



FRIENDS OF FERNHURST SCHOOL

FOFS AGM NEWSLETTER

Friends of Fernhurst School | Meeting notes and plans • 30 September 2026

Working together for a brilliant school community

A roundup of the people, events, ideas and next steps discussed at the FOFS AGM.

At a glance

- **Coming up:** Christmas Fair on Sunday 29 November and Wreath Making on Wednesday 2 December (date and details TBC).
- **Looking ahead:** Spring Bake Sale in February (Valentine's theme), Revels on 16 May and the Colour Challenge at the end of May.
- **Big conversation:** creating more shade and imaginative outdoor play opportunities for children.
- **Get involved:** FOFS events rely on volunteers, ideas and community support.

Thank you to everyone who gives their time and energy to FOFS. Every event and contribution helps support Fernhurst School.

Who does what

Roles and areas of responsibility

Role / area	Person(s) / team	Additional jobs	Lead
■ Chair	Kat	Mufti posters (every half term)	Hope & Adam
■ Treasurer	James and Tess to hand over to Kirstie & Hope (J&T; leaving next year)	Cauliflower cards	Kat & Alice
■ Community Engagement	Claire and Kat	Drinks truck – Sports Day	Kat
■ Revels Lead	Hope & Aly	Parent-kind insurance	James to hand over to Kirstie & Hope
■ Christmas Wreaths	Alex & Emilia	Cups & ice	Tess
■ Disco	Rachel & Tess – Dan to shadow this year and join team next year.	Gambling licence	Treasurer
■ Sponsorship	Beth	Alcohol licence	Treasurer
■ Christmas Fair	Kat, Tess, Hope	Socials	Tess to hand over to Aly
■ Summer Fair	Claire & Hope	Tea Towels	Hope & Aly
■ Bar Crew	Beth & Johnny	Website	Adam
■■■■ Chefs	Stan & Gareth	Event/Comms Posters	Adam
■ Colour Challenge	Rachel, Emma, Emilia	Tea Towels	Aly and Hope
■ Cake Sales	Surene	Socials	Aly and Tess
■ Freeze-Pop Friday	Mel		
■ Uniform	Emilia & Aly		
Socials	Aly and Tess		

Events calendar

Dates and details from the AGM notes

Event	When	Lead	Notes
Autumn Bake Sale	TBC next half term	Surene	Not on a Friday, so resale can happen the next day.
Christmas Fair	Sunday 29 November	Kat, Tess & Hope	
Wreath Making	Wednesday 2 December, 7–9pm Date TBC	Emilia & Alex	Details to be confirmed with Alex.
January FOFS Meeting	Wednesday 20 January	Kat	
Spring Bake Sale	February (date TBC)	Surene	Valentine's theme; not on a Friday so resale can happen the next day.
Revels	16 May	Hope & Aly	
Colour Challenge	End of May; Friday after SATS, or combine with Summer Fair	Rachel, Emma & Emilia	Bramdean sponsorship confirmed for paint and medals.

Event reminders

- Under new guidelines we require two green lanyard wearers per room, red lanyard volunteers will then be accompanied by red lanyard holders.
- Safeguarding training is scheduled for 13 October. Please ensure all DBS parents have completed their training and are up to date.

Ideas, priorities & next steps

Discussion highlights from the AGM

Playground, shade and fundraising

- Agree what to fundraise for through Revels. Ideas included a stretch tent or field shade, and improving playground and outdoor areas to encourage imaginative play.
- Potential marquee/field fundraising target: around £5,000–£10,000. Claire to look into shade options.
- Beth to investigate grants for playground updates.
- Funding requests and ideas included shade, an updated Amazon Wishlist, imaginative play equipment (such as a boat or pirate ship), a stage/amphitheatre under the trees, a tree-house platform and den-building kits.
- Children could be invited to design their dream playground or vote on upgrade ideas. Beth to look into grants; Hope to liaise with Mrs Bennett-Brown. Young Governors was also raised.

Events and community ideas

- Christmas shoe boxes were suggested as a possible idea for next year, either one box per classroom or individual boxes.
- Movie and pizza nights at the village hall: explore a £100 movie licence, consult Stan on food options and confirm screening equipment. Kat to lead.
- Suggested ideas included a quiz night (Claire & Harry to consider), a Christmas jumper swap day tied in with a bake sale (Surene), and a step challenge with parent sign-ups and possible fines for missed daily challenges.
- Explore sports sponsorships by asking parents taking part in sponsored events to choose FOFS as their charity, and ask whether employers can match event donations.
- Community calendar for village events and possible collaboration with the horticultural society on planters outside school. Claire to explore a Google Calendar or partnership.

Uniform, tea towels and sponsorship

- Uniform sale: remind parents through the newsletter that uniform is available. Consider a swap outside classrooms in the last week of term; non-branded items free to swap, branded items for sale. A playground sale could return, with stock also brought to cake sales and fairs.
- Tea towels: Aly & Hope to speak to Tess and Mrs Bennett-Brown.
- Beth to alert Ms Allen when items are needed for Fernhurst News. Adam to create a sponsorship request poster; Beth to share a list of sponsorship needs.

Keeping everyone connected

Communications and practical follow-ups

FOFS website and parent communications

- Ask the school to update its FOFS page.
- Adam to add the Amazon Wishlist and a volunteer sign-up page to the FOFS website.
- Look into a FOFS noticeboard by the entrance fence.
- Use the PTA more for parent communications and send an updated “About our PTA” email asking parents to sign up to the mailing list.
- Monthly newsletter: Kat and Adam can help gather and share information.

Licences and administration

- Movie licence: investigate the £100 licence for movie and pizza nights and the Christmas Fair.
- ParentKind insurance handover: James to hand over to Kirstie & Hope.
- Gambling and alcohol licences are listed under the Treasurer’s responsibilities.

Have an idea or a little time to spare?

FOFS welcomes help with events, fundraising, communications and ideas for making the school environment even better. Get in touch with the FOFS team through the school's usual parent channels.

Friends of Fernhurst School

Thank you for being part of our school community.