

Chairman's report 2019/2020

What an unusual year we have had, with Covid-19 ceasing most activity since March. Up until that point, however, we were hard at work successfully fundraising, creating events for the parents and children to enjoy.

Committee Members Changes

We are sad to see so many people moving on from friends this year, as their children get older, both in the committee and wider group, and they will be greatly missed.

Julie Lang and Amy Brackstone are stepping down as Co Treasurers

Tracey Ellie is stepping down as Vice Chairman

Sian Bannister is stepping down as Co Secretary

Ellie Bryant is stepping down as Chairman

Ellie Blaney is continuing as Co Secretary.

New Committee

Chair – Charlotte Kaszubski

Vice Chair – Wendy Martineau

Co-Secretary – Ellie Blaney

Co-Secretary – to be filled

Treasurer – Ruth Cotton

The roles this year will be more challenging as friends learn how to function during Covid, and having lacked the ability to shadow previous members over the last 6 months, but I have every faith they be able to overcome the restrictions and thrive.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved with friends this year, for their support, enthusiasm, dedication and hard work to make my time as chair enjoyable and productive.

Overview

The events

Unfortunately our fundraising has had to take a break while everyone adjusted to the current situation. Before this point we were doing our best to offer as much as we could to enrich and entertain the children as well as gain much needed fund for the school. It includes: Story time for KS1, Movie night for KS2, Christmas Fayre, Three spring discos and refreshments for the Nativity.

Fundraising

As well as the mentioned events, we also had two bags2schools collections, a huge thank you to Charlotte Kaszubski for organising and hosting these.

And Christmas cards, with a huge thanks to Debbie Brennan for organising and sorting this.

Where has the money gone?

This year friends have bought rugs for both year 2 classrooms and all three reception/year 1 classrooms.

We also paid £4000 to the school to improve their I.T. department.

We finished refurbishing the library, we are just waiting for the boards to be ordered.

The working of Friends

Through-out lock down the whatsapp group has been a source of quick and easy communication, but I still feel it needs to be reviewed and moved away from. Before lock down, Facebook was a

successful way to distribute information to a wide audience, and this may benefit from its own committee role. I feel it is important to have a point of contact that is regularly checked and maintained, as we are always looking to involve more parents and teachers.

Having school governor, Zac Coley, at meetings continues to be a big help in maintaining improved communications between Friends and school.

And our new teacher representative has done a fantastic job in not only communicating with the school, but with the teachers specifically. This has been beneficial when working on where the funds are needed.

Supporters

Over the last year we have had a big influx of new members eager to help out and who regularly attend meetings, but we need to keep our advertisement of the group available and up to date to maintain our numbers. Would a school email (@Crockerne.co.uk) for Friends be possible?

We are sad to say goodbye to so many dedicated and passionate people. So a huge thank you to everyone for their time and commitment and I wish Crockerne another exciting and successful year

Ellie Bryant