



**Friends of St Winifred's
Chairs report to the AGM
20th September 2017, 7.45pm
Junior Site Hall**



The "Friends of St Winifred's" are the school's PTA, an organisation whose aim is to raise funds to support our school, but importantly to help bring our school communities together and to have a good time! We would like to thank you all for your support with the Friends events over the last year and look forward to an exciting year ahead on our new single site.

Summary of the Year

Over the past year, we held many events which were very successful whether they raised large amounts of money or were just greatly enjoyed by the children or adults who attended.

During 2016-17, we have organised a large number of events across the two school sites for children and adults. Each term started with a coffee morning. The Autumn term opened with an extremely popular BBQ welcoming parents old and new back to school, followed by the ever popular Quiz Night, then the Christmas Children's school disco. In addition we sold Christmas trees and welcomed in the festive season with a Festive evening of shopping and pampering at the infants site.

Spring term hosted the popular Family Bingo Night, a cake sale and Easter Egg Hunt for children on both sites. The Summer term included: A Lego Card swap event - enabling children to complete their collections, ice lollies after school on a Friday, the Summer School Discos for Children. This year's big event took the form of a Family BBQ. The Peter James sponsorship for the event was an invaluable source of funds for the school and we are very grateful to all who agreed to host a Board. As always we are incredibly grateful to all who gave up their time so generously to volunteer at the event and to all who attended.

We are a registered charity and some employers have a charity donation policy. We are extremely grateful to these companies and if you think you can help in this way, or know anyone who could, please speak to one of the committee members.

In total we raised £10,918 and later we will present a cheque to the School.

How the money raised in 2015/2016 supported our school

The money we give to the schools gives the Head teacher the opportunity to invest in equipment and activities that have not been specifically allocated via a budget. The school has used the money raised by the Friends to provide all sorts of special experiences, resources and treats for children on both sites. Most of these would not have been possible without your amazing generosity, energy and commitment to the school. A core role of the Friend's is to support the school to enable all families to take part in activities offered including extracurricular activities. Where required, it is used to support children to

participate in additional activities eg school journey, music, after school clubs, visits etc. In particular the school used the monies raised in 2015-2016 to provide:

- a bank of 16 ipads and a syncing safe.
- a story teller and dance workshop for all classes
- first aid workshops for 2 junior classes.
- leavers books and first communion medals.
- subsidised lots of visits for all classes throughout the year.
- two big walk-in animal enclosures.
- Football kits with our new logo for our boys and girls. They wore them proudly throughout the year and won loads of competitions.
- additional theatre workshops including anti-bullying sessions.
- In addition, the school will be using Friends money to provide new benches, outdoor table tennis tables and other play equipment.

As you can see every child benefited from the money you helped us raise.

Thank yous

This very successful year would not have happened without all the members of the committee who worked very hard and were very enthusiastic and forthcoming all the time; all our bakers; the many parents who helped us throughout the year in every event; the office staff who collected money and forms for us; the caretakers who helped set up halls, moved tables and chairs and locked up after us; the headteacher and teachers for their continuous support; the Little Gremlins staff, and last but definitely not least everybody who came to the events.

So we would like to give a big thank you to everybody as we have had a very enjoyable and busy year in the Committee and look forward to welcoming new members for the next year. We were extremely grateful for all the help, support and comments we had and without this we could not have had such a successful year. Thank you to those who have supported us through being Flexible Friends and all our volunteers - more than 40 people volunteered to help with the BBQ alone. It pays tribute to the incredible community of our school.

I particularly need to thank the dedicated members of the committee who worked incredibly hard all year to pull off a range of a different events to support our school. As a Committee in particular, we need to thank Fernanda and Phoebe who are stepping down after an extremely busy year working to support the school and to Andrea and Visnja who stepped down at Christmas and continued to support the PTA through the year.

Thank you for all your hard work, brilliant ideas and support for new members.

Thank you also to all of you who have come tonight and I shall hand you over to Marta for the treasurer's report.

Aideen Brannan
Chair, 2017-18