

BROWNLEE PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Parent Teacher Association

**JOIN US!**



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# Welcome to the PTA

On behalf of the PTA I would like to welcome everyone to Brownlee. We are a small but dedicated team and consider ourselves very lucky to be able to help the school, its staff and of course, the children – our children. In our time on the PTA we have seen the school grow and prosper and we are proud to have played our part in this. We are also extremely fortunate to have great support and help from the teachers and non-teaching staff alike, as they are always on hand to offer their assistance whenever needed.

We would encourage as many parents as possible to join the PTA as it is your chance to be involved in your child's school life. The association was formed with the intention of raising funds to provide extra resources for the children that are not normally provided by the Education Authority.

A steady income is needed to support the school and although the PTA is currently well supported, the future lies with you - the new parents. New members are always needed to generate new ideas and to bring fresh enthusiasm. Informal committee meetings are held in the afternoons at intervals throughout the year to discuss topics of interest, future events and ways of using the available funds.

The main aim of the PTA is, of course, to raise money to enhance the school's facilities for the benefit of all pupils. We also like to think that through a varied programme of social events and fundraising projects, we help to make Brownlee a friendly, caring and supportive community for pupils, their families and the staff. We are aware that it can be difficult for parents to meet and get to know other parents, so we hope to attract as many of you as possible to the various social events we stage throughout the year.

The programme of events varies from year to year, but some have become so popular that they are repeated annually. We always try to have new events in the pipeline and to give you some idea of the type of thing you can expect, listed below are some which took place over the past few years:

September – AGM. This is our chance to welcome new parents to the school and the PTA with a cup of tea or coffee and a friendly chat. Don't be put off by the official title of this meeting as only a small part will be dedicated to reviewing the previous year's accounts & committee elections.

October – Fancy Dress Party & Pumpkin Competition. This is a colourful and entertaining evening for all involved. Pupils are invited to let their imagination take over and come to our party in full fancy dress costume. Prizes for best costume and refreshments are provided. All pupils throughout the school can also take advantage of the season and decorate pumpkins. The carvings are always very imaginative and clever and are a great addition to display at the party.

December – Christmas Craft Fair. Christmas is always a very busy time of the year. The PTA endeavours to arrange one large fund-raiser annually – usually the craft fair - to encourage community involvement at our school, in the form of external (and parent ) exhibitors displaying a wide and varied array of fabulous crafts. The PTA may sometimes be recruited to help out at other school events, e.g. concerts, plays or carol services where refreshments may be required.

February – Valentines Party & Disco Pupils are invited to attend a Valentines disco. Not only is this great fun for the kids, but also the staff and PTA are greatly entertained by just watching the young ladies and gents having a good time. Also, ‘us oldies’ learn a few things about modern dance moves and fashion! The PTA provide refreshments and the King and Queen of the Dance are crowned!



March/April – Easter Competitions. Past Easter events have included an Easter egg decorating competition; ‘Name the Easter bunny’ and the popular ‘Mad March Hair day’.

May/June - Summer Fair. This event primarily focuses on the children, with a host of games and stalls organised. This is a busy event which usually takes place on a Friday evening. It attracts a large crowd from both pupils and parents to the general public. Every year we ask as many parents as possible to offer their assistance to make sure we are able to supervise all areas.

June – Sports Day. This event is organised by the teaching staff and is always a lot of fun for the pupils and parents with some very competitive parents too! The PTA fund the supply of medals for the winners and runners-up of each running race and novelty race.

The above are only some of the events the PTA are involved in throughout the school year but hopefully it has given you an insight into our role within the school.

May we again welcome everyone to Brownlee and the PTA and hope that you are able to join us at our next meeting. Your views and involvement are most welcome, no matter how much or how little time you have to spare. Even if you think there is nothing you can offer, by keeping abreast of what is going on you may be surprised to find you can get involved on a small or large scale. Please check out the PTA link on the school’s website for more information [www.brownleeprimary.org](http://www.brownleeprimary.org)

We also have a Facebook page you can keep an eye on!!!  
<https://www.facebook.com/Brownlee-Primary-School-PTA-464009546959418/>

Thank you.