

10th October 2025

Dear parents

I have just finished my two-year tenure as Chair of the Friends of St Johns and am pleased to report that we have had an incredible year, raising almost £14,000! This is a fantastic achievement and shows just how generous our school community is.

This income has allowed us to support projects that make a real difference for our children: from paying part of the lease on our school minibus for trips and activities, to refurbishing the hubs in both Upper and Lower Key Stage 2. Recently we have also funded the building of a bespoke welly shed in line with the OPAL initiative. Each of these investments enhances the children's experience at school and supports their learning and play in meaningful ways.

I want to sincerely thank Mrs O'Rourke and all the staff for their constant encouragement and support. None of what we do would be possible without their help and collaboration.

I'd also like to extend my thanks to all of the Friends who show up, volunteer, and give their time. Whether it's sorting the Uniform Shed, setting up and running events, supervising cake sales or helping chaperone Movie Nights and Discos the events simply would not happen without these individuals turning up time and again for the good of the children.

It's been an honour to serve as Chair. Please remember when we badger you to bake cakes, volunteer at events and donate to penny challenges we are lucky to have a thriving Friends of St Johns, many schools are not so fortunate to have a community that cares as much as ours does. I'd also like to take the chance to ask all of you to come and join us! Many hands make light work and new faces give us fresh eyes to keep creating events that appeal to our whole community and represent us all as fully as we can. We are here for the benefit of ALL and want to reflect that in all that we do!

Moving forward you are in the capable hands of our new Co-Chairs, Alessia Bertoncello and Jo Trott who have lots of events planned in the coming months, please give them your support!

Thanks again

Lisa Rockliffe