



Friends of Wootton School (FOWS)

What is FOWS? - FOWS is the Wootton School charity, run by parents, to organise social events and raise money for the school.

Why do we do it? – Primarily it is for fun and to benefit our school community - we want to provide social opportunities for parents to meet and we want our children to enjoy events such as the school discos and Christmas Fair. We use any money raised to provide extras at school that the local education authority and diocese cannot provide.

Who are we? - We are a friendly group of parents with children at Wootton School. New members are very welcome; we are always on the lookout for fresh ideas and helping hands.

What do we do? - We organise a variety of fundraising and social activities to raise money for the school. We meet about twice a year and have sub-committees to arrange events.

What type of activities? - We organise lots of different events during the year. This year we are planning a Bonfire Eve Breakfast, Christmas Fair, Barn Dance, Movie Night, Story Evening, May Fair and a School Disco. We are also planning to produce Christmas cards from pictures drawn by the children, and bags with the childrens' drawings on.

Tea Shop: Each Thursday we run a teashop after school where parents can have a chat and a drink and the children enjoy a selection of cakes. Donations of home baked or bought goods are always welcome. To help you decide when to contribute, each year group is invited to bring cakes on rotation. Sometimes teashop is run in aid of external charities.

Swimming Club: We also run a Saturday morning swimming club with a half hour lesson followed by a family swim.

How much do we raise? - We aim to raise around £5,000 a year. This is a substantial amount considering Wootton is a small school.



What is the money spent on? - Some of the areas where FOWS money has been used recently:

- To buy iPads to be used by the children in class
- To pay for the music man and other external groups such as the pantomime, anti-bullying magic show and The Life Bus.
- To provide the new AV system in the hall for use at assembly and for whole class teaching.
- To provide new ride on toys for the EarlyYears garden.
- To provide new staging for the school hall to be used by all children during assemblies and school plays.

What can I do?

You can help in so many ways, and we would be very grateful for any help you can give, large or small. You could join the committee, or offer to help with one event a year. Or you could do something small to help that makes a big difference, for instance:

- Serve cake once a term at teashop (free after school care for school age children is provided)
- Bake cakes for teashop occasionally
- Support fundraising events by attending or helping to run a stall
- Staying behind to help us clear up after fundraising events
- Sharing an event on social media, e.g. Facebook
- Share your feedback on events
- Suggest new ideas for fundraising

How can I find out more?

One of the best ways to see what the FOWS are up to is to join the **Facebook** group. Search for **Friends of Wootton School (FOWS)** and ask to join. Not only will you see what FOWS events are coming up, but you can also ask questions about practicalities and get reminders about up coming events in the school life e.g. non-school uniform days.

If you have any questions, or would like to get involved or be included on the FOWS emails, please email us: fowsgroup2016@gmail.com

We look forward to getting to know you.

Best wishes

Kristina Davies and Edith Johnson (Joint Chairs of FOWS)