



## What is the Friends of Hawkes Farm Academy?

We are fortunate at our academy to have a Parent Teacher Association that is and has been an integral part of the school community for many years. In its time the Friends of Hawkes Farm (FoHF) has raised thousands of pounds, which has been spent on equipment and resources to enhance our children's education experience and the academy's facilities.

We work alongside our Governing Body, School Council, staff team and parents and carers. We are a community who join together to brainstorm functions and events. The money that is raised by us is a massive support to assist the academy in providing our children with the resources that Hawkes Farm Academy on its own may not be able to budget for.

But our PTA is about much more than fundraising. The Friends of Hawkes Farm Academy exists to provide closer links between home and school and it is an excellent way to bring staff, parents and friends together socially in support of the academy, working towards a common goal.

All parents and members of the school community are part of Friends of Hawkes Farm Academy because we are all members of the academy. However it is a legal requirement that we need a few key members to form the committee. These people are expected to attend the vast majority of meetings, help to organise events and are the driving force behind the Friends of Hawkes Farm Academy. All parents though are encouraged to get involved in supporting our events, even if they only have a small amount of time available, you do not need to be a committee member to be able to be of great help to us.

Our committee consists of four officers: Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. We also have ordinary committee members to make up the full committee.

We hold our Annual General Meeting in September, at the start of the academy year and we meet monthly throughout the year.

## How do we raise money?

Like most PTA's, the majority of our funds are raised through the events we run. Some of our events are:

- Summer Fair
- Christmas Fair
- Quiz Nights
- Second Hand Uniform Sales
- Secret Room for Mother's Day and Father's Day
- Happy School Bag Collections
- Children's Discos

So you can see there is always something going on. We always try and respond to the children's requests; it is great to see them having fun at the events or enjoying using a piece of equipment that FoHF has donated.



## How we spend the money we raise

Following a fundraising event the money is banked straight away. Usually, the head teacher will have a 'wish list' of items that the school would like FoHF to consider funding. It is at our Committee meetings, that the decisions on how to spend the money are agreed.

Funds raised by the Friends are intended to provide 'extras' not already provided by the academy's main income, often fun things that make learning more interesting and exciting. We always endeavour to spend our funds in ways that will benefit all our children across all areas of the school and curriculum.

Items previously funded include equipment for art projects, the Wildlife Area, the leaver's party and leaver's books, refurbishment of the swimming pool, new projectors for the hall, a visiting pantomime company and various other projects totalling several thousands of pounds each year.

## How do I get involved?

There are lots of ways you can help and support your child through FoHF.

Offering to help before events or at other times during the year is so valuable. It doesn't matter if you can't help on a regular basis, or even if you cannot come into school. There are many different ways in which you can help with the Friends, whether you have lots of time to offer or not. Some of the roles are time-consuming, although rewarding. If however you cannot commit to a big job, look out for things you can do less frequently, for example running a stall at the Christmas or Summer Fair, or by baking a cake for a cake sale. We really couldn't achieve what we do without the behind the scenes help that we receive.

If you would like to be more involved you can volunteer to be a committee member, or you can simply support the AGM and give us your ideas for fundraising events. This is also the time to ask questions or voice your opinion.

You can always support FoHF by simply turning up to events! You can also help by letting us know if you have any contacts or skills we could use, everything is potentially valuable to us. Please email us at [friends@fohfs.co.uk](mailto:friends@fohfs.co.uk)

Please keep an eye on our Facebook public events page for information about our forthcoming events

<https://www.facebook.com/friendsofhawkesfarm/>

and join our Facebook group for additional information just for parents

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/friendsofhawkesfarm/>



## Who are we?

Chair of the PTA - Ross Newark

Vice Chair - Jenny Bamford

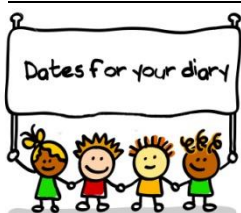
Secretary - Annie Callaway

Treasurer - Natalie Ridley

Head teacher - Mr Meek

Committee members - Sally Dean, Caroline Goodall, Natasha Mewett, Sam Mitchell, Lisa Newark, Samantha Rapley and Diane Roberts.

## Summer Term Events 2017



Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May, 6.45pm - Quiz Night

Week of the 12<sup>th</sup> June - Father's Day Secret Room

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 11.30 – 2.30pm - Summer Fair

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July, 4.30 – 5.45pm - Reception, Year 1 and 2 - End of term disco

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July, 6.15 – 7.30pm – Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 - End of term disco