

# FroGS AGM 14th October 2022

## Present:

Sophie Stainer – School representative  
Saz - Chair  
Tanya – Treasurer  
Nadia Sherriff  
Libby Gassor  
Symona Maciejewski  
Vic Walton  
Jenny Cunningham  
Rachel (Reception)  
Charlotte (Reception)

## Apologies:

Caroline Tomlinson  
Layla Jury

## Agenda:

**Welcome and Apologies**

**Chair Report**

**Treasurer Report - Financial Report 2021-2022**

**Strategy/Fundraising proposal for this Year September 2022-July 2023**

**Wish List**

**Constitution Amendments**

**Elections**

**Any Other Business**

## 1) Welcome and Apologies

Caroline Tomlinson is unfortunately unable to attend today's meeting, so we welcome Sophie Stainer as the School representative for today's meeting. All those present introduced themselves, explained who their little ones are/which year they are in and explained their role in FroGS.

## 2) Chair Report

We were delighted to be able to fundraise last year, but most importantly be back in School and back together!! September 2021 till July 2022 was a much better year than the previous year with a return to some normality. We ran nearly 20 fundraising events, although unfortunately we had to cancel both of our biggest fundraising events, Christmas Fayre was cancelled due to Covid19 and our Summer Disco/Raffle due to the Amber Weather Warning/School closure.

We started the Autumn and Winter terms with our very popular hot chocolate and cookie café. Christmas fundraisers included the Nativity programme, Nativity DVD and Christmas card fundraisers. We would not be totally beaten by Covid19 and so hosted a few of our Christmas Fayre stalls; the chocolate tombola, bottle tombola and a few small games in the freshness of outdoors. We are always so lucky to be supported by so many local businesses and we have the most amazing long list of Raffle prizes, and this year was no exception!

Quiz night was on then off and then on and then off! It was worth the wait; we had an amazing evening in the Swan pub with our superb quiz hosts. The Quiz was a community event open to school families and the village community. Turned out that the quiz was packed full and we were searching for extra seats and tables!! It was a fabulous evening, just a little healthy competition and it was not a fix that the Teachers and Governors won!

FroGS were able to provide a day full of teaching from UK Astronomy for each year group. We received great feedback from all the children. It was a brand-new fundraiser in the evening which invited families into school for a talk and supper. It was sold out within hours of tickets opening for bookings!! We cooked more jacket potatoes than we could count and despite a cloudy evening, it was greatly enjoyed by the children and the big kids.

We were keen to support fundraising for the Ukraine and so ran a cake sale with all monies raised going to the Ukraine. Absolutely yummy and such amazing support from our parents and families.

It was great to be back in school – not only fundraising but also having fun. It was great to see their excitement when we did the Easter egg hunt and when we set up some good old fashioned fete games in the playground for the Queen's Jubilee. FroGS were more than happy to purchase chocolate treats at Easter and Christmas crackers for their Christmas lunch. At Christmas FroGS purchased The North Pole Books and pupils were able to visit a Christmassy Story Corner. The favourite treat this year was the online panto which was enjoyed by the whole School – oh no it wasn't... oh yes it was!

We have also enjoyed seeing and joining in with the littlest pupils in Muddy Boots and supporting the toddler group which started. This is now a super popular group thanks to the FroGS that have helped. We look forward to welcoming these littlest ones to our fun events this year.

FroGS found themselves helping in the library. On the teacher's wish list was to provide the library with a brand new system and we were really keen to fund this project to benefit the whole School. The ESS Library Software system was purchased followed by many volunteered hours firstly organising the library and with love and care individually labelling each book before scanning it onto the system.

FroGS also extended their talents to a school spruce up – trimming the willow tunnel, a spot of gardening and weeding plus some tidying up. We were also delighted to take part in the BBC's Countryfile project helping Grendon to plant a new community wood in the playing field.

Special thanks to Wendy Kerr for her energy, initiative and for continuing to give the pupils at Grendon the most amazing opportunity for outdoor learning. Thank you to the Sherriffs' and Libby Gassor who spent many hours in the cold helping with planting.

