



Preston on the Weald Moors

St Lawrence CE Primary School

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'Being the best we can be' Friends of St Lawrence

October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new 2020/2021 school year and a massive thank you for supporting us over the last twelve months with fundraising initiatives and activities to give our children the best possible experience at school. For those of you new to the school this year, we wish you a very warm welcome to the St Lawrence family!

We'd also like to thank our previous committee members for all their effort in arranging and coordinating last years' events. With the exception of one member, last year's committee have decided to stand down, pass over the reins and take a well-deserved break. We wish them all the best!

So, what is the Friends of St Lawrence?

The Friends of St Lawrence or 'Friends' is an organisation dedicated to supporting the education and wellbeing of the children, ensuring they have everything that they want and need during their time at St Lawrence. The Friends is used as a means of bringing about dialogue between the school, parents, carers and anyone else who supports the school, in a friendly and informal atmosphere. The aim is to unite everyone together and help each other understand the requirements for the children, as well as what we can all do to help them.

Why does St Lawrence need the Friends?

As well as the community aspect, the Friends is a vital fundraising mechanism for the school that support the school in being able to deliver things such as:

- Coaches for swimming lessons
- School leavers activities and memorabilia
- Books and other school resources

What can the Friends do during Covid-19 restrictions?

It's a very good question. Obviously, our ability to fundraise this year will be very limited, but we're not going to let that stop us. More details on the current ideas will follow soon, as well as being discussed at the next Friends meeting – please do come along to that as new ideas are always welcome.

What we can focus on this year is using the funding in our reserves to ensure that our children get to do extra activities and have extra treats while they're in school. This is to ensure that we're doing everything that we can to support their mental wellbeing during these difficult times.

The big support item for us this year is to help the school in purchasing 15 laptops to support the children with their Information Technology education, including the use of Seesaw, which by now we're all very familiar with. Now is the time, if you own or work for a company that can help us out with this – please let us know!

Who are the members of the Friends of St Lawrence?

You are! The fact that you've read this far means that you are part of the Friends. The Friends consist of teachers, parents, carers, grandparents, siblings, members of our community and even the family pet! Anyone who is interested in the support of the school and the children is automatically a member of the Friends.

How can I help?

The more of us that support the Friends, the better the standard of support we can give to the school and our children. We're always on the lookout for as much support as we can possibly get. This can be anything from attending a Friends meeting, sharing an idea, donations, giving up some of your time and anything else you can possibly think of. Please come along to the next Friends meeting to find out more or speak to one of the committee members if you see them during school drop-offs and collections.

When is the next Friends meeting?

Friends meetings are currently being held via Zoom. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th December 2020 at 19:30. More information, the agenda and the joining instructions will be issued soon. We look forward to seeing you there!

Who are on the Friends committee?

The committee members, as nominated at the 2020 Annual General Meeting are:

	<p>Name: Julie Jones Role: Chair Parent of: Isabella in Class 2</p>
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Name: Siobhan Francis
Role: Deputy Chair
Parent of: Olly in Class 3



Name: Steve Ashby
Role: Treasurer
Parent of: Sophie in Class 3



Name: Rachel Perry
Role: Secretary
Parent of: Emily in Class 1



Name: Dan Perry
Role: Public Relations
Parent of: Emily in Class 1



Name : Mrs Amanda Care
Role : Communications
St Lawrence Business Manager

That's all for today, we're hoping to send out an online survey during November to also help understand how those of you would like to help out, so please keep a lookout for that as well as the announcements on the upcoming events. Until then, take care!

Kind Regards,

The Friends Committee, on behalf of the Friends of St Lawrence