Friends of SS Peter & Paul Catholic Primary School (FOSPAP)
Crofters Lea off New Road, Yeadon, LS19 7HW
Registered charity number: 1201911

FOSPAP PTA CHAIR REPORT: 2025/26

Welcome and thank you for attending this year's AGM.

The purpose of this report is to highlight the main activities and fundraising achievements of FOSPAP and celebrate how the funds have directly supported our school over the past year. And what a year it has been for the team. We have, once again, packed our agenda to the rafters with fantastic fund raisers and epic experiences for the children and their families. The committee have continued to devote much of their time to ensure the continued viability of FOSPAP and have delivered an increase in profit of nearly £3,500 from the previous year (from £10737 to £14245).

Our largest profit margins were seen in the Cauliflower Christmas cards (100%), the Bearzilla raffle (92%), the Christmas hamper raffle (93%), and the rainbow hamper raffle (94%) - so its safe to say SSPP loves a good raffle!

Match funding brought us £1724.00 of what we call free money - no extra effort needed! And our biggest money maker was the Summer fair, netting £3743.51!

A full financial overview will be provided separately by our treasurer.

OBJECTIVES:

The aim of FOSPAP still remains the same; To support our school by hosting events to build a social community and raise money which in turn we spend on enhancing, enriching and improving learning experiences for all our SSPP pupils.

As we are a separate entity, responsibility of fund expenditure does lie with the committee, however we continue to work closely with school to align this spending with focus areas identified by school, whilst making sure it is also in line with our governing constitution. This means we aim to benefit the whole school community when spending the funds raised. This year we also remain focused on increasing the interaction of parents/carers with the school in order to build a sense of school community.

SCHOOL EVENTS:

Colour run - it seems so long ago now but the colour run was actually in this year's schedule of events! It raised a whopping £2340.77 - but more than this was an amazing day for our school community. The kids absolutely loved the whole day and the feedback was extremely positive …. And it brought the first ever gunging of Mr Power!

Spooky Disco - Another year, another success! 183 tickets sold making it one of our top attended events in terms of numbers of families who participated. This gave us a 22% uplift from the previous year. Parents of children who were not volunteering could stay on site

but were not able to be in the hall and this helped the team be easily identifiable - along with wearing the FOSPAP branded high vis vests. Weapons/props were not allowed in the hall and all these practices will now remain as standard going forward.

Bearzilla - raising £256 profit with very little time or effort (if you don't class the trip to Holland it took to purchase - not, by the way, claimed on expenses!), this proved that these types of events are a firm favourite amongst the children. High impact, low effort events such as this should remain a regular (all be it well managed time wise so as to provide variety) occurrence in the FOSPAP calendar.

Space night - This was a tentative step into a new area as it was the first fully educational night held by the current committee. Feedback was mixed - some attendees thought it was fantastic but some were less enthusiastic, with learnings therefore being made around behaviour expectations of children (which can be a challenge when parents are present) and targeting the correct audience age. Funds wise it successfully added £600 into the pot.

Christmas Hamper raffle and summer rainbow raffles - both raffles were amongst our top profit margin events. We were £10 down in the Christmas raffle but £120 up in the rainbow raffle. Donations remained strong with 12 Christmas and 14 rainbow hampers produced. They raised a combined £1732.42

Christmas Cards - sticking to the same format of a dedicated workshop day in school led by Mrs Lloyd was once again a winner for children and volunteers - it was one of our most in demand days volunteer wise. We did see a slight reduction of 4.5 % but this translated as just £13.60.

Christmas/Mothers Day/Fathers Day Shops - we were able to maintain the price point for all these events and we have benefited from making purchases in the sale after the previous years events ended in stores - although storage is a bit of an issue with this. Christmas 2025 saw a recovery from the previous year's reduction, as sales were up by 38%. Mothers day sales were also up by 3% but fathers day saw a 33% decrease. Overall though, combined takings were up by £55.

World Cup Sweepstakes - £219 profit from 2 sweepstakes - tickets sold so well so quickly for the first sweepstake that we duplicated to maximise profits. Although not a massive earner it was well received and offering a free competition in school for the children was extremely well received, The classes were engaged and rose to the challenge of keeping the door posters up to date.

Chocolate sale and Talent show night tuck shop - although small scale events, these were again minimal effort. Engaging yr 6 children to run the chocolate sale enabled product nearing its sell by date to not be wasted with little FOSPAP volunteer requirement. The talent show tuck shop was a lovely addition to the night and was staffed by members of FOSPAP whose children were in the show.

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Summer Fair - our largest event of the year, yielding the biggest profit as steed in the introduction - with a profit margin of 80%. It was well attended by the school community and 6 out of the 7 classes were represented on the day by a parent volunteer stall. FOSPAP provided a bar, BBQ, inflatables, pocket money stall, emergency services visit and the return of the gunging of Mr Power. This type of event remains a high earner and a high attendance event and should be re-considered on potentially a biennial basis.

Match Funding - There has been another successful match funding donation this year from Emmalina Nicholls. The scheduled piece of promo work which was due last half of last year to be used to encourage further support from our parent/carer resource pool) has been delayed whilst we awaited an external company approval to allow us to celebrate their inclusion. This has now been obtained and marketing is now working on this campaign .

