

HOW WE KEEP YOU UP TO DATE

Our newsletter is emailed to all parents/carers, usually each term. This includes information on upcoming events and dates plus details of the help we are looking for at our events.

Following an event, we always write to let you know how much was raised, and when we reach our target, we tell you what the money will be spent on.

The majority of our communications are via WhatsApp, particularly with the class reps. You can find out who's who on the next page.

If you have access to Facebook, please join the parent Facebook page: Shoreham School (Kent) Parents Page

SUPPORT FROM PARENTKIND

FOSS is a member of Parentkind, which is a national charity and membership organisation providing support and guidance to over 13,500 parent associations in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Membership includes comprehensive insurance cover by Zurich Insurance plc for all our association run events and gives access to support and advice on running the association plus fundraising ideas and good practice hints and tips.

Parentkind also provide resources for Parents. If you would like to sign up to their Parent e-Bulletin please visit <https://www.parentkind.org.uk/Signup>

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO OUR SCHOOL!

Find us on Instagram: @fosskent
& Facebook: @friendsofshoreham



YOUR COMMITTEE



Siobhan Blackett
Co-Chair

Cameron &
Cormac's mum
(Y2 & Y4)



Eve Kindred
Co-Chair

Miles & Autumn's
mum
(R & Y4)



Hayley Mortimer
Secretary

Beau's mum
(Y2)



Vic Brewer
Treasurer

Miles & Emily's mum
(Y5 & Y4)

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES



Teaching
assistant and
FOSS champion
Mrs Humberstone



BARTON
COULD THIS BE
YOU???

Barton is in need of a
parent to volunteer for
Class Rep ... it's a great
way to get involved, for
just a small amount of
commitment



PALMER/Y1
Lydia Jarrett



PALMER/Y2
Chloe Lassetter



MOORE/Y3
Emma Green



MOORE/Y4
Chanel Burkett



MOORE/Y5
Lydia Jarrett



CAMERON/Y6
Emily Derrick



Welcome to Our School

FOSS FRIENDS OF SHOREHAM SCHOOL

FossChair@shoreham.kent.sch.uk
FossPTA@shoreham.kent.sch.uk
FossTreasurer@shoreham.kent.sch.uk
FossSecretary@shoreham.kent.sch.uk



WELCOME TO SHOREHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL

This information has been put together by FOSS especially for you, as a new family joining our school community.

Starting school is an exciting time for the whole family. Studies show that there is a direct link between parental involvement and how well children do, so why not get involved from the start!

This booklet provides you with information about FOSS and lets you know how you can join in.

WHY WE HAVE A PTA

We are fortunate at our school to have a "Friends of" association that's an integral part of the school community. Over the last few years we have raised in the region of £7000, which has been spent on equipment and resources to enhance our children's educational experience and the school's facilities.

Our association is about much more than simply fundraising. FOSS exists to provide closer links between home and school and it is an excellent way to bring parents, friends, staff and the wider local community together socially in support of the school, working towards a common goal, and creating memories for you and your children in the process.

It's fun too - just ask any of the Committee members or volunteers.

All parents and members of the school community are encouraged to get involved, even if they only have a small amount of time available. All families are automatically members of FOSS when their child joins our school.

ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee meet several times each year, with smaller working groups meeting as necessary when we are planning larger events, although WhatsApp is our main method of communication.

The Committee also hold open PTA meetings and any member can come along, find out what the association are planning, share ideas and get involved. We'd love to see you!

VOLUNTEERS

Which brings us to volunteers. We welcome any help from parents, family, friends and teachers, and have a growing list of volunteers who commit some of their time to helping the association.

Every little helps, so just one hour of assisting at an event, flipping burgers, or folding raffle tickets (just a few examples) would be invaluable.

If you would like to join us please speak to a committee member or one of the class reps, come along to our next meeting or email us – fossinformation@gmail.com.

Also enclosed is a questionnaire that you can complete and return to the committee or the school office.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

Class reps play a very important role, providing a link between individual classes and parents, the school and FOSS committee.

The support from class reps is vital when it comes to organising our main events, from selling tickets to organising rotas of help. We really could not manage without them.

Each year group has a class rep and the primary means of communication within each group is via WhatsApp. We hope that you are happy to share your contact information with your rep so that you can be added to the Barton group.

WhatsApp is a great means for new families at the school to get to know each other and also for your rep to send weekly (or as necessary) reminders about upcoming school & FOSS events, and arranging transport for school trips etc.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on 5th September and provides an excellent opportunity for all parents to come along and hear in more detail about our work.

It is also when we elect our new committee members and class representatives, and a great opportunity to meet other parents and carers within the school community. The current committee are stepping down this year so do consider volunteering to join.

HOW WE RAISE MONEY

Like most PTAs, the majority of our funds are raised through the events that we run. Some of our most popular events in the past have been:

Happy's Circus, the annual Shoreham Duck Race, Christmas Fayre, Secret Santa, Tough Mudder fundraiser, School discos and movie nights to name a few.

Donations from parents are extremely important. You can donate time, money, items for sale, raffle prizes or offers of services and skills.

Our charity is also registered with The Giving Machine. This is an easy way in which you can help raise regular funds for the school, as you shop and with no cost to yourselves. Please see enclosed leaflet for further information.

HOW WE SPEND THE MONEY WE RAISE

In consultation with our head teacher, the FOSS committee is responsible for deciding how our funds are spent. Usually Mrs Lovatt-Young provides a 'wish list' of items that the school would like us to consider funding.

We also invite input from parents too, so if you have an idea of something that would benefit all the students in the school, please do share it with the Committee. We can discuss it at a meeting and feedback.

Funds are typically spent on the 'extras' that are not provided by the school's budget, thus making our children's learning experiences so much more fulfilling and exciting. Funds are not generally spent on improving the fabric of the school building, as this is the responsibility of the school.

Our Constitution commits the association to spending money on things that will benefit the children directly. Some of the items we have helped to fund for the school are listed below:

High visibility vests & waterproof clothing for every child
Whole school trip to the Pantomime in Sevenoaks
Wooden play equipment on the field
IT equipment upgrades

And our current fundraising efforts are to help purchase a bank of musical instruments for each class.