

Chair's Report 2023

I am pleased to present the Annual General Meeting (AGM) report for Oaklands Friends' and Parents' Association for the year 2023.

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to all OFPA members for their unwavering support and dedication throughout the year and to all those in the school community who continue to support us.

This year, we were delighted to have the opportunity to hold face-to-face meetings and support events within our school community, fostering a real sense of belonging and positivity for the coming year.

Our vision of raising those additional funds for the school and supporting the needs of the parents, carers and pupils within Oaklands remains at the forefront of our activities. We acknowledge that all this would not be possible without the support of all Oaklands staff too.

Achievements for the Year:

1. Continued Growth of Pre-Loved Uniforms:
Our commitment to the growth of the pre-loved uniform initiative remains at the forefront of our vision, with funds generated £2,809.66
2. Successful Use of Sum Up for Online Payments:
The integration of Sum Up for online payments has been well received by all, streamlining our financial processes.
3. Support for School Initiatives:
We provided vital support for school initiatives, including the funding of backpacks and tents for the Duke of Edinburgh program, table tennis equipment for the sports department, a safe space and quiet zone for pupils, RE artefacts, and cooking equipment for the Domestic Science Department.
4. Community Involvement:
We donated £500 to the Alan Hammond memorial area.
We successfully launched the pre-loved Prom attire sale and aim for this to be rolled out in some form over the next year.

Regrettably, the proposed summer music event had to be cancelled due to low ticket sales which posed a challenge for us but this initiated the process of the OFPA parent questionnaire.

Our parent questionnaire received 106 responses, with Pre-Loved uniforms and refreshments topping the list of interests. Over 50% of respondents expressed interest in a future summer event, particularly a family-oriented one. We will take this into consideration as we plan our events for this coming year.

Many thanks to all who have supported our events, donated uniform items, prom dresses and suits and we warmly welcome any new faces to the committee as we need your talents, skills and enthusiasm.

The committee have some changes again this year. We bid a fond farewell to Sandra Coles and express our gratitude for her invaluable contributions in communications and A-team management.

As Chair I thank Andrea Hills, Caroline Rose, Maria Howells, Timea Iacob, Hazel Duffy and Nicky Tricker who continue year on year to devote their own time. As a committee we extend our deepest thanks to Sarah Mann for her constant support, dedication, and hard work in supporting us with the invaluable link to the school.

A warm welcome to our two new members, Antoinette Cyriaano and Alanna White, who have joined our team. We are excited to have them on board.

Finally, we express our gratitude to Marc Evans, who recently stepped down as the Chair of Governors, and extend a warm welcome to Liz Cluett, our new Chair of Governors who we look forward to journeying alongside over this coming year.

In closing, as a committee will strive to look forward to another year of growth, collaboration, and success. With the continued support of our members, new faces on board, we are confident that we can achieve our goals for the benefit of Oaklands Catholic School and its community.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment and dedication to OFPA.
God bless.

Nicky Woolhead
Chair, Oaklands Friends and Parents Association