

That's a wrap, folks! Another school year has come to an end, and what a year it's been! So much has changed at Woodlea, and we have watched with the rest of the parent community, as the school has developed and improved over the last 12 months. As a PTFA we have loved working with Mrs Oliver this term, and we are excited to support her with all the exciting plans she has for Woodlea next year and beyond. At our first meeting of the summer term, Mrs Oliver proposed her vision to convert the current Music/Drama room in to a bigger and better school library. This is a huge (by which we mean *expensive!*) project, with a total cost of over £15,000. So, it was all hands to the deck to raise funds this term. Read on to find out what we've been up to.



Summer Fair Success! We had an amazing day at our summer fair. There was so much to do from the games, the inflatables, the animals, food and drink, story time, face paints, glitter tattoos, crafts... And we even convinced the sun to shine in the afternoon too!

The fair was well supported by local businesses, and we were able to raise over £800 in sponsorship. We are very grateful to the Whitehill and Bordon Town Partnership, who provided us with power generators for the inflatables.

We couldn't put on such a full event without a team of volunteers. If you or your child are one of the wonderful people who gave your time to run a game or stall then THANK YOU!! With your help we broke the FOWS events record, and raised a whopping **£2610.00** to go towards Woodlea's new library!

Ain't no party like an Ice Cream party! Last Friday we had our first ever ice cream social. It was *hot hot hot!* Thank you to everyone who stayed to sweat it out in the queue for the Dylan's van. The success of this event was due to the support of our community, including Woodlea's fantastic Year 4 children who helped to set up the whole event - We would not have been ready for everyone at 3:15 without them.

WBTP lent us their slushie machine, which was a big hit with the pupils. And of course, we must say a huge thank you to Dylan's Ice Cream, who produced a Felix Fox inspired "Woodlea Special" and also generously donated 15% of their profits to FOWS. We drew our Summer Treats raffle, which had 20 prizes donated by local businesses. (All winners have been contacted.) And also our annual Volunteers Raffle, for everyone who has given their time to help this year.

The event made £244.50, plus £210 from the raffle, raising a **total of £454.50!**



Contact FOWS...

Please get in touch by emailing fowswoodlea@gmail.com or send a DM via our [Facebook](#) page. You can also stay up to date with by visiting our [Website](#)



NameTags4U - FOWS are partnered with NameTags4u, who provide a range of quality products to name your child's uniform and equipment. So, when your child forgets to pick up their brand new jumper after break time, or accidentally puts their PE shirt into another child's bag, it will quickly find its way back to you. All name labels can be designed with funky fonts, bright colours, and fun pictures to help younger children identify their things too.

Woodlea parents get a 5% discount and FOWS will earn a 20% commission from every order made. Double win!! To take advantage of this, **please use our [unique affiliate web link](#) and apply the discount code "FOWS" at the checkout.**



Free Donations! Don't forget, you can raise funds by doing absolutely nothing, and without it costing you penny!

- ☆ **EasyFundraising.org.uk:** You can raise a donation whenever you shop online! Register by clicking [here](#).
- ☆ Use our **textiles bank** to recycle clothes, bedding, accessories and soft toys.
- ☆ Recycle your **empty ink cartridges** and put them in the box under the desk at the school reception window.



Superman Gift Shop: The pupils enjoyed visiting our annual pop-up shop to choose a gift for the Superman/men in their lives. The level of thought and care that went in to each gift selection was truly heartwarming.

113 children and 157 gifts later, this in-school event raised **£274.00**.

Are you a Superhero? The FOWS committee is made up of working parents, and as such it can be difficult to cover events that take place during the school day. If you are a SAHP, WFH with flexible timings, or work part time, and can help at either of our gift events next year we'd love to hear from you. We are also going to explore alternative ways for the children to celebrate these special days. **If you have any suggestions please put them forward. We'd love to hear from you.**

Whitehill & Bordon Community Trust Family Fun Day: Naomi, Jenny, and Mrs Duffield were busy making the world a more sparkly place by giving glitter tattoos at the WBCT Family Funday at Hogmoor Inclosure on Sunday. We also offered some craft activities and a small pocket money toy shop. The event was lots of fun and we loved being able to chat with families from Woodlea and with others in our local community while raising another **£114.50** for the library fund!



