TPS Parent Kit

How to get involved at Tempe Public School

There are lots of ways you can become involved at school as a parent, which is especially valuable if your child is starting Kindy in 2016. The Tempe Parents and Citizens Association (Tempe P&C) is the formal volunteer organization that supports the school, and the P&C executive committee and parent volunteers would love to welcome new parents to join in during 2016.

Parents can also become involved with the school through a range of school-run events and classroom activities. More details are provided below.

Online

School E-News
The weekly school newsletter – Tempe Talk – is distributed via E-News on Fridays. It can be read via an app available for iPhone, iPad or Android, and is full of useful information, a list of important upcoming dates, and regular P&C updates. Download the app to your tablet and/or phone, and set up an alert so you can read the latest issue every Thursday/Friday. The P&C includes a page of latest news and future dates and plans on the last page of the newsletter.

Facebook
The P&C Facebook page is a closed group called Tempe Public School Parents and Citizens. If you use Facebook please request to join the group and you will be added. It’s a great resource for parents to share info and post reminders about school activities and events.

Email
The P&C Association is run by an elected committee of five parents, and they can be contacted via email at: tempe-pc@hotmail.com

P&C Activities and Events

P&C Meetings
P&C Monthly meetings are a great way to expand your knowledge of how things happen at school, and provide an excellent opportunity to network with the principal and other parents. They are held in the school staff room at 7pm on the first Monday of every month (check the School E News letter for dates). You can park on the paved area near the silver seats after hours, access is via the rear gate on School Lane. All parents are welcome to come to meetings to discuss current and future P&C events and how you can get
involved. The P&C would love to meet some new parents in 2016 and looks forward to welcoming you with a cup of tea or coffee.

P&C Executive Roles
The P&C Executive comprises five parent volunteers in the positions of President, Vice President x 2, Secretary and Treasurer. These roles are elected at the AGM held every November with a one-year tenure, and all parents are welcome to nominate for these positions. Joining the Executive enables parents to take a lead role in the direction and implementation of P&C strategies and goals. Tasks include distributing info to parents via email, organizing activities and events, assisting with fund-raising and playground project delivery. Contact P&C President Elizabeth Oneill (tempepc@hotmail.com) or Vice President Anne Purcell for more info.

P&C Committees
The P&C has several committees, again made up of parents, who progress certain projects: Playground, Grant applications and [any others]. If you would like to contribute to these committees, please contact P&C President Elizabeth ONeill (tempepc@hotmail.com) and she can put you in touch with the relevant co-coordinators.

P&C Activities and Events
P&C activities and events are fun to attend for kids (including those younger than school age) and parents. They help to raise funds that go towards new equipment and improvements for the school. They also enhance the great sense of community that we all enjoy. The P&C encourages all parents to become involved with at least one event in 2016.

Over the past few years the P&C has focused on overhauling the current playground and buying new equipment to expand the playground area. We have just been awarded a grant that will enable us to make a major start on the new playground and we hope to have that started in the not too distant future.

None of this important work could happen without the support and dedication of parents, so please put your name down to volunteer at one or more events this year. Fill in the attached Quick Member Form and hand it to the P&C table during the first week of term, and feel free to ask for more info about plans for 2016 and sign up to help at an event that interests you. More information about each event and what’s involved will become available via email and the P&C Facebook page closer to the scheduled event date.

Canteen
The canteen is managed and run by the P&C and is staffed by two exceptional employees, Cathy and Mel. If you would like to volunteer to help in the Canteen, please see Cathy to discuss opportunities to join the volunteer roster.
**Uniform shop**
The P&C runs the uniform shop which is operated on Wednesday and Friday mornings by parent volunteers. If you would like to join the roster to help a couple of times of term, please contact the tempep.o@hotmail.com and we can pass our details onto the relevant coordinators.

**Working Bees**
The P&C organizes and runs four working bees – one per term – to maintain and look after the playground and grounds. These are a great way for families to contribute to school on a one-off basis, and we have some special events planned in relation to playground construction and creation in 2016, so watch this space.

**School events and activities**

**Special focus weeks**
The school runs events throughout the year which also benefit from parent involvement. In 2016 these include:
- Easter Hat Parade
- Science Week
- Book week Parade
- Showcase

Teachers and staff will provide more info about how parents can become involved in making these activities a great success for students, closer to the scheduled weeks.

**Classroom helping**
There are lots of ways you can help out in your child’s classroom, whether on a regular weekly basis, or one-off contributions. Talk to your child’s teacher about helping with readers and reading, sharpening pencils, assisting with art classes or special projects, putting up artwork for display, helping the teacher to prepare children for excursions or special events by putting on wristbands etc...

Helping in the classroom is a great way to build rapport with your child’s teacher and classmates, and it can also give you some insight into what your child is doing and learning at school.

**Ethics classes**
Ethics classes are offered as an alternative to scripture, and are provided by parent volunteers who have undertaken Ethics teacher training, a 2-day course offered over weekends. The Ethics program is co-ordinate by Judith Cobb if you would like more info or would like to get involved please email tempep.o@hotmail.com
**Book club**
The Scholastic Book Club allows families to purchase books suitable for their reading skills at competitive prices and a percentage of sales are returned to the school in the form of books for book awards and other prizes. Book club is co-ordinate by Elizabeth Oneill and Kate Shockair.

**School banking**
School banking via the Commonwealth Bank allows children to learn the value of saving money, with the bonus of rewards for regular banking contributions. You can bank as little as $1 a week and see the benefits, both in terms of a growing bank balance and collecting tokens which can be redeemed for rewards. The Commonwealth Bank also rewards Tempe PS by donating $5 for every child who joins the scheme and a percentage of all deposits in cash, which is used to purchase new equipment and materials for students. If you would like to sign up your child (including preschool aged siblings) for School Banking, or join the volunteer team of school bankers, please contact Stacey Lamont via the tempeps@hotmail.com.
P&C Quick Info

What does a P&C do?
School P&C Associations are not-for-profit organisations established to promote the interests of the school by bringing parents, citizens, students and teaching staff into close co-operation. They normally assist in providing facilities and equipment for the school and in promoting the recreation and welfare of the students at the school.
At the moment we are focussed on three key areas:
   1) A major playground upgrade;
   2) School band resourcing;
   3) Technology improvement initiatives.

Who can be a P&C member?
Membership of the Tempe Public School P&C Association is open to all parents and guardians of pupils attending the school and to all citizens. The P&C is always keen to welcome new members. The P&C manages the canteen and uniform shop, organises events such as discos and movie nights, and runs fundraising drives. However if you don’t want to be a member you can still volunteer to help!

When are Tempe Public School P&C meetings held?
Meetings are held every FIRST MONDAY of each month (during school term only) AT 7-8.30PM IN THE STAFF ROOM.

What do I have to do?
If you are interested in becoming a member, like to know what we are doing, know about events ahead of time or are happy to help out in any way you can, please complete the details below and bring it with you to the next meeting. If you are unable to attend the next meeting please submit this form to the Secretary via the school front office.

AND if it’s the ONLY thing you do- PLEASE join us on Facebook
Join us on Facebook now! Tempe Public School Parents and Citizens

Your contribution, big or small, will be greatly appreciated.
Tempe Public School P&C Association thanks you for your interest.
Secretary, Lia Sherwood
tempep-c@hotmail.com

X.............................................................................................................................. (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

NAME:......................................................................................................................

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: ....................................................................................

EMAIL ADDRESS........................................................................................................

CHILD/RENS NAME:............................................................................................

CHILD/RENS CLASS:..............................................................................................