

FoHPS AGM Annual Report

Friends of Horsmonden Primary School (FoHPS) Annual Report for 2023-2024 AGM

Introduction to FoHPS

The Friends of Horsmonden Primary School (FoHPS) is a dedicated registered charity run by an enthusiastic committee of volunteers, composed of parents, teachers, and community members. Our collective mission is clear: to raise vital funds that directly benefit every child at Leigh Academy Horsmonden, enhancing their educational experience and providing enriching opportunities.

The funds raised through a variety of events and initiatives are thoughtfully donated to the school, making a meaningful impact on the children's daily learning and school environment. However, none of this would be possible without the unwavering support of the wider school community, especially the parents. Your involvement at these events is the lifeblood of FoHPS, and we rely on your continued generosity to sustain this positive momentum.

Income and Expenditure for 2023-2024

The past year has been nothing short of extraordinary for FoHPS, with the collective efforts of our committee and school community resulting in a remarkable net total of £11,028 raised before donations were made to the school.

We kicked off the 2023 - 2024 year on a high note, with our parent partnership afternoon and Autumn event, both held at the school. This set the tone for what would become a fantastic fundraising year. Parents were able to see, at the partnership afternoon, how the money had been spent and experience the children enjoying the new gym equipment outside for them to use in playtime and in their lessons.

Event Highlights

- **Christmas Present Fayre & Card Sales:** Our festive celebrations brought the school community together in full force. The Christmas Present Fayre raised £331.42, and the Christmas card sales added another £462.50 to our funds. These events require significant planning and dedication, and their success is a testament to the hard work of our incredible committee.
- **HoVEC Christmas Fayre** was a truly delightful event, where FoHPS set up a festive Elf on the Shelf stall. The stall was a hit with both children and adults alike, bringing holiday cheer and raising a fantastic £64.31. We're grateful to everyone who stopped by and supported us, making it a memorable day for the whole community!

-
- **PTA Movie Night**, with a fun Halloween theme, was a spooky success! The children enjoyed a cosy evening watching a family-friendly film, complete with popcorn and treats to fit the festive atmosphere. The event was filled with laughter and excitement, and thanks to the fantastic turnout, we raised an incredible £327.54. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the season while supporting our school!
 - **Recycle Clothes Bin**, located in the school grounds, has been a simple yet effective way to raise funds for FoHPS. Thanks to your generous donations, we've already raised £100! We encourage everyone to continue supporting this eco-friendly initiative by donating any unwanted clothing. Every contribution helps both the environment and our school!
 - **World Book Day**, we received a fantastic number of book donations which meant we were able to give each child a free book to take home. On top of that our additional book sales and costume swap raised a combined £65.70. But the highlight of the event was our extremely popular, Golden Ticket chocolate bar sales - the children were extremely excited to find out what prizes they had won and we raised a further £289.57!
 - **Magic Show**. The children were thrilled to attend an amazing magic show that truly captivated their imaginations. With spellbinding tricks, mind-boggling illusions, and plenty of laughter, the magician kept everyone on the edge of their seats. It was an unforgettable experience for the kids, and the event was a tremendous success, raising a whopping £806.64. A huge thank you to everyone who supported this magical event!
 - **Frozen Fridays and Doughnut Sales**. Frozen Fridays became a summer favourite, with refreshing lollies sold on hot days bringing smiles to the children and parents alike. Paired with our delicious doughnut sales, these sweet treats not only helped beat the heat but also raised an impressive total of £751.36. A huge thank you to everyone who supported these fun, tasty initiatives!
 - **Summer Disco**. The summer disco was a lively, energetic affair—very hot, very noisy, but absolutely super fun! The kids danced their hearts out to their favorite tunes, creating a vibrant, joyful atmosphere despite the heat. Thanks to the fantastic turnout and enthusiasm, we raised an incredible £622.96. A huge thank you to everyone who joined in and made it such a memorable event!

The Summer Fete

Undoubtedly one of the highlights of the year, the Summer Fete—part of the Horsmonden Summer Festival—was a spectacular success. With an Olympic theme, the day was filled with excitement including arena entertainment, inflatables, stalls, performers and an unforgettable performance of a whole school song to kick off the event in the marquee. The event attracted a wonderful turnout, bigger than ever, from across the village and raised £4,961.21, including proceeds from the ever-popular Silent Auction. We also received £835 in donations from stall holders, which we are ever grateful for.

Donations and Impact

Thanks to these incredible fundraising efforts, FoHPS has been able to contribute towards essential resources for the school. Our most recent donations helped fund the new gym equipment and PA system—exciting investments that directly enrich the children's daily school experience.

Current Financial Standing

After covering the costs of these significant projects as well as expenses throughout last year to host all the wonderful events, we are pleased to report that FoHPS has an impressive £14,024.57 in funds, ensuring we are well-prepared to support the school in the coming year.

Gratitude and Acknowledgements

None of these achievements would have been possible without the time, dedication, and generosity of many individuals:

- **Committee Members:** A heartfelt thank you to each of our committee members for their energy, time, and commitment in organising and running our events.
- **School Staff:** We are deeply grateful to the school staff who have supported us behind the scenes, helping to organise and attend events.
- **School Office Staff:** Your tireless work in supporting our administration, from ticket sales to communication with parents, has been invaluable.
- **Local Businesses and the Wider Community:** Thank you for your ongoing support, whether through generous raffle donations, event sponsorship, or participation. Your involvement strengthens our efforts and connects us all.

A special note of appreciation goes to **Sam Watson**, who has now stepped down from the committee after years of dedicated service. Sam, your hard work has left a lasting impact on FoHPS, and we are incredibly grateful. In your place, we are thrilled to welcome **Jess, with a new child in EYFS**—thank you for stepping up, and we look forward to working together!

We would like to extend a heartfelt note of appreciation to our Co-Chair, **Kerry Clark**, who stepped down from her position after an incredible year of service. Kerry worked tirelessly alongside Gemma to make the 2022-23 year truly special and unique. Her dedication, creativity, and enthusiasm were instrumental in organising memorable events that brought our community together and raised vital funds for the school.

We would also like to give special thanks to **Victoria**, who also left us this year. Her contributions and hard work have been greatly valued, and she will be deeply missed by the FoHPS team. Thank you both for your commitment and the lasting impact you've made!

Looking Forward – How You Can Help

To continue running these fantastic events and supporting our children's educational journey, **we need your help!** Whether you have time to volunteer, ideas for new fundraising initiatives, or simply want to get involved, we would love to hear from you. Every contribution, no matter how small, makes a significant difference.

To lend your support, drop us an email at **fohpsinfo@gmail.com** and we'll be in touch with more information on how you can get involved.

Thank you all for your continued support, and here's to another fantastic year of fundraising and fun!