



**Friends of The
Winchcombe
School**

Registered Charity No 1197925

NEWSLETTER

July 2023 Issue 10

We made it to the end of the school year...

and what a year it's been! This has been only our second full year as a committee and we have surpassed our own expectations in terms of the funds we have raised. We hope you and your children have enjoyed this year's events and thank you all for your continued support.

Summer BBQ: What a day! We were SO lucky with the weather and a fun time was had by all. Thank you to everyone who donated cakes or prizes or helped at the event, to the Police, Fire brigade and Little Hooves for entertaining the children, the student council who ran our games stalls, to everyone for attending and of course our fabulous committee and volunteers who worked so hard for the last few months to make it all happen. We raised over £3,900 which after expenses leaves around £2,600 profit!

Bag2School: Our final bit of fund-raising for the year was our clothing collection last week, which raised £207 - thank you for your donations.

See our email for a full breakdown of how we have raised our funds this year - it makes for interesting reading! We expect our total amount to exceed £25,000 for the year which is 4 times what we raised last year! We of course have expenses to pay for and our total profit for the year is as yet unknown, but it has been an incredibly successful year of fund-raising which has enabled us to donate to the school in lots of ways.

We have already been able to subsidise the pantomime visit last Christmas, supply school bags to the new starters, leavers books for Year 6, Coronation Badges for every pupil in May, £5,000 for the fantastic new playground markings and will now be able to pay £10,000 for the School's share of the new minibus.

A huge part of our success this year is down to match funding and grants. We have received £5,000 from Vodafone employees who have match funded our events, £5,000 from the Greenham Trust, and a huge thank you must go out to the NFU Mutual Hungerford Agency whose staff voted to donate over £3,000 to us from their agency giving fund this year. We also expect to receive donations from Tesco in September, amount TBC, so we are already off to a flying start for the new school year!

We would like to wish good luck to all staff and pupils who are leaving the school this year and of course to Mr Pilsworth for his unwavering support with our fund-raising and for accommodating all of our ideas, however odd they seemed! Best of luck to you all in your future endeavours, from FOWS.

Over the Summer Holidays.....

Tesco Blue Tokens: We are very lucky to have entries in the Tesco Community Grants Scheme in all 3 Newbury stores, Thatcham and Hungerford - anyone making a purchase in store before the end of September can support us by voting for us with blue tokens.

Easy Fundraising: If you shop online this is an easy way to raise money for FoWS. It is free to join, click [here](#) to register and raise money while you shop at no extra cost - including your weekly grocery shop. Refer a friend and earn a £5 bonus.

School Lottery: Why not join our lottery over the summer?! Draws are weekly; take part any time for as long as you like - register [here](#) to choose your lucky numbers. Play weekly by direct debit or choose 'one off payment' for a block of 1, 3, 6 or 12 months.

There is at least 1 winner per school per week, plus the chance of winning the £25,000 jackpot. It's open to all so please share with family and friends to maximise sales - it's a great way to support FoWS and you could be a winner!

WHERE WILL YOUR DONATIONS GO....?

Between The Greenham Trust match funding and the expected donation from the Tesco Community Grants Scheme we will reach our £10,000 target to replace our share of the school minibus much earlier than expected and will be ready to start on a new project in September.

We are also working with Mr Pilsworth and Tesco to create a sensory garden in an area of the school which is currently underutilised. This will be a quiet space for children to use when they feel overwhelmed, and we look forward to telling you more about the project in September.

DID YOU KNOW...?

- ... We have a [page on the school website](#) - find us under the 'Parents' tab
- ... Email us on winchcombefriends@gmail.com
- ... You can follow us on www.facebook.com/FriendsofWinchcombe or join our group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/friendsofthewinchcombeschool>
- ... We welcome all suggestions for fund-raising and other activities.

Have a fabulous Summer holiday, see you in September!