We need you! As children grow and change, so does the PTA team. Each year at our AGM the current group stands down a new team is elected, with some returning members and some brand new recruits.

The role of the PTA is to provide activities and events that strengthen our community, while also bringing in additional funds to support and enhance the educational experience of our children. With so many exciting changes in Woodlea's imminent future, now is a fantastic time to join. By becoming a member, you will have the opportunity to collaborate with staff, pupils, and other parents to support school programs, organise events, and fundraise for essential resources. Your involvement can make a significant difference. If you would like to find out about taking a more active role in the team please let us know, and we will answer any questions you may have.

Our AGM will be taking place on Friday 20th September.

WE NEED YOU

FOWS Myth Busters!

Myth 1: The PTA is cliquy.

Fact: FOWS is a welcoming, friendly group that want to create enjoyable, social ways to create life long memories and raise funds that will benefit all the children. It's a fab way of getting to know other parents in the school, and get to know the teachers and staff better too.

Myth 2: I work, so I don't have time to help.

Fact: 5 out of 6 of our current team are working parents. But having different schedules and commitments can be an advantage, as it allows people to contribute in more diverse ways. Whether it's making posters, approaching local businesses for sponsorship, online shopping, or folding raffle tickets in front of the tv, there's plenty of ways to help.

Myth 3: You have to go to every meeting and every event.

Fact: Attending a meeting doesn't commit you for life, and you can walk away with your diary intact! While our event volunteers are a vital, you can support FOWS in others ways too and there's no obligation to say yes to everything.

Myth 4: The PTFA is just for mums.

Fact: In addition to parents – Mums **and** Dads – carers, grandparents, aunties, uncles and adult siblings are all welcome. As a "friends of" association, members of the local community can also join and help run the organisation too.

Myth 5: I can't come in during school hours, so I can't help at events.

Fact: No worries! FOWS volunteering opportunities extend beyond the school day, and most activities kick off after pick-up or at weekend. Even if you can't help set up, there are many ways to help during and afterwards when it's time to clear up.

Myth 6: I have to be on the committee to help with FOWS.

Fact: If you have a child in the school, you're already part of the FOWS community. The Chair, Secretary and Treasurer are elected officers, and our "Ordinary Committee Members" are also elected trustees who get to vote on how we allocate funds. But the amazing people who lend a hand elsewhere are invaluable, and you don't need an official title to take part!

Myth 7: I have small children, and they will make too much noise during meetings.

Fact: Children bring their own soundtrack! Our meetings are often in the evening, and there's always an option to join online if you can't get childcare. Don't worry about the background noise; We get it - We're all parents too!

Myth 8: The PTA have all the help they need – my participation won't make a difference.

Fact: This is the biggest myth of the lot! Your involvement isn't just wanted, it's absolutely vital! Whether you can spare a little time or a lot, your support truly matters. Without enough volunteers, events are at risk of cancellation and our memory-making activities and fundraisers can't happen.

Myth 9: The school will provide the same education for my child whether I join FOWS or not.

Fact: Your involvement in the PTA will open the door to enhanced experiences and opportunities for every child in the school, including yours. FOWS funds enrich the learning environment, buy extra resources and organise fun events that positively impact your child's educational journey. Joining the PTA allows you to play a direct role in shaping these additional aspects of their school experience.

Myth 10: I can only join a PTA at the beginning of the school year.

Fact: Trustees are voted in at our AGM in September, but you can start volunteering and/or join the team as a "co-opted member at any time. Just let us know you that to help and we'll be delighted to welcome another member of the team at any time!

Myth 11: Meetings go on forever!

Fact: The nuts and bolts of our meetings usually take just over an hour, depending on the scale of event we're planning at the time. But they are very social things too so there's usually some chit-chat before and afterwards. If you have to arrive late or leave early that's absolutely fine! You do you!

Myth 12: Coming to a meeting for the first time is intimidating.

Fact: Yes, it can be! But everyone there has been in your shoes. Rest assured, we're just a normal bunch of people with a shared mission: creating fun activities for the kids and raising essential funds for the school. Be brave, and you'll soon see that being part of our meetings is like catching up with friends – relaxed, open and free of intimidation.