

## Friends of Woore School (FOWS) – Annual General Meeting – 2020

**Date-** Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020

**Time-** 8pm

**Location:** Zoom online meeting (due to current COVID-19 pandemic)

### Welcome to the AGM

Thank you all for your attendance this evening. It's been a year like no other.

We meet again however to celebrate the achievements of the year and to summarise the activity of Friends of Woore School (FOWS). It is a time to thank YOU, the volunteers but also to our supporters for all the going hard work.

The FOWS team spend many hours of personal time planning and preparing for events every year to fundraise. It's done with love, teamwork, determination, but most of all with the ambition of bringing the school and the local community together.

It goes without saying, as the chair for 19/20, I am immensely proud of everyone in the team. They all deserve a special mention to say thank you so much for their support, time and commitment to this very worthwhile charity. Without you, none of it would be possible.

Sarah Scott (parent & vice chair)

Jessica Lear (parent & treasurer)

Eilisa Gill (parent & staff member of Woore Nursery and Primary)

Helen Jackson (parent)

Sonya Cleverton (parent)

Claire Marsh (parent)

Sarah Shapiro (parent)

Liz Bennett (parent)



**A special message from Michelle Ward** (Woore Nursery and Primary school head teacher) to pass on her sincere thanks and gratitude to the team above at FOWS;

*“ The governors, staff and pupils would like to express their thanks for all of the work that the members of the FOWS do to help in their fundraising efforts for the children here at Woore Primary and Nursery School. Without this support, the school could not afford some of the basic equipment we need in order to deliver the curriculum effectively. Donations in the past few years have helped to purchase new ipads which are used on a daily basis, reading books and resources for science. Our recent donation received from the FOWS will be used for the purchase of history and geography resources. Thanks again, your support and efforts are much appreciated!!”*

2020 has brought challenges and uncertainty across the world. The COVID-19 pandemic has meant for FOWS that all our fundraising events have had to either be postponed (Snowden Hike fundraiser) or cancelled (2020 Summer Fete). Despite this, FOWS have remained in touch throughout the pandemic, always looking at ways to help and think of new ways to raise money, whilst adhering to social distancing etc. Two great examples of this is are;

- 1- **Donation to the school of an infrared thermometer when school returned in Sept-20.** It was very quickly highlighted by Helen Jackson in the team that the school fell short of resources and we could help. FOWS were more than happy to offer support and we provided (within a week) a brand new thermometer and had it hand delivered to school. Keeping the children and staff safe.
- 2- **Halloween 2020- Dress your window competition.** For a £3 donation, families, children and local villages can all get involved and win an amazing Halloween Hamper full of treats and goodies.



Alongside the annual Summer Fete, FOWS had planned in May-20, the Snowden Hike fundraiser. So many people got behind us, supported us, and donated over £900!!! Some even planned to join us on the day. So it was with great sadness that we had no choice but to postpone due to COVID-19. But not all was sad, due to FOWS having promoted the event in the early months of 2020, we were able to retrieve +£900 in sponsorship money. This has really helped FOWS continue to support the school this year. I would personally like to take this opportunity to thank every single person who donated and we very much look forward to completing the hike in spring 2021.



## How have we done and what have we been up too?

Whilst Jess will do a full financial update I wanted to take the opportunity as chair to showcase the amazing work FOWS have done, despite all of the challenges this year. It's to remind us all of the amazing things we have done for the school and donated (Nov-19- Jul-20)

£2,500! Be super proud of yourselves.

- 10/09/2019 – donation to school for resources- Brand new books for library - **£1,100.00**
- 01/10/2019 - donation to school for resources - **£210.00**
- 01/12/2019 - donation to school Christmas party funds - **£20.00**
- 06/01/2020 –Christmas books for every nursery and school child- **£111.40**



- 16/01/2020 - donation to school resources- Science- **£734.00**



- 10/02/2020 – An amazing day / event- Jake Evans Storyteller- **£190.00**



- 16/04/2020 – Easter eggs **£62.00**
  - Didn't get fully distributed unfortunately due to COVID-19 BUT were donated to special causes.



- 14/07/2020 – Year 6 leavers treat – PIZZA & chocolate!! - **£80.00**



There's been more!! This will fall into next year's results as post Jul-20, but I want to call it out;

- Sept 2020- Donation of a brand new digital infrared thermometer - **£49.99**
  - Oct 2020- Immaculate, working ACER Laptop – WOW - so very kindly donated by Clive Pugh (family member & grandparent )
  - Oct- donation to school for resources- Geography and History- **£677**
- We have a real presence on our social media platform as well, Facebook.

In 2016, when I personally first joined FOWS, there were 68 followers, which is pretty standard across the local PTA communities. FOWS now have over 300! Our social media platform is so critical to pushing information wider including into our local community. We have amazing responses and its wonderful sharing regular updates on what we are doing and how this is making a difference. More of the same in 2021!

### FOWS positions

Firstly- I would personally like to say thank you to **Sarah Shapiro** and **Liz Bennett** for their amazing support in 2020. We sadly said goodbye to them within the FOWS committee, but we are still very much still in touch and we know they will be there supporting us at all our fundraising events in the future.

Positions within the committee are up for renewal this evening and I would encourage any of you to volunteer for these if you are interested.

This can also be sharing a role with a committee member which I think may work well and would lighten the load.

For those who have not been able to join us this evening. If being on the committee is not what you are looking for we would still very much welcome your help and ideas for developing and moving forward into 2021.

Please do contact us, either via our Facebook page or email us at : [friendsofwoore@yahoo.com](mailto:friendsofwoore@yahoo.com)

Once again, thank you so much for your support, for joining tonight and I'll hand you over to Jess, our amazing treasurer.