



Get-together
FAMILY SCHOOL



"We invited our grandparents to visit our school between eight and eleven o'clock. We offered them a cup of coffee and the headmaster told them the latest school news."

"Many parents and siblings visited our school. It was a great day and both adults and children seemed in high spirits."

"We shot a video invitation to the "Family-School Get-together" and uploaded it to the school's website."

Most important
is to find the time
to interact.





Family-School Get-together: in the best interests of the children

The Family-School Get-together, an informal event, offers families and teaching staff the opportunity to interact with and get to know each other. It can take the form of morning coffee shared by teachers and parents, an entire Saturday filled with exciting programme events, or a friendly evening after a day's work. Most important is to find the time to interact. Between events you can discuss the issues that concern your child's everyday life. You can find answers to many questions—and solutions to many problems—in just one day.

We suggest you include the event in your school calendar and inform everyone as early as possible, so that you and your students can create the parent invitations together.

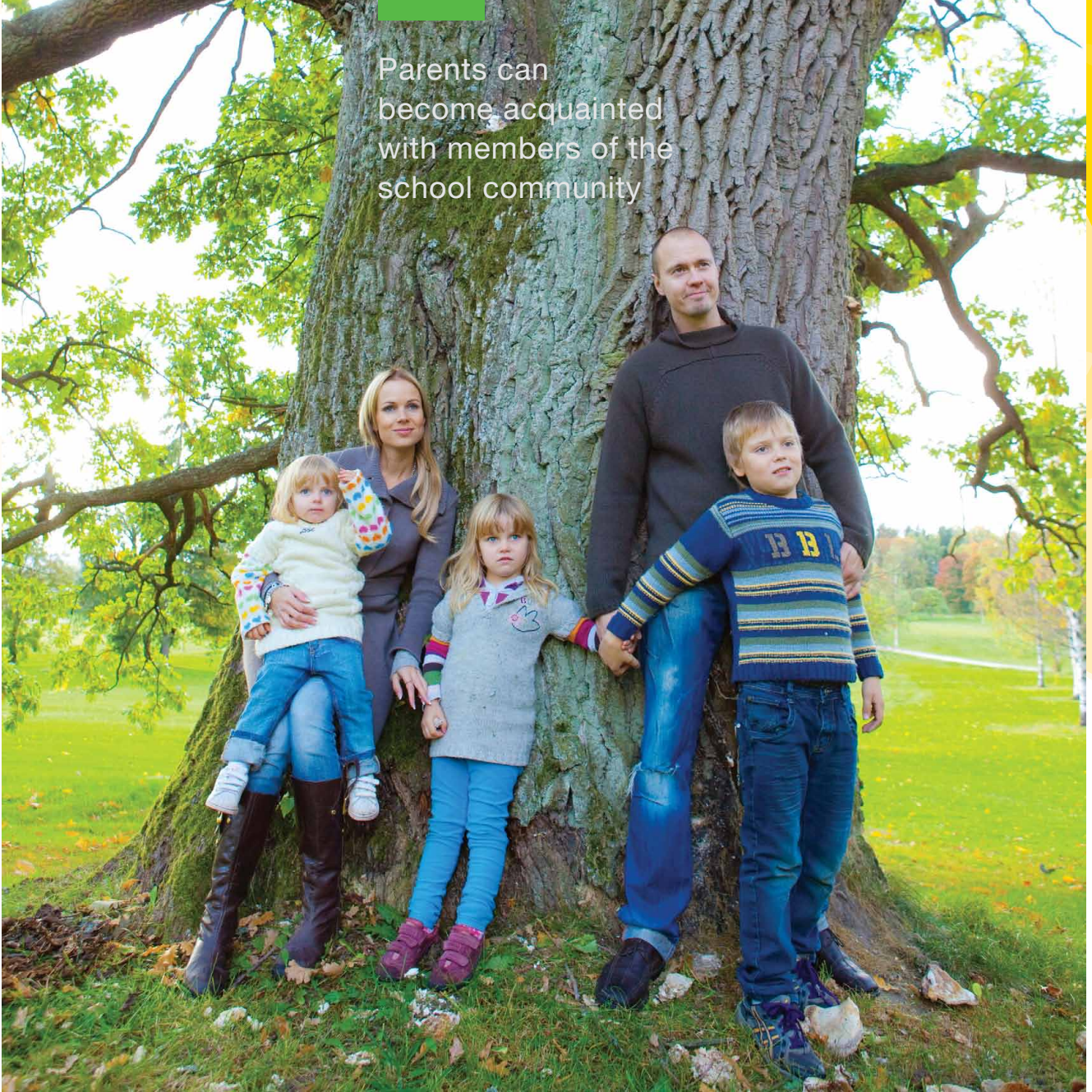
You can also invite the godparents, grandparents, and siblings of students to the get-together.

