Suckley Friends Association (SFPTA)

About Us

The Suckley Friends Association (SFPTA) has been an active and integral part of Suckley Primary School. All parents automatically become members of the PTA when their children join Suckley Primary School. It is more than a parent teacher association in that it also includes grandparents and other 'friends' of the school.

We are very fortunate at our school to have a fundraising community that is, and has been an integral part of the school community in recent years raising funds which have been spent on improving equipment and resources to enhance our children's education and the facilities in school in general.

But the SFPTA is about much more than just fundraising. It exists to provide closer links between home, school and the wider community of Suckley, and it is an excellent way to bring staff, parents and friends together socially in support of the school, working towards a common goal.

The principle aims of the SFPTA are:

- To encourage co-operation between parents and teachers for the well being of the children.
- To encourage an interest in the educational processes of the school.
- To engage in activities of all kinds - Social, Educational and Fund-raising - to further enhance the life of the school and those who live and learn within the school.
- To ensure that the school plays a full part in the wider community of Suckley and that the community in turn supports the school.

How does it work?

The SFPTA organises regular events throughout the school year aimed at raising money for specific needs at Suckley Primary and fostering good relationships among the school, the staff, the parents and the local community.

The SFPTA has a committee consisting of four Officers: Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. We also have between 6 and 10 members who make up the full committee including a representative from each of our four classes (Wrens, Robins, Woodpeckers and Eagles) and our Head Teacher, Mrs Marshall.

The SFPTA committee meet on a monthly basis to discuss how events have gone, plan for the next events and discuss fundraising. **Everyone** is welcome to attend. We also have smaller working groups meeting as necessary when we are planning larger events.

Our Annual General Meeting is held in September at the beginning of the school year and provides an opportunity for parents to come along and hear in more detail about the work of the PTA, the events we have run, the funds we have raised and how the money has been spent. It is also the occasion when we elect our new Committee Members and Class Representatives.

Please Support Us!

Due to recent events, and to enable the SFPTA to continue providing its invaluable support to the school, we need to reform the committee (re-appoint officers and class representatives) and build up the support of members. To this end we propose to hold an **Extraordinary General Meeting** (EGM) on **[INSERT DATE, TIME & LOCATION]** and would welcome as much help and support as possible.

How to Help

If you can't attend the EGM there are still lots of ways you can help and support your child and the school through the SFPTA.

Attend a social or fundraising event

Come along to the next event. You don't need to know any other parents, just come along and meet new people or bring your partner or another group of friends, everyone is welcome. You'll meet new people and leave the event having made new friends.

Support fundraising initiatives

Do you have a practical skill? Could you spare some time to do some photocopying or do you have printing, marketing, IT or technical skills that we could use? Can you make cakes, biscuits or buns? Are you any good at woodwork or art? How about face-painting? If the answer is yes to any of these questions then you can help the SFPTA. Send in some cakes for a cake sale or items for one of the fairs, or buy a school tea towel!

Volunteer at SFPTA events

Offering to help before events or at other times during the year is so valuable - it really is a case of 'many hands make light work'. 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. We really couldn't achieve what we do without the unseen 'army of help' that exists in school. Or you could sell drinks or food at the school disco, run a stall or game at one of the fairs or maybe help organise a cinema evening or quiz night. You could get your children involved too. Whatever it is, every little counts and is very much appreciated.

Ask your Employer

Why not see if your employer would be willing to donate a prize for the raffles and auctions we run throughout the year or can help by donating some office supplies or even doing some photocopying for us. Many employers offer a Charity matching programme or will donate to a nominated charity.

Provide new ideas

If you have any new ideas for raising funds or just for getting together and having a good time then please let us know. We are always on the lookout for new things to try.

Join the Committee

You can of course volunteer to be a Committee Member or come along to SFPTA meetings – we always need new members! Or you can simply support the AGM and give us your ideas for fundraising events - this is also the time to ask questions or voice your opinion, as well as vote in Committee Members.

What next?

If you would like to become more involved with the SFPTA, whether it's simply joining our social evenings, coming up with ideas, joining our mailing list, newsletter production or helping out at events then please get in touch either through your SFPTA Class Representative or e-mail us at: [INSERT]. Alternatively please complete the questionnaire which will be circulated at the forthcoming parents evening or come to our EGM planned for [INSERT DATE, TIME AND LOCATION]

We can't do this without you!

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Questionnaire for parents

Our SFPTA/Friends association runs regular fundraising events throughout the year. We can only continue to run with the support of our amazing volunteers. Please take a few minutes to let us know which events and activities appeal to you and where you might help us.

Your name:	
Contact telephone number:	
Contact email:	
Child's name(s) and classes:	

Below is a list of are some activities that we run or are thinking of running. Please let us know if you would be able to support us by helping at these events or volunteering for one of our other roles. All support is welcome – no matter how much or how little time you are able to give.

Event	Attend	Help plan	Set up/clear away	Help during event

Would you be willing to help with, or take on, any of these other roles? Please contact us if you would like any more information about named committee roles.

Role	Help with role	Take on role
Eg. Social media secretary		

Do you work for a company that might support the PTA by donating a raffle prize or sponsoring a stall at our Christmas or summer fair? Please give details

Do you work for a company that has a matched giving scheme for employees, such as a bank or building society? If you don't know, would you be prepared to ask them?

Please list any skills or talents you would like to offer: e.g. craft hobbies, gardening, baking, woodworking, marketing.

Thank you for taking your time to give us some feedback.
Once completed, please hand this questionnaire into the school office.