Thank you to our Treasurer Tanya for taking FroGS into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century! We went digital with the introduction of online payments. After a few glitches we now have helped make parents' lives a little easier.

Video collage of all the events and fun we had.

### **3) Treasurer Report - see attached report.**

We have raised a similar amount last year, £5,075.10, which is a very healthy amount. It was a significant loss being unable to run our two biggest fundraisers, however, the funds raised were very similar to previous years.

We are very pleased to say that all the money raised has been spent to benefit the pupils of Grendon.

The biggest fundraisers were the Christmas Raffle £686 followed by the Halloween Disco £665

Whilst we weren't able to have our Christmas Fayre the chocolate tombola, bottle tombola and Christmas games raised £280.40

On the first Friday of each month we held the second hand School uniform shop which raised £362.05.

Bag2School is a scheme whereby unwanted clothes, curtains, pairs of shoes are brought into School and a payment is made to the School – we had multiple collections which in total raised £323.00

We discussed all the items that can be collected <https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect>

Food is always great for fundraising - ice lolly sales in the summer, tuck shops, cake sales and bacon sandwiches on sports day! Thanks to Symona for her amazing cake bakes – we are already looking forward to this years.

Easyfundrasing is a quick and easy way to raise funds, we received £149.44 from parents doing their normal online shopping just clicking on the Easyfundraising App [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofgrendonunderwood/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_source=social&utm\\_medium=whatsapp&utm\\_content=fdrq22-w1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofgrendonunderwood/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_source=social&utm_medium=whatsapp&utm_content=fdrq22-w1)

All the funds we raised last year were spent with our mission to benefit the whole school as much as possible.

Last year we purchased 10 Lenovo Chromebooks, this has meant there are enough for each child for every year group. FroGS were asked to provide a chromebook trolley for the safe storage of all the Chromebooks purchased this and last year. It has meant that they can be charged and ready to use for the next year group and moved easily around classrooms. It was our biggest purchase at £970 and is well received by the staff and pupils.

Reading and the library were top of the list this year. We purchased Big Six Books for each class £292.95 to supplement and increase diversity of the reading books available. The North Pole Books cost £148.79 for a special Christmas treat. An investment of £995.00 was made to improve the library by using ESS library software which logs each book in/out of the library so books can be shared easily. Each child will have an individual account with reading books logged to assist teachers. Sophie said this has been a great help to see where all the books are and to help log what each child is reading and is used all the time in school.

We have previously invested in the playground, so we decided to give funds to a variety of requests from the children's wish list. We felt this would benefit the whole school and enhance their break and lunchtimes. The School Council asked for £250 to provide a variety of playground equipment including skipping ropes, balance boards and balls. We were also asked to purchase rubbish bins for the playground to assist the children with looking after their playground and supporting the schools recycling policy and for £352.00 we managed to purchase several frog style bins. We also purchased a beautifully crafted bench with a play table as the table top to enable more outdoor sitting space.

Our contribution to the music department included purchasing 7 Glockenspiels £132.93.

Year 6 were as always provided with their leavers book and a special treat of a gorgeous balloon arch for their leavers assembly.

A big thank you to Kerry @Sleepyheadzz for the awesome leavers balloon arch!

The cost for BOPP was confirmed as £19.25 for the year and this was agreed to be a good investment for the ease of payments it brings to parents.

#### **4) Strategy/Fundraising proposal Sept 2022-July 2023**

We are very much hoping that we will be able to run all our events this year – we are super keen to be able to run our Christmas Fayre

##### **September 2022**

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September – School Uniform Shop

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September – Rescheduled Summer Raffle Prize Draw

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September – FroGS Meeting 9am School Restaurant

##### **October 2022**

7<sup>th</sup> October – Hot Chocolate Cafe

7<sup>th</sup> October – School Uniform Shop

14<sup>th</sup> October – Frogs AGM

20<sup>th</sup> October – Halloween Disco (Rescheduled summer disco)

##### **November 2022**

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Bags2School

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November – School Uniform Shop

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November – Open morning 9.30-12pm FroGS volunteer teas/coffee

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Nursery Rhyme Week – Reception and Year 1 Music Bugs in Pjs

FroGS provide hot chocolates 6pm for younger ones and 5-6pm for older ones?