Donations - Although there is still a live parentpay link for ad hoc donations to FOSPAP, there have been no deposits this year. The golden bucket has been a regular feature at all events to collect loose change, but has only yielded a disappointing £1.38 this year.

Gift Aid - this year has seen a 78% reduction to just £44

Grants - Natalie Thackray has once again led the charge in this area with 2 successful grants being from Tesco Stronger starts and Benefacto. We have also submitted 2 unsuccessful applications this year. This is an area of focus for the coming year as it estimated that there are 4000 grant funders with a grant market available to PTAs being estimated at approximately £1.5 billion …. Now - whilst I don't think we can aim for 'all' of that, it is clearly an area that is largely untapped by FOSPAP at the moment.

All these events helped to fund the following gains for school:

- HLTA Music lessons
- Reception and Yr 1 rug (hopefully soon to also be Yr 2 if the Spooky Disco sells well)
- DT room updates
- I pads
- Widgit Software
- Football Kit
- Travelling Panto
- Young Voices
- Reception welcome gifts
- Living eggs
- Yr 6 leavers hoodies

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- Holy Communion party
- Yoga
- Generic classroom resources
- SEND resources
- Easter gift for each child
- Christmas cracker for each child

We have also been able to approve a £5000 spend for a new outdoor classroom to include a firepit to benefit all children.

THANK YOUS:

As always the success of FOSPAP depends on the dedication of a wide network of people. This year we would like to thank the following:

Our secretary, Natalie, who continues to keep our meetings organised, manages our communications and ensures everything runs smoothly behind the scenes. The continued success of FOSPAP relies heavily on your time, dedication and innovative ideas.

Our newest committee member Matt, our treasurer. Well done on taking over the reins so smoothly from Emma and maintaining our budget, keeping our books in order and making sure our payments were made! Your financial expertise and hard work make a big impact on our committee.

The school staff who continue to support these events. Mr Power, Mr Holdsworth, Mrs Copsey and Mrs Palyfreyman we recognise and appreciate how much time you all give to support the work we do and we could not operate without your time and effort. Mrs Lloyd also needs a special mention for her behind the scenes planning and on the day delivery of the Cauliflower Christmas card event.

Our class reps - thank you for sharing all the communications with the wider school community and for managing questions and feedback in a professional and efficient manner.

Our marketing team - Jo Cybaniak and Gemma Baldanza! We are now more than a year on from the roll out of our new look and feel branding and it is so successful. Communications are all easily recognisable and always on brand, pitched perfectly to our audience. You continue to do a super job of advertising our events and our achievements.

Our raffle ticket sponsors - SKY21 architects and Bracken Workspace plus - without whom would not have made the hamper raffle events nearly 100% profit based!

Simon Dicknson for continuing to provide his expert crafting skills in producing the welcome gifts and for his unwavering enthusiasm at the bingo evening and the family funday! We are hopeful that, although Izzy may have moved on to St. Mary's, your spangly jacket has not been retired for good and may make a return to a bingo event in the near future!

Our first aid volunteers Shane McLeer, Natalie Watts and Amy Weaver - who have continued to support events this year.

Our school community member who donated £250 for marketing materials for FOSPAP - we are now the proud owners of 2 outdoor/indoor flags, a bar sign and a pull up banner!

Our school community members who have volunteered on an ad-hoc basis and without whom we would not have been able to staff many of our events adequately , we thank you all. The most recent event, the Cauliflower cards day, was one of the best represented by parent volunteers - it ran so smoothly and it was a joy to see so many parents, carers and grandparents be part of the school day for the children.

Our FOSPAP volunteers . Working with you all at our events continues to be an absolute pleasure - you all bring so much fun and commitment to the events you attend/support. Your meeting attendance, ideas and self nominations for tasks are very much appreciated. Thank you all so much for choosing to give FOSPAP some of your valuable time.

WELCOMES:

We want to extend a warm welcome to Fiona Sinfield who joined our team as a volunteer.

CHALLENGES FACED:

We continue to face two main challenges;

1. Rising costs and inflation. Existing annual commitments are continuing to rise in cost as are purchase prices for products. We have weathered the storm this year as our profits have risen, however, as more and more families either continue to or are starting to feel the pinch of living expenses we need to be mindful of the challenges this may present us with. Our hope is that we will continue to raise enough money to still deliver all the agreed annual commitments but we will have to continue to assess on a case by case basis for the foreseeable as the amount of expendable income available to families may reduce. The situation was closely monitored this year and will continue to be going forward and it has been discussed with school that some things may have to be subsidised by parental donations.
2. Volunteer numbers for FOSPAP. Recruitment remains a focus for the third year running. We are pleased that we have had a new member join this year, but more are needed. We have lots of ideas, many of which can not come to fruition so are not brought to the table as the volunteer numbers are just too low. The potential of an 'aspirational idea' targeted fund raising project, such as the replacement of the

trim trail, would require a significant increase in numbers to allow the current programme of events to operate alongside it. At the moment there would be too much responsibility placed on a small number of volunteers to allow it to reach its full potential. We also need to future proof the charity going forward by recruiting members from the younger years in school as 70% of the current volunteer group have children in KS2 only. As was stated in last year's report, support with planning and preparation from more volunteers would reduce the amount that falls to the committee members. The behind the scenes work is already a considerable task for the committee members - and the time available from the committee to spend on FOSPAP has reduced over the past year due to changing circumstances outside of the charity.

