a-Brac.

Our next collection date is Friday 14th October.



6 FRIDAY NIGHT FUN - YEAR GROUP EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Our aims are not just about fundraising but to build a community spirit amongst our children, parents and carers. Last year all the children enjoyed getting together with their year groups to have their own special evening of fun together. Here are this year's dates:

Year 1 - 04/11/22

Year 2 - 18/11/22

Year 3 - 27/01/23

Year 4 - 03/03/23

Year 5 - 24/03/23

Year 6 - 12/05/23

7 WINTER FAIR: SUNDAY 4TH DECEMBER

Finally this year's Winter Fair is taking place on Sunday 4th December. This is one of our biggest and most popular events in the academic year, it's always great fun and a fantastic way to start the festive period. We are really looking forward to this as it will be our first one in 2 years due to Covid.



DONATING TO APPTA

Directly:

A number of parents have asked us how to make either one-off or regular donations to APPTA, you can do this by making a one off payment or setting up a standing order to our APPTA account. Our bank account details are as follows:

Ashmole Primary

Sort code: 20-45-45

Account Number : 93078426

Amazon Smile:

You can also support us via Amazon Smile.

Link Amazon Smile to Ashmole Primary: Ashmole Primary is registered with AmazonSmile, so all you have to do is select us as your charity and then do your usual shopping at <https://smile.amazon.co.uk> (rather than the standard Amazon web address).

0.5% of the money you spend on AmazonSmile will be anonymously donated by Amazon to Ashmole Primary.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Ashmole Primary PTA relies on a large number of generous parents, staff, carers and friends to help make our activities and events possible. They donate time, funds, and expertise to help all sorts of projects succeed, for the benefit of the entire school. If you would like to take responsibility for running a project, please come and talk to us and we can help you make it happen! If you're unable to attend a meeting but would like to be involved, please talk to your class rep or a committee member or email us at ashmoleprimarypta@gmail.com.

Ashmole Primary School currently has a number of volunteer groups set up.

These are groups of volunteers who regularly donate time to the school and help with a number of activities. Volunteer groups are open to everyone. Please note if your volunteering activities require you to be in and out the school and in regular close contact with children, you may need to be DBS-checked. (This is usually not required for one-off volunteering.) Please talk to us or the school office directly for more information.

Below is a list of our current Volunteer groups. Please email ashmoleprimarypta@gmail.com and we can help put you in touch if you wish to join any of these groups.

If you have an idea for a new volunteer group, please do let us know.

JOIN A VOLUNTEER GROUP

WILDLIFE GARDEN: This group meets on regularly (usually Saturday mornings weather depending) to plan, design and implement the Wildlife Garden. If you are keen gardener, do join us! Group lead: Brian.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS: This group volunteers their time to read to children and organise our library. If you are interested in literacy and reading and love books, please do get involved! Group lead: Louise.

ART & DECOR: This creative group helps decorate our school and make it a beautiful and creative space for everyone, both indoors and out. If you are creative and artistic, we need your help! Group leads: Kayt and Leila.

FIRST AID: This group ensures that all our events have qualified first aiders available to help with providing first aid to any of our event attendees where needed and can administer the appropriate care and support. You would need to be a qualified first aider to join this group. Group Leads: Hina, Ruth and Tamara.

MEDIA TEAM: This group support the video recording and photography of main events at the school. You do not have to any specific experience and will be supported by the team. Group Lead: Dale.

CYCLING GROUP: This group are here to encourage and support us to use our bikes more be it to travel to school or other commuting or simply for fun and leisure. Group Lead: Rahul.

OUR SPONSOR

We are so grateful to our Sponsor, Rash and Rash. They supported us last year and will continue to do so this year. Without their support we would not be able to run all the events that we do. A big thank you to Matt and Claire from Rash and Rash.

On top of their generous annual £1800 donation, Rash & Rash have also generously offered to donate money to the school for each sale / rental that goes through them; please contact us for further details. We look forward to continue working with them over the year.



SOUTHGATE'S ORIGINAL ESTATE AGENT

EST. 1982

DATES ROUND UP

October

Friday 7th October - Cycling after school

Friday 7th October - Reception disco (Parents & Carers welcome)

Tuesday 11th October - Bimonthly PTA meeting 8.30-9.30pm at the school

Friday 14th October - Happy School Bag collection at school drop off (9.00am)

November

Friday 4th November - Year 1 Friday night social

Friday 18th November - Year 2 Friday night social

Year Group Cake sale - Date TBC

December

Winter Fair - Sunday 4th December