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November – Open morning 10am-12pm FroGS volunteer teas/coffee

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November – Open afternoon 1.30-3pm FroGS volunteer teas/coffee

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November – FroGS Christmas Mufti – bottle donation

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November – FroGS Meeting 9am School Restaurant

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November – School Autumn Tidy Up Day – FroGS to provide teas/coffees and bacon sandwiches

Week commencing 28<sup>th</sup> November Christmas cake competition – cakes for fayre

**Arts project for School – Christmas cards deadline for orders 15<sup>th</sup> November with estimated despatch 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

##### **December 2022**

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Christmas Fayre 3.15pm till 5.30pm

6<sup>th</sup> December – WHOLE school pantomime trip to The Waterside Theatre

14<sup>th</sup> December – School Nativity

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Christmas Fayre 3.15pm till 5.30pm

With School Uniform Shop, Christmas Jumper Sale,

Christmas Raffle – Hampers – Charitable Donation letter was handed out for everyone to ask local business for gifts for hamper, prizes for raffle or gift vouchers

Suggested to have performances from Young Voices, Nativity Song, performance of children learning an instrument with XYZ

Teachers would prefer to run games as the time taken for the Crafts is difficult to fit in – suggestion for children to decorate a Christmas decoration Sophie to discuss with teachers.

Discussion of events for 2023 was brief due to time available to discuss. We agreed to meet again to discuss in more detail both the Christmas Fayre and also the 2023 events.

### **January 2023**

### **February 2023**

3<sup>rd</sup> February – Quiz Night Booked

### **March 2023**

Film Night

### **April 2023**

Easter Bingo 6pm till 7.30pm – event with parents and children

### **May 2023**

Community Café including WI/Church – sandwiches and cake or cream tea and scones

### **June 2023**

15<sup>th</sup> June - Party in the Playground

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June – GrendonFest**

### **July 2023**

## **5) Wish List**

Whole School Pantomime this Christmas has been agreed prior to this meeting

Teachers wish list also includes

- Two tonnes of bark
- Muddy Boots Outdoor clothes
- Balancing scales
- Ukuleles (£900)
- The Big Six (£300)
- Anemometer
- Well Being Garden (Last year FroGS agreed for £1,500 to be put down on the application form for the Grant)

Everyone present agreed to purchase the above items where funds are available. There were no objections. All items were deemed to benefit the whole School. The whole school trip whilst a significant cost to FroGS would be the main focus of fundraising for the Autumn and Winter terms. It was agreed that this whole school trip is a great opportunity for all children many children may never have seen a Pantomime and it would be a wonderful treat for them this Christmas time.

## **6) Constitution Amendments**

The current constitution will need to be updated with the new Head of Grendon School Caroline Tomlinson and we will need to update with the committee changes following the election of roles as stated below

## 7) Elections

The following committee changes were proposed and all present at the meeting agreed the following Committee members for the Academic Year September 2022-2023 – all in favour – all agreed

Head: Caroline Tomlinson

Chair – re-elected current Chair Saz Sunthareswaran

Deputy Chair – Jen Cunningham to step down. Nadia Sherriff was nominated by Saz Sunthareswaran and elected

Treasurer – re-elected current Treasurer Tanya Arshad and Libby Gassor was nominated by Jen Cunningham to work alongside Tanya who will leave at the end of the year July 2022.

We agreed a long handover period would be beneficial. A HUGE thank you to Tanya for all she has done and continues to do, an amazing job!!

Secretary – Yvonne Dennis has now left the school as a parent. Jen Cunningham was nominated by Saz Sunthareswaran and was Jen was elected as Secretary.

## 8) Any Other Business

Reserve fund – it was discussed if FroGS need to have a contingency fund for the School in view of the economic crisis. It was discussed that FroGS would not be responsible for any utility bills and grants should be available. Tanya confirmed that there is a small reserve in the FroGS account which is always kept for any purchases in advance. So far FroGS have each year been able to fulfil the wish list for the School due to fantastic support received from our families and the Community.