



Friends of St. Helen's Catholic Primary School

FOSH Meeting

Monday 16th December 2024

Present

Eilis Clark – Abdullah (Chair), Renata Gawlik (Secretary), Dominic Clark – Abdullah (Treasurer), Ruby Smith, Irene Solis – Marti, Joy Udem, Ailis Farrell

Welcome

Eilis Clark – Abdullah welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attendance.

Santa Grotto & Christmas Fayre – Revenue and Feedback.

We proudly said that both events have succeeded as our first ones as a FOSH.

Revenue from Santa Grotto and Christmas Fayre was: £ 5 117.43 with a profit of £2 273.43 which is 45% of our fundraising target of £ 5 000 to become a Charity.

We received feedback from 42 parents. 79% of them attended previous events, and 21% were there for the first time.

- **Feedback about Santa Grotto**

Was overall good – we need just communicate to parents that if future grotto will be also on craft day they are allowed to come with their children to the grotto. Because that was during school craft day we missed that point. Also, FOSH would like to decide what crafts will be the best if we would like to sell them on the Christmas Fayre as well with clear communication to parents that they will later be sold at the Christmas Fayre to support fundraising for causes chosen by the school council sponsored by FOSH.

FOSH is taking consideration to do Santa Grotto and Grinch Grotto for those who celebrate Christmas differently. As well as including photos in the ticket price.

- **Feedback about Christmas Fayre**

Overall rating for Christmas Fayre parents said: 38 % excellent. 48% good, with similar numbers for organisation of the event 36% excellent, and 41% good.

- Craft activities and cost of activities were voted overall as good or excellent.
- Cost of food and drinks were overall voted also as good, excellent or satisfactory as well as the quality and variety of food.

- 67 % of parents voted that the Christmas Choir performance was excellent.
- 52 % of parents said that they very likely will attend future events and 31% likely.

We received some constructive feedback about the Christmas Fayre which we will take under consideration for future events.

- We need to clearly communicate that this is a fundraising event where we are raising money for causes showed us by the school council to help them achieve them.
- FOSH needs to work on communication about the time of selling raffle tickets, moving stalls with them more inside the hall, or having two entrances for the event and raffles.
- Also, in the future, we need more kid's hampers, kid's prizes for raffle, as well as normal hampers, which have been overall rated as better than previous years.
- We need to think about extending raffle sales during the week before the actual event day.
- The raffle draw should go live on social media, allowing people who couldn't stay longer to see if they won any prizes, as well as having a screen on the stage to show everything on the screen.
- The PA system needs to be checked to avoid problems during the event. As well as we need some speakers in classrooms with games to play some music and make it more festive.
- We need to focus on advertising – what type of food and drinks we are selling as well as bigger signs and what activities you can find in which class.
- Take some activities outside – create a Christmas Market with different stalls.

Upcoming events

The Committee trustee had met with Liz to confirm the dates and set up some more events to help us achieve our goal of £5000 to get a Charity status.

FOSH planned:

- **7th February 2025 – Disco**

After New Year FOSH would like to organise a Disco which one will be divided into three age groups :

Group 1 – Reception. Y1, Y2

Group 2 – Y3 & Y4

Group 3 – Y5 & Y6

Each group during the disco will have different entertainment.

Ticket for the disco will include drinks and snacks for example: fruit shoot and sweet cone.

Eilis will look for providers for this event. Renia will create a poster.

- **25th & 26th March 2025 Mother's Day**

FOSH would like to do Afternoon Tea with cakes for chosen adult for Mother's Day. Children should be split it by houses to be with their siblings.

Teachers should take kids to the hall to avoid the disappointment that some parents can't make it to this event.

Kids whose parents can't attend will stay in the class and do icing biscuits one will be for them one for the chosen parent as a gift packed in cellophane bags.

- **Easter competition (Bonnet Parade)**

FOSH got the idea that before Easter it would be nice to do some competition for children. FOSH would like to organize an Easter Competition with a Bonnet Parade.

Also, FOSH members had an idea of how to raise more money during this time. We are planning to give all kids tubs of Smarties, with clear communication to parents that if they do some job around the house or help out family and friends they will be paid 20 p per job. They need to fill out the tube after Smarties with those 20p. The year which one brings the most will win a prize for example: tickets to the cinema.

- **Outdoor cinema**

FOSH would like to fill out every term with some events. We would like to offer an outdoor cinema. More information to flow.

- **11th & 12th June 2025 Father's Day**

For Father's Day FOSH would like to organize a similar event to Mother's Day.

- **27th June 2025 KS2 Sport Day 2nd July 2025 KS1 Sport Day and EYFS Sports Afternoon**

Liz asked FOSH for help with organizing a better and bigger sports day. We would love to involve more parents to support their children's houses by taking part in parent's run also organise some picnic on those days.

- **11th July 2025 Summer Fayre**

FOSH would like to change the summer fayre for the Friends Festival with some talent show, live music, activities, games, face painting, and a variety of food. Also as we know kids love inflatables, so we would like to offer inflatables experience for all kids during the school day but set up at the end of academic year as a treat for all their hard work not as a part of the Festival.

How we build a community – list of skills and volunteers.

All FOSH members agreed that without volunteers we can't achieve our goal which is to help the school council realize their projects as well as become a Charity and grow in our community. We need to create a list of volunteers organised by the skills and ability to help us as well as we need make sure that our communication with them is clear to avoid delays and unexpected gaps with running events. events

Banking update – Dominic Clark- Abdullah

- Still waiting for internet banking but all transition from old PTFA to FOSH is done successfully.

AOB

- FOSH had also some great ideas about events in the next academic year which should be planned after the summer fayre for example: Quiz night, Light Party, or Teachers Day as well as AGM should be done before the next academic year.

Next meeting: Monday, 13th January 2025