

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to introduce myself as the chair of Scotch Orchard PTA. My name is Sarah Taylor, I have five children (3 birth and two fostered), one currently at Scotch Orchard (Tiana Yr4). I have lived in the Lichfield area all my life, and alongside fostering I am also a children's nurse.

I officially took the reigns from the previous chair just as Covid hit us all and everything closed down. I am looking forward to re-starting things and hopefully getting the school community back into the activities we all enjoyed pre-Covid. However, I am very busy and need as much help and support as I can get.

I would like to change the way things are run slightly and also set up a few things to try and make life a little easier for everyone. I would urge you to think about getting involved, come along to the first meeting – even if its just for a drink and a gossip. There will be NO PRESSURE to take anything on, I just want to hear your views and ideas, or just to meet you. Just because you come to one meeting doesn't mean you are expected to attend future meetings or help with school functions.

Please come and chat with me on:

Thursday 7th October 8pm at Turnpike, Boley Park

Over the years, the term PTA has always given me the impression of something extremely formal, slightly cliquey and a bit scary, so going forwards, I would like to propose that the group be known as the 'Friends of Scotch Orchard'. It also allows for grandparents, family members and parents of previous pupils to be involved and removes the need for a member of school staff to be present at every meeting. For anyone that felt the same as I did, I hope that adds a bit of encouragement to join in.

So, what's the aim? It's simple. To raise cash to provide the children extra-curricular things to do while they are at school, whilst having fun on the way and boosting the community spirit. It's important to remember that the budget the school gets from the Department for Education is to support the curriculum. It's not for disco's, climbing frames or fetes. All those extra things have been provided by the PTA at some point in the past.

We have class representatives for most year groups, if this is something you would like more information about, please get in touch, or come along on 7th October.

In the meantime, if you want to get in touch, the PTA email address is: scotchorchardpta@gmail.com

I look forward to meeting you

Sarah