



Friends of West Ashtead

Presented at the Annual General Meeting on 13th October 2020
via Zoom meeting
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the period 1st September 2019 to 31st August 2020

Aim (Object) of the Charity

The aim of the Friends of West Ashtead (FOWA) is to advance the education of pupils at West Ashtead Primary School.

In planning the activities of the FOWA Charity for the year the Trustees and Committee kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The focus of the activities of the FOWA remain to fundraise to support the education experience of the pupils at the school, either through funding facilities or providing equipment.

Decisions on where the funds raised by FOWA are to be used are taken in consultation with the Head teacher and the committee. The FOWA committee is made up of parents who attend regular FOWA meetings. These meetings are open to all parents.

A fantastic contribution is made to the charity by a small group of very committed volunteer members. We are grateful for the many hours these volunteers have spent supporting the work of the FOWA in meeting its aim. This group includes the Class Reps and Committee Members and other Parents all of whom attend regular FOWA meetings.

Trustees

Chair	Vicky Hills
Vice-Chair	Hayley Blanchard
Treasurer	Samantha Allen

All Trustees give their time voluntarily and do not receive any remuneration or other benefits.

The FOWA operate within the guidelines of the national confederation of Parent Teacher Associations of which it is a member (membership number 21274).

The FOWA has Public Liability and Personal Accident Insurance to cover its meetings, activities, Officers and Volunteers.

Like the rest of world, the effects of Covid 19 have reached West Ashtead Primary School and impacted on the fundraising opportunities in 2020.

The events that were able to run included:

Charity events run this year:-

Firework Night
Christmas Fair
School Christmas Cards
School Christmas tree Sales
Infant and Junior Disco
Cake Sale
Bingo Night
Water Bottles
Bags2School
2nd Hand Uniform Sale
Junior Production refreshments

This year fundraising enabled FOWA to purchase more library books and a set of home readers books for each year group. FOWA has also subsidised the Year 6 leavers' celebrations and continued to fund an online librarian system. The future fundraising goal is to improve the IT provision and equipment at the school.

A summary of the funds raised in 2019/20 is shown in the attached accounts, and an independent auditor has examined a full set of annual accounts.

Serious Incidents

Nil return of serious incidents.

FOWA Responsibilities as a Charity

The charitable status of the FOWA confers certain responsibilities upon the charity and the Trustees. As a charity with an income of between £25,001-£500,000 FOWA are required to submit an Annual Return, comprising an Annual Report and reviewed annual accounts. Since April 2009 as a charity with an income above £25,000 per annum the FOWA are also now required to report on any Serious Incidents. There are no Serious Incidents to report from the past year.

Treasurer's Report

Accounts shared in the AGM.

The income raised less expenditure from this year's fundraising was £7,221.35. We spent £3,171.36 on library books and £792 on the library system. £2,290.79 was contributed to the Year 6 Leavers Events. The STEAM room was also purchased this year from the previous year's fundraising at a cost of £8,176.42.

Future Plans

FOWA focus moving into the 2020/2021 school term is to increase the school's Information Technology's provision, to purchase tablets, control toys and chrome books to be used throughout the school.

Trustees Report

What a year! This school year has been like no other.

National lockdown, 'Bubble School' for key worker children, home schooling and the joy of google classroom.

Everything got cancelled from March 2020 onwards. No May Fair, Easter events, School discos, Sports day or School productions. This had a significant impact on the fundraising target for the year.

Prior to the lockdown, the events in 2019 were a mixture of success and learnings.

The Fireworks 2019 event was the wettest it had been for several years. There was positive feedback from the people who attended the event but due to the weather the extra sources of income from the glowsticks stand and bar were affected.

The Christmas Fair was profitable and even though a later date the previous years, it had the perfect mix of festive activities, games, food, music and Father Christmas.

As always FOWA's success is down to parents who volunteer their time and energy to help create memorable and profitable events for the pupils at the school. A big thank you to everyone who supported FOWA this year.

As outgoing Treasurer a huge thank you needs to be extended to Sam Allen for her many years of volunteering as Trustee and Treasurer.

Looking forward we will need to rethink our fundraising approach to fit the current circumstances and uncertainty. I am confident that FOWA can still achieve its charity's aim to support and help enhance the pupils at West Ashtead Primary School's education.