

FRIENDS OF BALCOMBE SCHOOL

Quarterly Newsletter of the Friends of Balcombe School (PTA)

UPCOMING EVENTS & KEY DATES

MOVIE NIGHT

FRIDAY 19TH APRIL

GROW YOUR £2

MONDAY 20TH MAY

NEW PARENT DRINKS

THURSDAY 6TH JUNE

MINI ENTREPRENEUR SALE

MONDAY 17TH JUNE

SPORTS DAY ICE CREAM
SALE

WEDNESDAY 19TH JUNE

SUMMER FAIR &
COLOUR RUN

SATURDAY 22ND JUNE



Welcome to our Quarterly newsletter.

We're really grateful for all of your support so far and extremely proud to have already raised over £4,500 for Balcombe School this school year.

We kicked off the school year with the AGM. We were delighted by how many of you attended and also volunteered to own and run small events throughout the year.

We held a sponsored walk and thanks to your generous sponsorship, raised over £600 which we were able to spend on redeveloping the library and purchasing new books.

We held a Christmas Wreath Making Workshop, a wonderful evening of mindful crafting and catching up with friends. Followed shortly after by the Christmas Fair, one of our biggest events of the year and a truly memorable experience.

Next was the Curry & Quiz night which raised over £1,300 this year. Special thanks to Becca Yorke who ran the prize balloons at the Quiz night for the second year running. So popular, these sold out in 15 minutes!

You generously supported us with dress down day sponsorship and finally, we wrapped up the term with the Balcombe Bull Run. Again, thank you so much for all of the cake donations and purchases you made. We raised over £800 in profit at this event.

By far the most rewarding efforts we've made this term, are investing all of this hard earned profit in wonderful experiences for our children.

We've had authors and artists, musicians and even animal handlers visiting the school - read on for more details!

Have a wonderful Easter holiday!

Friends of Balcombe School Committee

Fundraising Goal 2023/24



£4,512 of £12,000

STAY IN TOUCH



Email us:

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Follow us on Facebook @Friends of Balcombe School



Follow us on Instagram

[@friends_of_balcombe_school](https://www.instagram.com/friends_of_balcombe_school)



Come to our AGM - details will be published on our social media pages.



Loaded Hot Chocolates at the Balcombe Bull Run

How have we invested in Balcombe School this school year?

Music curriculum improvements

At the start of the school year, we purchased a digital piano, we supplemented additional teaching resources from West Sussex Music and purchased eBooks from Out of the Ark Music. Finally, we invested in a Music Discovery Workshop facilitated by Ensemble Reza for the juniors.

Library/reading re-development

We invested £960 in new books for the library. We also covered the cost of two Author visits, MG Leonard and Sarah Oliver who inspired our children so much with the story writing workshops.

Art investment

We purchased art supplies for art week and sponsored an artist in residence who worked with the children all week to create the incredible under the sea mural, now in the hall.

Classroom Resources and Experiences

Finally we offered each class £100 to spend on classroom resources, covered teaching costs for additional Nature Ninja sessions and sponsored the Zoo Lab animal encounter for the early years classes.

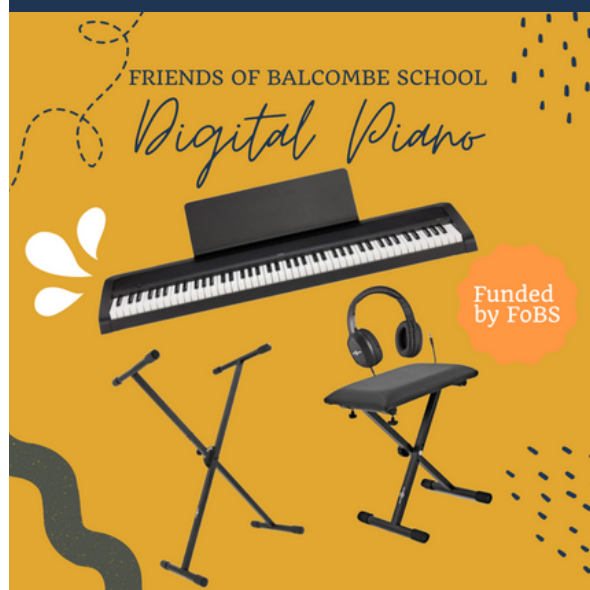
The development of outdoor learning and play areas remain a focus for next term as well as further technology investments and swimming transport funding.

Have you followed us on Social Media?

Simply search for 'friends of balcombe school' to find us and be kept up to date with exciting village events!

Pre-loved Uniform

You can pick up pre-loved school uniform through FoBS. For more information or to check out the current stock, please contact Amy (07979 597966) or Lizzie (07779 656470) or email FoBSUniformBalcombe@gmail.com.



Upcoming Events

Take a note of the key upcoming event dates.

Amongst others, we're especially excited about hosting a movie night on the 19th April and that the Summer Fair this year will be on Saturday the 22nd June. This will include our first ever Colour Run for all the children of Balcombe School!

Textile recycling

Just a reminder to make use of the Textile Recycling Bin. This is available and encouraged to be used responsibly by the whole community. For every kilo collected Friends of Balcombe School will make 40p so it's a win win!

The textiles are collected every 2 weeks and are either sent to Eastern Europe to be used again or converted into insulation materials and industrial cleaning wipes, so less than 1% of what is collected ends up in the ground.

The textile bin will accept clothes, shoes, bed linen, accessories and soft toys however will NOT accept duvets, cushions, off cuts, carpets or curtains. If the bin is full please refrain from leaving bags next to it and instead pop back in a couple of weeks.

Please support us by making use of it!



Zoo Labs visit
sponsored by FoBS



Music Discovery Workshop -
Ensemble Reza sponsored by
FoBS



Author visit - MG Leonard
sponsored by FoBS

How can you support FoBS?

We wanted to cover some ways in which you can support FoBS so that we can continue to invest our profits.

Come along to events

Coming along to events is probably the easiest way in which you can support us. We may be biased but we think they are always really fun and it's a lovely way to get to know other members of FoBS and fellow parents.

Volunteer

Volunteers are needed for all events. Class Reps will always ask for volunteers when planning an event, be it for help with organisation or adding your name to the event rota. We are also eager to tap into your expertise, experiences and skills; any way in which you can help! Share any ideas you or your children may have regarding future fundraising events and initiatives. We would love to hear from you.

Sponsorship

We are always seeking sponsors to support our fundraising. We have a Just Giving page as an alternative way to raise money to help our children. Our registered charity name is Balcombe C E School PTA.

MatchFunding

There are many employers that recognise the contributions their employees make to charities by "match funding" the amounts they raise for charity. This could mean matching the amount raised at an event, or your class stall, or providing a one-off or regular donation. It's a quick and easy way to raise more money for our school.



Artist in residence
sponsored by FoBS

Would you like to become a member of FoBS? We have the following roles available:

Fundraising Co-ordinator

Events Co-ordinator/s
(Movie Night or Summer Fair)

If you have hour or 2 a month available and would like to support FoBS by taking on these roles, simply drop us an email at pta.balcombe@gmail.com
