

Friends of Saxton School (FOSS) PTA Annual Report for the AGM – Tuesday 12th October 2021

The FOSS Parent Teacher's Association (PTA) is a charity which is run by a committee selected each year at the Annual General Meeting.

The 2020-21 committee consisted of: Chair, Vice Chair, a Treasurer and Secretary. There are also committee members made up from parent members, as well as a Head Teacher/teacher representatives, and more recently a Governor representative. Periodic communications are via Facebook (via a FOSS group page) and via the weekly Saxton School newsletter.

FOSS' core aims are:

- To develop effective relationships between the staff, parents and others associated with the school throughout each academic year; and
- To engage in fundraising activities which enable provision of facilities / equipment to enhance the school and support the pupils' experience at Saxton CE Primary school.

The main activity of the PTA has been the organisation of core fundraising events and sales activities to further the relationships between pupils, teachers, and parents. Due to the COVID-19 global pandemic and ensuing national lock-down restrictions, the trustees of the PTA (committee) chose to focus on lower input fundraising activities; whilst ensuring that government guidelines were being followed at all times. ParentPay was primarily used for receiving donations.

Given that much of the academic year was based on home schooling, which required online learning via virtual classrooms; FOSS budget was chosen to pay for the following:

1. 20x Chromebooks (£3033.78)
2. 2x Chromebook Storage lockers (£1,000.00)
3. Leavers' hoodies for Y6 pupils (£217.00)

FOSS also funds new starter book bags at the start of each academic year.

Summary of FOSS activities

23rd Oct, Pumpkin carving competition – Halloween related fundraiser in the school playground. Families were asked to pay a £1 donation to enter a pumpkin carving competition (one winner announced for each Willow, Sycamore and Maple class) and receive a prize.

31st Oct-1st Nov, Spooky Halloween Trail – event run over Halloween weekend to spread out participant numbers/maintain social distance guidelines. 10 pumpkin signs, each with a letter of the alphabet on it, were put on display around Saxton village for families to find and spell out a missing Halloween related word. Each entrant brought the completed word back into school to receive their 'spooky' goody bag. FOSS charged £3 entry. The Halloween activities raised £101.00

IQ Cards School Fundraising – the children designed their own personalised Christmas cards for school, along with stationery and other gifts which parents were able to order for Christmas. For every item purchased, the school retained a % of funds from the original sale price, totalling £80.00.

Christmas Raffle – we sold raffle tickets for £1 each during the last week of term for families to win Christmas goodies, raising £405.00. We also held a Chocolate Tombola in school, which raised £83.00.

FOSS Sponsored event – Cycle in June – 30th May – 5th June was UK Bike Week, so parents were asked to sponsor their children for the amount of miles they managed to cycle during the month of

June. This was part of an overall school target to have collectively ridden the 608km equivalent from Saxton to London, and back. Total raised: £165.50

2nd July, FOSS Barn Dance – Rescheduled to 1st July 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

FOSS Frozen Friday – FOSS re-launched Frozen Fridays (ice cream sales) after school each Friday in the last half of the summer term, raising a total of £230.00

21st August, Kirkby Wharfe Fete ‘Grimston Gallop’ – entrants ran either a 1 mile or 5-mile race around Grimston Park, with prizes and participant medals provided. Proceeds were split between the Kirkby Wharfe fete and FOSS, raising £477.98 for the school. The organiser Dave Baxter has asked that these funds be used to purchase new sports equipment (specifics tbc).

Money raised from Easy fundraising. Stikins Labels and smile.amazon.co.uk this year generated further income for FOSS.

FOSS has a closing balance of £2,998.00

A huge thank you to all committee members past and present who continue to support FOSS’ fundraising efforts. Looking forward, the school is hoping that FOSS will be able to contribute towards fundraising for Willow to have a new canopy/shelter outside the front of their classroom.

Alice Connell

Chair (2020-21)