



Friends of Thurnham (FOT) Chair Report 2020/2021

Thank you and welcome to The Friends of Thurnham AGM 2020-2021.

Due to the increasing Covid rates the AGM is unusually late this year. In recent years, the AGM has been held in the school hall and we encourage parents to attend to review the previous year and set goals for the current academic year. Although this year we are at present without Covid restrictions we have still needed to delay the AGM 2020 – 2021 to ensure that things are as safe as they can be for everyone, ensuring that health and safety are at the top of our considerations.

For those of you who are new to the school community, the purpose of FOT is to raise funds for the school, to buy things or experiences for the children that otherwise would not be available from the school due to limited funds.

We achieve this by running social and community events, either in or out of school hours for the children, their families, and staff. The events are aimed to be fun, rewarding and enriching which will enhance the children's school experience and help to create a welcoming community for all.

We are a registered charity since 2016, and the committee members are trustees of the charity. We follow a constitution, and this gives us procedural guidance and direction.

Our current committee, myself and my co-chair included have come to the end of our terms as trustees and are stepping down as committee members. Over the past 4 years we have formed great friendships which has helped us to create a fantastic team, with drive, enthusiasm and a love of socialising. We have found our own way, created new fundraising ideas and most importantly been there for each other understanding that we all have our strengths and weaknesses and appreciative of any time that we can give to support this committee. We have loved being a part of FOT and I for one have enjoyed the challenge despite being petrified at the beginning. We sincerely hope that a group of friends will rise to the challenge and take over our reins, we need to clearly express that you can do as much or as little as you can manage as a committee, the school are incredibly supportive and thankful for any extra funds regardless of amount and we wish you the very best.

Although the past academic year has been an incredibly difficult year to fundraise in, we have still managed to organise and run a number of events and activities within covid guidelines and raise a substantial sum of money for the school.

Highlights

Mufti Day/ Own clothes day – Although a simple way to raise funds, it is an extremely popular one with the children. Wearing whatever you want to wear to school is a favourite and has helped us raise **£1,154.11**



Christmas Raffle – A raffle is always well supported at the school, which is supported with some great prizes from local businesses, alongside some fantastic hampers which are made up of the donations from parents, friends and carers of the school community. This raffle raised **£1,152.33**

Ice Pops – We capitalised on our sunny days this summer by launching our Ice Pop Fridays initiative. A large amount of ice pops were bought and sold and even more were demanded in this incredibly successful venture which led us to running this on more than one occasion throughout the summer months. **Raising £472.50**

Total profit for 2020 –2021 =£5,405.97

Treasurer’s report attached with a list of all the events held to raise money, generous donations, and fun activities for the children to enjoy.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued help and support, without which the events we put on would not be possible.

With many thanks

Nadine Barling & Paula Simpson, Co Chairs