Just a Little is Enough

At a Family-School Get-together, teachers, parents, and students can spend time by a camp fire, arrange a sports event, or eat breakfast and create art. They can play games, clean up the school yard, do arts and crafts, and learn new skills together.

The Family-School Get-together bolsters cooperation between home and school and raises the level of an adult's presence in the everyday life of a child. Just a little is enough. You can discover something new or learn from past experiences.

Parents can
become acquainted
with members of the
school community





At the Family-School **Get-together**



Everyone has the time to catch up with each other in a friendly setting



Parents can become acquainted with members of the school community



Teachers can get to know their students' families



The team spirit of the entire school community is enhanced



Children's trust in adults is increased



Adults and children in the local district get to know each other



Common matters can be agreed upon in a pleasant atmosphere.

In secondary schools, teachers and students should plan the programme together, taking student opinions into consideration. When students are involved in both the realisation and marketing of an event, enthusiasm reaches all the way to the home; pupils may have ideas that would have never been thought of otherwise.



Sports-related

Organise cleaning the sports equipment store, customise the equipment, and arrange a sports equipment flea market. Arrange a buffet to collect funds for new floor ball sticks or a climbing frame.



Outdoorsy

Go on an outing to some nearby woods. You can fish, pick berries and mushrooms, and sit by the camp fire. Make the school kitchen staff or the grandparents happy by offering them some of the provisions you gathered during your outing.

Pretty

Plant flowers, rake leaves, and prune trees and shrubs in the school yard. Paint the school's fences and doors or customise the rest rooms with some decorative painting.





Digital

Play games and discuss security on the internet. Learn from each other, particularly from the students. Include children in planning a gaming day for the whole family.



Youthful

Let students plan the Family-School Get-together. What topics would they like to cover with teachers and parents? In what games would they like to challenge the adults?

"While walking the duckboards we were full of tales and didn't have a care in the world. A couple of families became enthusiastic about hiking and surely went back to the forest again later. It was a great day."

"We were very happy to see how excited the parents were and how important their visit was for the children. Even the press were there!"

Let's Do It Together!

FAMILY + SCHOOL

The local environment has a significant impact on learning and student contentedness at school. With the students and their parents you can:

- Clean up the school yard
- Plant trees and flowers
- Arrange a hobby fair
- Have a sports day
- Arrange a music or an arts event
- Arrange a board game day

FAMILY + SCHOOL

You can also arrange workshops to discuss—for instance—the following topics:

- Communication Between Home and School—Talking Wisely on the Internet
- Safe School, Safe Daily Life
- Healthy Life: Sleep Well, Eat Right, Exercise Regularly
- Social Media Etiquette



Association of Finnish Principals
Finlands Svenska Lärarförbund (FSL)
Finnish National Board of Education
Finnish Parents' League
Förbundet Hem och Skola i Finland
OPSIA ry
Trade Union of Education in Finland (OAJ)



Family
and School
Get-together