



Message from Hampton Primary Partnership Association

Dear Hampton Primary Partnership Families,

Firstly, thanks for your help in volunteering and fundraising so far this year. We're sending you this note to let you know that we are making some changes to how we communicate and share information with our HPP parent and carer community.

What is changing?

As you will know, HPPA have been using Classlist - a dedicated PTA app - this year to take payment for all of our fundraising events, and have received lots of positive feedback about how easy it is to use. Classlist is a community app with similar functionality to Whatsapp - allowing group conversations - but has additional safeguards for both parents and the schools. We have made the decision, alongside the school leadership, that from the end of March, HPPA will no longer be communicating with reps and classes via Whatsapp and we will be moving all of our communications over to Classlist.

Please note: Classlist is a community app which means you will be able to find other carers / parents /children in your class and the wider school community and vice versa. When signing up, the app will ask for some personal data (e.g your phone number and address) but you can skip these questions - this data isn't essential for sign up. If you want to you can also remove this data if you gave it previously. If you have any concerns about safeguarding or being searchable then please let the PTA know on contacthppa@gmail.com and we will ensure you can still access these events.

What does this mean for me as a parent or carer, and what do I need to do?

In order to continue to receive information about all of our events and activities - including discos, our outdoor cinema, the Summer fair and more - and to receive updates and reminders that HPPA currently share with your class rep, you'll need to download the Classlist app and create an account. This is really simple and only takes a couple of minutes! Once your account is set up, notifications are easy to manage to make sure you only receive the news that's important to you. We will be sharing reminders and support through the coming week as we make this change.

Why are HPPA making this change?

There are a few reasons we're making this change, including some safeguarding and regulatory issues around the use of Whatsapp. Using Classlist will allow HPPA to share comms with our whole parent and carer community at once - ensuring that everyone has equal opportunity to book events and taking some of the load of sharing communications away from our wonderful class reps. We also recognise it can feel overwhelming having comms in multiple places - so in moving all our communications to Classlist we're hoping it will streamline some of the school information you receive.



Will we still have class reps?

Absolutely! Our incredible community of class reps play a critical role in reminders, school community building and organising gifts for our staff. They will just take on less of the load when it comes to sharing communications.

What does this mean for class Whatsapp groups?

We will not be shutting down any existing class whatsapp groups, and all current class whatsapp groups will be able to stay in place for the remainder of this academic year whilst we transition over to Classlist. From September, we will not be creating new class Whatsapp groups - Classlist will fulfill the same role that Whatsapp has until now. Parents will be allocated to class and year group Classlist groups instead, and we will not be using Whatsapp for any school or HPPA communications ongoing.

If you have any questions, please contact contacthppa@gmail.com

Kind regards HPPA