

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am Frank Gratton, and I would like to introduce myself as your new Chairperson of Stoborough School PTFA. My wife Joanne (Jo) has taken on the role of Secretary and Jenny Street has taken on the role of Treasurer.

We are taking on these roles from Jenny Tubbs, Wendy Clark and Jill Johnson, who for the past 3 years have worked tirelessly to raise much needed funds for school equipment, books, art materials, school Christmas parties and school social events, and I am sure you will want to join me in thanking them for providing such steadfast support to the school team for the betterment of our children, and with your support we shall endeavour to carry on their good work.

As Parents and carers of a Stoborough School pupil, you are automatically a member of the PTFA, there is no enrolment no membership fee and no obligation to contribute in any way, but any contribution, however small will be welcome.

The PTFA is here to raise funds for the school for goods and services that fall outside of any state or church funding. As public services, including schools have seen their real-time funding reduce over recent years, the additional funds raised by the PTFA are vital in supporting the wider development and enjoyment of our children's school life.

Funds raised are spent on various items, and I have listed some of these below to give you an idea of the essential and valuable contributions these funds make:

School swimming pool – annual costs and maintenance.

Sports equipment.

Art material.

Musical instruments.

Bike shelter.

Christmas parties and gifts.

Forest School equipment.

Extra curricula reading books.

Our future aims include funding a new computer suite, new books for the ongoing enhancement of the children's reading ability and literatural enrichment, sports equipment, and the continued upkeep of the swimming pool.

Funds are raised in various ways, some of which you can help with, by simply buying a raffle ticket, school Christmas cards or calendar and attending a fund-raising event such as the summer fete.

You can also help by offering to man a stall for half an hour or so at one of our events, which is also a great way to connect with other parents and the school staff. The summer fete is an exceptionally fun day with lots to entertain both children and adults alike.

You can contribute in other ways, by donating unwanted items when we are organising stalls at an event or raising money by collecting unwanted gifts etc., we will be sending out regular news letters to keep you informed of how we (with your support) are funding school projects and when the next event will be and how you can help.

If you are able to attend the PTFA meetings we will welcome your input, and if you feel able to offer support by taking on a small task relating to our fund raising or contribute by offering a particular skill then that would be great.

We raise funds in other ways too, by direct applications for grants, donations and sponsorships from local businesses, and even crowd funding, but the majority of fund raising is done with the help and support of the parents and carers of the pupils and I hope you will be able to continue to support our work in whatever way you can.

Kind Regards

Frank Gratton