

# PALS News

**Dear Parents** 

As you may be aware the rules surrounding data protection changed in May 2019. The new laws under GDPR mean that all companies and charities must re-evaluate how data is used. The PTA (PALS) is included under the new guidelines, so we are beginning the process of looking at how we use parent data and how it is stored.

We feel it is very important to communicate with parents, so we have found a website called Classlist that helps us control personal data in line with the GDPR laws, while still allowing Loxwood PALS to keep you informed of all the events that we are running and how funds are used.

Classlist will replace the email correspondence from class reps and will become the main communication method for PALS. Parents will be responsible for their own settings and will have control over what information they put onto Classlist. You are able to decide if you want to share your personal information. As a member of Classlist you are able to decide what notifications are sent to your emails, or log into the Classlist website or app to see what events and activities are scheduled on the Classlist calendar.

There is so much you can do once you are a Classlist member from looking up PTA minutes to signing up for the cake raffle. The emphasis is on your own decision to be responsible for the information you receive and how much you participate.

To sign up to Classlist you need to go to classlist.com and search for Loxwood Primary School. Follow the instructions to create your account and once another parent has verified that you are a Loxwood parent you will have full access to all that Classlist offers.

As well as improving our electronic communication you may have noticed we also have a new board at the front, outside the Year 2 classroom. The purpose of the board is for all PALS communications. Here you'll find the latest newsletter and information of fundraising events and news. If you're concerned you may miss something on Classlist then we will do our best to make sure it's on the board.

We look forward to seeing you on Classlist

Loxwood PALS

# FAQ-

# Will the teaching staff use Class List?

The school communications will still come through eSchools emails, and texts. All the information from the Teaching staff will still be in the weekly 'Up to the Minute'. Classlist will be information from the PALS.

### What about Facebook and What's app?

WhatsApp is designed to be a message service between groups, parents are able to chat to each other and may send reminders to each other. Facebook will be used for occasional reminders and all parents can post questions or requests. Neither will be a formal communication from PALS. Parents have the ability to remove themselves from the Facebook page or class WhatsApp groups whenever they like. We will never post anything solely on Facebook or WhatsApp. Every event will be on Classlist.

# Can anyone see my personal information?

You can choose what information you have on show and to whom. Classlist is only open to adults involved with Loxwood School. Parents, carers, grandparents, school admin. They must be approved by other parents and admins of Classlist to ensure that only people connected with Loxwood School are on our Classlist site.

# What if I can't get onto Classlist?

We are able to help you set up your Classlist profiles by adding in your email address, you will need to fill in a Classlist form available at reception or find your Class Rep or PALS chair.

# I don't want to follow the PALS do I have to sign up?

No. If you don't want to know about what PALS is doing in the school then you don't have to sign up. It would be a real shame as all parents are automatically part of PALS. The aim of PALS is to help build the school community and raise extra funds for the school. Knowing what is going on at School helps your child get the most out of their school experience.