

# FRIENDS OF BALCOMBE SCHOOL

Quarterly Newsletter of the Friends of Balcombe School (PTA)



FRIENDS OF BALCOMBE SCHOOL

2023 - 2024

## UPCOMING EVENTS & KEY DATES

Junior Fun Afternoon  
**TUESDAY 23RD JULY**  
**FROM 2PM**



Welcome to the final newsletter of the school year. To our new parents we hope your settling in sessions have gone well and to all of our seasoned parents, well done on getting through the year!

We're really grateful for all of your support this year and extremely proud to have hit our fundraising goal by raising over £12,800 for Balcombe School.

With such a small committee, volunteer group and parent group we are extremely grateful to have met our fundraising goal, especially during such an economically challenging year.

This year we focused on investing our profits in Balcombe School and we hope all the positive improvements you've seen encourage you to keep supporting us. This year we've spent over £20,000 on enhancing your children's education. The library re-development project and murals in the school hallway as well as significant investment in music, art and reading are noteworthy examples. We aim to be as transparent as possible in how we raise and spend our investable profit - please see the infographics in the newsletter for more detail.

Key highlights for me this year were the support and imagination shown in the "Grow your £2" challenge which raised over £1600 in investable profit. Thank you so much for supporting your children in this event. We'll be topping up this fund and offering each class £500 to spend on classroom resources next year.

Finally, seeing the delight of our children covered in coloured powder at the Summer Fair & Colour Run has got to be a favourite FoBS memory of the year.

As much as Friends of Balcombe School is key to augment the school's budget - it is also absolutely to create these experiences for our children!



# Fundraising Goal 2023/24



£12,847 of £12,000



## STAY IN TOUCH



Email us:  
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[fobsuniformbalcombe@gmail.com](mailto:fobsuniformbalcombe@gmail.com)



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

# How have we invested in Balcombe School this year?

These are some of the areas where we focused:

- Music curriculum improvements - we bought a new digital piano for the school, paid for additional music lessons from West Sussex Music and covered the cost of an inspiring musical artist.
- Library/reading re-development - we covered the cost of additional teaching resource and staff time, we purchased educational murals for the walls, thousands of pounds worth of new books for the library and funded 2 author visits.
- Nature Ninjas - we covered the cost of additional Nature Ninja sessions for all classes.
- Development of outdoor learning and play areas - resources for outdoor learning areas.
- Classroom resources - we offered each class a budget to spend on resources like outdoor play equipment, additional class books and art supplies.
- All transport costs to swimming lessons
- Art investment - we bought art theme week resources and supplies to keep running the pod in break times for those that need it. We also funded a resident artist visit in Art Week.
- Experiences - we paid for a animal encounter visit for the early years and an activity day for the leavers.



# How have we invested in Balcombe School this year?



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World Book Day  
Author Visit

Art Week  
Visitor

Funded by FoBS

Sarah Oliver

Funded by FoBS

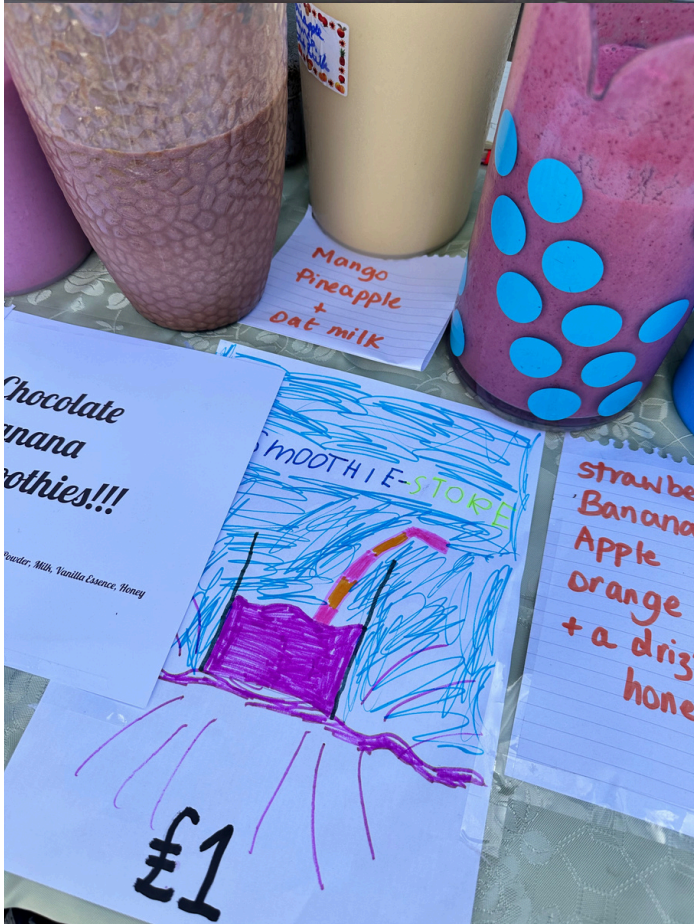


# Events this year



## The Balcombe Fete, Sports Day Cafè & The Zoolab Experience





# Events this year



## The Summer Fair



# Recruiting for the Committee

At the end of the school year we'd like to say a special thank-you to Alexandra Marney for fulfilling our Fundraising Co-ordinator role and Kasia Landricombe for fulfilling our Treasurer role for the year. This year is the 3rd year our Chair, Secretary and Volunteer Co-ordinator have served in the committee and therefore we'd like to encourage new volunteers to step forward to take on some vacant roles.

## Co - Chair

To lighten the load, we'd like to introduce a Co-Chair role, sharing the responsibility with the current chair. Responsibilities include overseeing the overall functioning of the committee, co-ordinating meetings and activities, and serve as the primary liaison between the PTA and the school promoting our events, activities, and initiatives.

## Fundraising Co-ordinator

The Fundraising Coordinator is responsible for sourcing prizes 3 times a year. This is an entirely remote role. No meeting attendance required.

## Event Co-ordinators

Responsible for planning and organising events. They work with the chair to deliver 1 allocated event a year.

## Classroom Representatives

Manage and push communications out to Class Whatsapp groups, hold 1 cake sale a year, encourage volunteers to support FoBS.

If you could help us fill any of these roles, please email [pta.balcombe@gmail.com](mailto:pta.balcombe@gmail.com).

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## JOIN THE COMMITTEE

CO-CHAIR

The Co-chair works closely with the chair, responsible for running meetings, encouraging volunteer participation, organising events and deputising in the absence of the chair.

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## JOIN THE COMMITTEE

FUNDRAISING CO-ORDINATOR

The Fundraising Coordinator is a fully remote role, that can be managed entirely independently. Responsible for sourcing prizes 3 times a year.

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## JOIN THE COMMITTEE

EVENT COORDINATORS

Events Coordinators are responsible for planning and organising PTA events and activities. They work with the Chair to deliver an allocated event.