

Friend's of St David's School Association Chair's Annual Report for 2016 - 2017



Friend of St David's Association FOSDA is a registered charity, with charity number 1166070. As stated in our constitution, FOSDA aims to advance education of pupils at St David's Primary School by promoting effective relationships within the whole school community and by engaging in activities and providing equipment that enhance our School and help to advance education of all its pupils. We also aim to think of activities and provisions that are fun for the children and that augment their experiences of school in a positive way.

The present FOSDA committee has 3 members

Chair	Miroslava Jones
Secretary	Claire O'Neill
Treasurer	Christianna Kennedy

Each class has a FOSDA class representative as follows

Nursery	Shelley Isaac-Clarke
Reception	Luisa Sohal
Yr1	Kelly Wiggall and Christy Kennedy
Yr2	position available
Yr3	position available
Yr4	Sandra Birt and Ros McIntyre
Yr5	Joanna Iturbe
Yr6	Claire O'Neill

FOSDA primarily focuses on fundraising so additional experiences and equipment can be purchased but past year we have also focused on updating the decor and organisation of our school.

The highlights of past year have been

- painting and repairing the wooden panelling and the wooden playhouse in the Nursery/Reception block
- decorating and furnishing a wonderful, up to date school library
- financing an assembly by local author Helen Docherty who also officially opened our new school library
- rearranging storage areas within the school to create a PE storage and Music equipment storage that enabled us to create a much needed and now well used ICT suite decorated as Lego room for the children
- decorating and furnishing a new quiet room for learning in the Nursery/Reception block
- decorating and refurnishing the foyer in Nursery/Reception unit

- buying equipment to start a film club for the children and helping to run it
- purchasing beautiful banners and hand painted cross to represent the Catholic ethos of our school, helping to update the school's decor and making it more welcoming
- financially helping to develop specific learning areas in the classrooms
- partially funding Reading Eggs and Athletics programme for the children
- investing in up to date Science resources for the School
- contributing to school's IT leases and purchasing 5 new I pads
- giving finances to School Council to purchase games and equipment for outside play
- organising wonderful Summer and Winter Bazaars
- organising garden tidy weekends to sort out the school grounds
- receiving match funding from one of our parent's employers
- redecorating the corridor leading to the dinning hall
- funding benches for the dinning hall that is being used for music education provision and film club

I have to specially thank ALL the school families and the whole school community for supporting FOSDA in all our endeavours in the past year. It would have not been possible to carry out all this work without everyone's help, encouragement and loyalty. Everyone's contribution is and will always be truly appreciated.

There are further special thanks I would like to express to Claire O'Neill and Christy Kennedy for being fantastic in their committee roles and to all our FOSDA class representatives for fulfilling their roles wonderfully.

Additionally much appreciation goes to parents who donated extra time to help us, Chris Law who has been invaluable in helping to clear storage areas and reorganising the school, to Paul Davison for helping us with building work, to Rhodri Mugford and his family for helping to tidy up the outside areas and gardens of our school, to Ruth Cronin and Astrid Beckmann for helping to decorate the library and the ICT suite, to Luisa Sohal for taking time to organise match funding from her employer and to Alison Harris who always helps with baking or creating things we can offer at our bazaars. And to all the parents who cook and bake and donate their time to help us at events. THANK YOU!!

FOSDA has had a lot of feedback from the children, staff and school families throughout the year. The children love their new library and their ICT suite and enjoy the film club. Yr4 girls have asked to be the school librarians, they keep the school library tidy and display new titles to encourage their friends to read! The boys in Yr6 have started a Hwb Club that they run in the new ICT suite once a week. The children are active participants in choosing films to watch in their film club.

School families often comment on how much they enjoy the social elements of our bazaars and concerts. The staff appreciates the new equipment and updated decor of our School.

We all aim to work together as a team and deciding how to spend available finances is also a team decision that takes place in our meetings. Please see enclosed the summary of FOSDA's accounts of income and expenditure for the past year.

Some of our FOSDA's future plans for 2017-2018 include

- bringing children's learning outside by developing outside learning areas and purchasing picnic benches for the patios
- funding a custom built mud kitchen/water/sand play area outside Yr1 and Yr2
- funding a shop stall for fruit tack shop and role play outside Yr2
- purchasing a green screen for film making
- investing in good quality headphones for the ICT suite
- funding Welsh signs, reading books and dictionaries to enhance Welsh provision in our School
- organising sponsoring event for purchasing new Bibles for the children
- organising various fun as well as educational experiences for the children
- running a toddler/baby group Toddle Tots at St David's School to encourage new families to join our School and strengthening the friendships of existing families
- carrying on with redecorating of corridor areas, cloak room areas and classroom areas
- organising trips to the beach on weekends for all our School families
- organising a pyjama party/movie afternoon for Foundation Phase children
- organising a school sleepover in the hall for KS2 children
- organising Summer and Winter bazaars and refreshments for concerts and shows
- organising after school cake sales on first Friday of each month
- further promoting Easyfundraising
- filling the position of Yr2 and yr3 class representative
- supporting our School in its School Development Plan

Please if you have any skills or talents that you would like to share to help us carry out the above plans, please let me know. If you have any further ideas that you would like us to include or consider this year, please let me know. If you are a parent in Yr2 or Yr3 and would like to become a FOSDA class representative, please let me know. If you have time, please come along to our meetings and be part of our decision making process. Our meetings are advertised in advance via School's messaging service and our FOSDA newsletters.

Finally, if you have any questions or queries regarding the above report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With appreciation and best wishes,

Mirka Jones
Chair of Friends of St David's School Association