



# Friends of Bullers Wood

Registered Charity 1024413

Dear Parents and Carers

## Friends of Bullers Wood PTA – Supporting our students

### **Who we are**

Friends of Bullers Wood PTA (FoBW) is a charity run by parents and carers, staff and governors providing support to the school. In recent years, through the wonderful support of our school community we have managed to be able to support the school by funding not only essential items that various departments require, but also bigger projects, such as the brand new outdoor learning centre that was funded exclusively by the FoBW.

Around two thirds of our funds come from parental contributions through our monthly contribution scheme, and gift aid, and the remainder from our fund-raising events. The contributions letter attached sets out how you can help the school from a financial perspective, however we also value your time and ideas as much as any monetary contribution.

We run a number of fund-raising school community events throughout the year. Each year we support the school concerts and play, run quiz nights, a Christmas Fayre and help out with Sports Day.

This year, since Covid restrictions were lifted, we were able to hold Quiz and Bingo Nights, Movie Nights for the pupils, Educational Talks (including one about space weather) and a number of Hamper Raffles.

We could not put on these well received events without the support of our wonderful volunteers, and we would love for you to get involved when you join the school.

This short video gives you an idea of what we do and how you can get involved:

<https://vimeo.com/460077847/57bc8fd293>

### **How you can get involved**

#### **Willing hands**

We need as many parents as possible to get involved and to enable us to run the FoBW and our popular events. We would love to hear from you if you have any ideas to help fundraise for the school and if you can help us in our fundraising events (even if for only an hour once or twice a year, serving refreshments or helping out at the Christmas Fayre). It is also a great way to meet other parents and carers within the school community.

#### **Sponsorship**

Increasingly we are looking to partner with local businesses to provide sponsorship and prizes. We've had considerable success this year finding sponsorship for events and purchases of vital equipment for students in the past. We would ask you to explore this

possibility with your employer and see if they have any sponsorship schemes that may be able to help the FoBW. Please let us know if you can help in this area.

### **Social Media**

We're on Facebook and would value your support at <https://www.facebook.com/BWFriends/>. The more followers we can get the greater the reach we can offer to would-be business sponsors. Please take a moment to follow us and regularly "like" our posts and respond to requests for assistance.

### **How funds have been used**

All the funds raised by FoBW directly benefit our students. Over the past year, items we have funded include:

- A new bespoke outdoor learning centre;
- A brand new football kit for our cup winning team;
- New computer equipment for the Design and Technology Department;
- New cameras for the Art Department;
- Online Learning subscriptions for the Languages Department;
- Table Tennis tables for the PE Department;
- A set of new guitars for the Music Department;
- GCSE text books for numerous subjects;
- Online learning resources for the Sixth Form;
- Refurbishing a number of toilet blocks for students.

### **You will always be welcome**

We meet each term to plan how to support the school. Meetings are usually on the second Tuesday of each term in the school library from 7pm-8pm. All parents and carers are automatically members and we would love to see you there. You will be sent an invitation to the all the meetings via school comms.

We appreciate that not everyone is able to make the meetings and so we have an active Whatsapp Group where we post details of our upcoming events and opportunities to help out. To sign up to this group, please email us at the address below.

If you'd like to come to our next meeting, would like to get involved, would like to join our whatsapp group to be kept up to date with our news please do email us at [friendsofbullerswoodgirls@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbullerswoodgirls@gmail.com).

You can also check our webpage for regular updates about what we do at <http://www.bwsgirls.org/friends-of-bullers-wood-2/>

Best wishes,

Lucy Brooks, Chair of FoBW