3. SSPP staff participation. We would welcome greater involvement from SSPP staff at our events and meetings where possible. Increased staff participation would help us to further strengthen relationships across the school community and support the safe delivery of our activities. We will continue to work closely with the school to ensure appropriate arrangements are in place for medical needs and emergency procedures at FOSPAP events.

TARGETS FOR NEXT YEAR:

An unchanged main target - aim to raise enough funds to be able to fulfil our current annual commitments in these challenging times; Reception welcome gifts, Travelling panto, Young Voices, Yr 6 leavers hoodies, Yr 4 holy communion party, Living eggs, and Yoga.

Introduce an 'aspirational idea' fund raising target where certain events can solely support a particular project for the school.

Increase gift aid donations

Increase match funding applications

Increase grant applications

CURRENT ROLES:

- Co-Chairs – Laura Adams & Hanna Brewis
- Secretary – Natalie Thackray
- Treasurer – Matt Brown
- Class reps – Gemma Baldanza (rec), Hannah Rosebury (yr 1), Amy Can (yr 2), Jo Cybaniak (yr. 3), Laura Adams (yr.4), Gill Crofton (yr. 5), Natalie Watts (yr. 6),
- Marketing team: Jo Cybaniak and Gemma Baldanza
- Volunteers; Avril McLeer, Wayne King, Dave Baxter, Amy Weaver, Helen Phelan, Fiona Sinfield.

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VACANCIES:

Grants officer: Unfortunately we have had no external interest in this role. Natalie Watts has kindly offered to dedicate some of her time to this area between her commitments for post-graduate studies. However as the opportunities are potentially significant in this area, ideally a permanent full time Grants officer would be preferable. This vacancy therefore remains live.

SUCCESSION PLANNING:

To ensure the successful continuation of FOSPAP, one of our focus areas for the upcoming year will be recruitment for the Chair/Co-Chair role. The transition between treasurers was effective and so we would like to mirror this approach. Handover would therefore take a year, with a shadow period of approx 6 months, followed by a handover of responsibility with the exiting Chairs being on hand to mentor for the remaining months prior to official induction at the next AGM.

We also remain committed to encouraging new 'general' members, especially those with children in the lower school years, ensuring the great work of FOSPAP will endure.

CONCLUDING REMARKS;

The figures speak for themselves this year - in times of continued austerity, when every penny spent becomes more considered it is an absolute feat to have raised the phenomenal amount of money that we have.

Behind every event, every drink sold, every burger flipped, every raffle ticket folded and every penny raised is a volunteer or parent who cares about the work we do to enhance the educational experiences of our children. It has been an honour to serve as your co-chairs for this last academic year. Thank you for showing up for our children and let's carry this amazing momentum forward to keep FOSPAP being the successful PTA it has become known as!

Thank you and let's do it all again, - but even bigger and even better!

Best wishes

Laura and Hanna

Co-Chairs, FOSPAP

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ADDENDUM

For those with their finger on the pulse tonight, you may think we have been remiss in our thank yous! You are not wrong - but this particular thank you deserved a section all of its own.

Today we say a final farewell to our amazing Emma Dickinson. Emma joined FOSPAP back in 2022 and took on the role of treasurer soon after. For the past 4 years she has navigated the FOSPAP waters, balancing the books, modernising our ways of working, keeping us financially stable and making sure Mr Power doesn't spend all the funds at once!. She is the queen of spreadsheets, powerpoints, sum up machines and automated spin the wheels…. And what she didn't know about the way to manage a world cup sweepstake was not worth knowing!

She is calm in a crisis (like when sum up machines go down in the middle of your biggest ever fundraiser!), she is a whizz at creating a spreadsheet (- and even better at explaining it in plain English to us), she always remained focused on capitalising on the fund raising opportunities, she wasn't afraid of getting her hands dirty and getting stuck into the not so glamorous behind the scenes requirements (- although she can never now eat mushy peas again) and she provided the best ever meeting venue…..yes - we actually held a planning meeting in a hot tub with prosecco in hand one night!! Her legacy will continue to be seen as she was integral in setting FOSPAP up as a charity, introducing us to the world of gift aid, QR codes, top on payments and much much more!

Emma epitomises the essence of FOSPAP -being part of it is a great way to give back to our school community whilst having fun and making new friends. And Hanna, Natalie and I are so privileged to have travelled alongside her on the FOSPAP journey - we've all learned from her, we've all given back to the school and we have all made a valued and trusted friend in the process! Thank you for all your time, effort, dedication, patience…… and your hot tub and laminator!!

We may have arranged a little whip round for you - and would like you to enjoy these well deserved treats!