

## **Grindleford Primary PTFA Meeting**

**Date:** Friday, 3rd October, 2025

**Time:** 3:30pm

**Location:** Grindleford Pavilion

**Chair:** Chloe Holmes

**Secretary:** Liz Dew

**Treasurer:** Kaori Carter

**Present:** Jenny Garamszegi, Sarah Enyon, Mrs Crease, Helen Fulson, Atilla Garamszegi, Dave Kumar, Joelle Owen

Lots of us brought our children, who played together during the meeting. This is just to note that childcare need not be a barrier to attending future sessions.

## **1. Leadership Changes and Group Structure**

**New Leadership:** The group formally welcomed the new PTFA leadership team:

- **Chair:** Chloe Holmes (taking over from Jenny Garamszegi).
- **Secretary:** Emma Walker (taking over from Liz Dew).
- **Treasurer:** Kaori Carter (who took over from Andy Marshall in Oct 2024.)

**ACTION:** Kaori will update the PTFA's Articles of Association with Companies House.

**Meeting Frequency:** The plan is to meet once a quarter. We aim to alternate between in-person meetings (after school on a Friday) and online meetings to accommodate different schedules. The **January meeting** is proposed to be held online. All parents are default members of the PTFA, please feel welcome to come along and participate in decision making whenever you can.

## **2. Finance Update**

**Current Balance:** The PTFA account currently holds **£27,190**.

## **3. School Requests and Funding Projects**

The group discussed several key requests and potential funding areas from the school:

### **Technology**

- **Equipment Needs:** While laptops were initially mentioned, **Mrs C** noted that **iPads for Class 1** with docking stations and keyboards might be more beneficial for the younger pupils.
- **ACTION: Mrs Crease** will check what is needed and research and obtain costs for the iPads, docking stations, and keyboards.

## Outdoor Space and Maintenance

- **Trim Trail Renovation:** The existing wooden equipment requires maintenance and varnishing. The group agreed to include **Pupil Voice** to guide the renovation.
  - **ACTION:** We will gather feedback from the children regarding what they would like for the trim trail.
- **Covered Outdoor Space:** A covered area by the shed was proposed, which would serve as an outdoor classroom/sheltered space.
  - **ACTION: Mrs Crease** will contact **Wigley School**, which has an outdoor shelter, to inquire about the process and costs of installation.
  - **Funding:** Potential funding sources include the Platform Housing Group (if the space is available for wider community use, e.g., by the playgroup) and National Lottery match funding.
  - **ACTION: Chloe** to investigate funding/match funding.
- **Pond Area:** The group discussed whether to refurbish or fill in the pond. Reducing its size for easier management was also suggested.
  - **ACTION: Chloe** will ask Mrs Unwin, a local expert on school ponds and wildlife, to visit the Grindleford Primary pond and offer advice.
- **Gardener: Kaori** suggested using PTFA funds to employ a gardener to help keep the grounds well-maintained.
- **Tree stump:** Could we commission an artist to carve something nice into the tree stump and have a fastener installed to be able to attach a tarpaulin for shade, or hammocks?
- **Extend artificial grass area?** “No mow” is the surface that’s currently in part of the garden and doesn’t seem to attract animal poo in the same way as the grass.

## Sports Kit

- **New Kit:** New sports kit with the school logo is needed. To reduce costs, seeking **local business sponsorship** was suggested.
- **ACTION: Mrs Crease** will secure a cost for the kit so that **Jenny** can speak to **Rob Hattersley at The Maynard** about potential sponsorship.

## PTFA Annual Commitments

- The PTFA confirms its commitment to fund the annual **Pantomime** and the whole-school **Summer Trip** each year.

## 4. Fundraising Activities

## Ice Cream Friday

- **Extension:** The group considered extending the Ice Cream sales beyond summer by offering **hot chocolate** in the colder months.
- **Logistics:** The lack of shelter and waste management (for hot chocolate and cream) were noted. Reusable plastic cups (e.g., from IKEA) were suggested. It was agreed to hold Ice Cream Friday on Sports Day next year.
- **ACTION:** The current **Ice Cream Friday team** will also manage the hot chocolate sales for the Autumn/Winter terms.

## School Cookbook

- **Concept:** Compiling a cookbook of children's favourite recipes, perhaps including recipes from local restaurants and cafes. This could be sold in the community shop and used as a Christmas gift idea.
- **ACTION:** **Mrs Crease** will contact **Mrs Hanley**, who recently produced a similar cookbook, for advice.
- **ACTION:** **Jenny** will get a printing quote for a **30-page** cookbook from the printers in Bakewell.

## 5. Other Items

### The Grindleford Gallop (March 2026)

- The next Gallop is scheduled for **Saturday, 14th March 2026**.
- **ACTION:** We need **volunteers** to help with various tasks, both small and large, in the lead-up to and on the day of the event.

### Time Capsule

- A time capsule from the 1970s is reportedly buried on the school grounds!
- **ACTION:** **Dave K** will ask **Debbie** whether she knows the time capsule's precise location.

### Christmas Events

- **Christmas Crafts:** **Chloe** will run a Christmas Crafts session, working with the Carnival Committee to host a children's activity at The Sir William.
- **ACTION:** **Attila** suggested advertising this event **more widely** in a local programme of events, rather than just to the school community.

- **Dates for the calendar:** It was agreed that it would be helpful to send out advance information about regular dates for the calendar, including the Spooky Walk, Gallop, Christmas Crafts, and the Grindleford Carnival tea and cake stall.
- The group discussed whether the Carnival tea and cake stall is still necessary given The Gallop's success, but concluded it remains valuable for maintaining PTFA visibility within the community. We discussed the need to clear signs to note this, and to help manage the queues next year.