

Chairperson Report

Sept 2023 – July 2024

Welcome to Friends of Ferndale AGM. Friends of Ferndale are a small group of dedicated volunteers who raise funds for the school. We are fully appreciated and supported by the school and will continue our efforts to raise much needed cash to enrich our children's learning and surroundings. WE DO A GOOD JOB.

Firstly, thank you to the members of the committee who always manage to pull together despite full time jobs, many jobs, children, husbands and many other obstacles. To the parents who join us at Disco's and other events when we need them. To the staff who give up their time so events can go ahead.

Further thanks, goes to Emily, Jo and Nicky in the office. ..."can you do this, can this be done" ...is normally what they hear, so we are extremely grateful for their support.

Also, to Karen and her team for the flexibility (summer fayre lunches), kindness and allowing us to use the catering facilities and sometimes borrowing from the stock cupboards.

Lastly, a huge thank you of support to Caroline Rouse who has worked extremely hard in the background organising all things logistical and staffing. No PTA can thrive without the support of the SLT and headship. We are very lucky to have the relationship we do with Caroline and Beccy Nolan. They both make strategic decisions when asked so off the cuff. We have answers immediately and we always have 100% backing with a smile.

Committee

We have an elected committee who manage all aspects of the PTA on a day to day basis. The past year, committee members have been:

Chairperson – Jane Holden
Co Chair – Julie Aires
Secretary – Susan Green
Treasurer – Joanne Knowles

All committee members are now stood down of their roles and can stand for re-election. Others attendees at this meeting also have the opportunity to be elected after the Treasurers Report which will be read out shortly. I just want to say thank you to Susan for her time during the past year and wish her luck in her new home.

Events

Fireworks

What a packed full year and may it continue. Off with a bang was our Fireworks night. As always, a brilliant and amazing night. More so this year as we recruited more parents to join us on the night. More support shows it makes a massive difference. I do hope those parents will join us again.

Disco's

Always a huge hit with the kids and secretly the staff and helpers love a dance. Attendance is normally 200-250 throughout the night. We have now experienced so many combinations of year groups by holding just 2 discos or 3 discos in one night. We have also done Pizza's and selling hotdogs. The difficult part is deciding what to do next 😊 Always a great fundraiser. Going forward, I think ticket cost should remain low and manybe consider younger years having an all-inclusive meal deal instead of a sweet treat.

Festive Events December 2023

Christmas was upon us very quickly. In past year, we have always held a Winter Fayre very similar to the summer fayre. It was brilliant when we had the use of Fernbrook hall, giving us the space we need but this is no longer available. The last few years, we have found the use of our school has become incredibly tight for space. So for 2023, I made the decision to cancel the Fayre but continue with events within school hours. It needs to be noted that these events are heavily reliant on Parent Pay and the office need to know in advance of our plans for December 2024.

- Christmas Disco – 30/11/23
- Christmas Topper Competition – 1/12/23
- Santa Letters – 1/12/23 - £2.75
- Carols by Candlelight – 7/12/23 cancelled due to lack of ticket sales
- Christmas Movie Night – 13/12/23 - £3 (3.30-5pm)
- Christmas Shopping Experience – 14/12/23

SANTA EVENT DAY: Friday 8th December

- Breakfast with Santa (nursery only) £5
- Santa Photo - £2
- Santa Experience (1-2pm £5)
- Assembly Raffle Draw

The feedback I've had from teachers and TA's after the events was good and thought it worked very well. From experience, it was a tense few weeks of organising however, there are plenty of notes made to replicate this structure again. Planning needs to start now. Unfortunately, I think our Santa has hung up his stockings and retired so recruitment is at the top of our to do list.

All in all, a brilliant year. We do have staple events, well-rehearsed so let us try and get new volunteers and keep the ones who have been with us in the past.

Thank you

Jane

AGENDA

Friends of Ferndale AGM
4th October 2024 @ 1-2pm

Introduction: Chair and School Lead

Apologies: Julie

Matters Arising: Disco Volunteers – Parent and Staff

Disco 1-Jane,Julie,Joanne?

Disco 2-Jane,Julie,Joanne?/Lisa B / Julie L

Disco 3-Jane,Julie, Lisa B / Charly C

Overview only, meeting to discuss the following TBC:

- Dates in the diary for 2024-25
- Firework Volunteers
- Christmas Agenda

Chairperson Annual Report

Financial Report

Election of Committee Members

Any other business