



Friends of St Chad's CE Primary school

A warm welcome to your Friends Association.

We'll keep this brief because we know you already have a lot to do before you join our school community. But, since we're a friendly bunch, we'd really like to introduce ourselves and tell you some key information about The Friends of St Chad's, how you can help us, and what's in it for you.

Why does the school have The Friends?

Our group is called **ST CHAD'S PATCHWAY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL FRIENDS ASSOCIATION** and has been running for 32 years. This Committee have been running it for the past 2 years. We're a lively group of volunteers. The main function of the friends is to support the school by raising as much money as we can to enhance, enrich and improve learning experiences for our children. We also provide those 'little extras' that make school memorable, such as Disco's, Movie nights, Fayres, the list goes on.

We also exist to bring the communities of school and home closer together because it makes sense for parents to be involved in the life of their chosen school.

Lastly, we're here for the simple reason that we want to get together socially, meet new people and have fun!

The Friends is run by a committee who are all volunteers.

Rianne Nichols - Co- Chairperson - Dog Trainer and Dog walker

Jo Barrs - Vice Chairperson Hair stylist and owner of JB hairdressing

Rosemarie Isaac - Charity Secretary - Payroll administrator

Laura Adamson - Media Representative - Data Engineer

Eleanor Mockridge - Personal Relations Representative - A school teacher

John Gilchrist - Treasurer - grandparent of a pupil

Louise Wilcox - Committee Member - Pharmacist

We also have an amazing team of volunteers to help at our events, which we would be lost without- **Trudy, Natasha, Ellen, Naomi, Kelly and Aimee.**

We might sound like an abstract group of people, but we're parents, carers, friends and allies – just like you. Not so long ago, we were new too



Recent events held and how much we raised



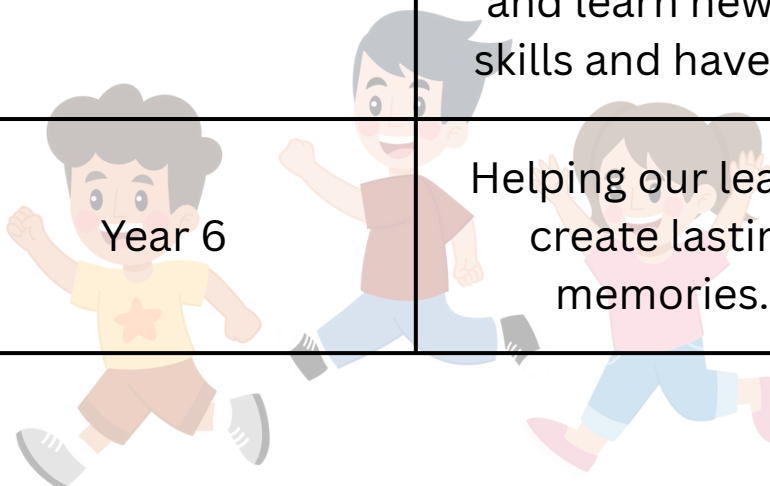
Sponsored Run £ 2,380.40
Mother's Day Pop Up Shop £ 568.20
Easter bonnet competition £ 30.10
Summer Fayre £1,233.49

We've also held the following events: Christmas movie night, children's disco, non-uniform days and termly pop up shops.

What the Friends have funded for so far this year.

We always try to respond when asked to help the school, and after the work is done, it's so rewarding to see the children enjoy new resources and equipment provided by the Friends.

What did we buy?	Who for?	What were the benefits?
Re-tarmacing part of the play ground.	All the children	Keep the children safe so they can play in the playground
Year 6 coach - we paid half of the cost	Year 6	Helping the year 6 students go on camp and learn new life skills and have fun.
Year 6 Leavers books	Year 6	Helping our leavers create lasting memories.



How we keep you up-to-date with our activities.

Social Media	We post notices about all upcoming meetings on our Facebook and Instagram page as well as reminders about events and requests for volunteers. we also use Class Dojo and Arbor.
Book bags	We put flyers, sponsor forms and notices in book bags.
Newsletter	We have a newsletter once a term which we share on Arbor
Noticeboard	The Friends noticeboard is in the shelter as you walk through the school gates.



What are we raising money for next?

The Friends of St Chad's are hoping to help raise £30,000 to create a unique Forestry school and creative play area. This innovative space will blend the beauty of nature with the joy of creative play, providing a safe and inspiring environment for our pupils.

Why a forestry and creative play area is important :-

Educational Opportunities:

Our school would be able to offer hands-on learning experiences about forestry, sustainability, and the environment. Children would be able to engage in activities that foster a love for nature and an understanding of ecological balance.

Creative Play:

At St Chads CE VC Patchway primary school we believe in the power of play to stimulate creativity and imagination. Our Forestry would feature interactive play areas designed to encourage artistic expression and collaborative projects.

Sustainability:

The funds we raise will help us build eco-friendly facilities using sustainable materials and practices. We are committed to creating a space that respects and preserves the natural environment.

How You Can Help:

Your donations will directly contribute to the construction and development of the Forestry School and creative play area, whether it being financial support or donating your time or trade skills. Every contribution, no matter the size, brings us one step closer to making this dream a reality for our children. Together, we can create a space where nature and creativity thrive.

How you can get involved

The more people who become involved, the more we can achieve, and the easier it will be.

Even if you have younger children at home, or only a small amount of time, you could; come to a meeting, help set up an event, serve food or design a poster? Perhaps you have a professional skill you could help us out with? You don't have to come into the school. Many of our volunteering tasks can be done from home.

Contact details

We'd love to hear from you. **Rianne Nichols** has offered to be a contact for all new parents wanting information about the Friends. If you have any questions, you can email her at friendsofstchadspatchway@gmail.com

How you can support us right now.

Did you know that you can start fundraising even if you can't join the Friends? Scan this **Easyfundraising** QR code and when you do any form of on-line shopping you can get donations towards our school at no extra cost to yourselves.

