



October 14th, 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Friends of Oakmeadow

I wanted to introduce myself to you as the new Chair of the Friends of Oakmeadow. My name is Rhea and I have two children at the school, one in Year Three and one in Year Five.

Those of you that are familiar with the Friends of Oakmeadow will know that it is an incredible organisation that has always been run by super parents and teachers, with an army of volunteers, that dedicate lots of time and effort to raising money for the school.

Nearly £30,000 donated to the school in three years

The outgoing chair Dave Matthias shared in the Friends of Oakmeadow Facebook group recently that in the last 3 years the organisation has given the school £26,500 in grants.

These funds have paid for the outdoor area with the stage and astro turf, the playground markings, and the outdoor classroom, as well as a computer set up that serves a whole class at a time.

He shared that the Friends have also given over £2,500 for the smaller stuff - the little acts of kindness that make things nice in the school - new starter packs, leavers gifts, Christmas crafts and wet play boxes.

Volunteers and committee members

Our volunteers and committee members are the parents, carers and teachers you have seen selling ice pops in the playground, serving hot dogs and face painting at the school discos, putting up scarecrows in gardens across the village - and hidden in the dark at the amazing annual firework display.

The chairs and committee members of the Friends organisation over the last 10 years have set the bar high - it is quite the understatement when I say I have incredibly big boots to fill!

We need your help....

Which is why I am writing to ask for your help. As we all know, 2020 is a tough year - for everyone and everything but events have been hit extremely hard.

We cannot hold discos or the firework display, the parents quiz or even bring back the amazing fashion show which saw the teaching staff strutting their stuff on the catwalk (who remembers that amazing evening??).

But we are working on a number of events that we CAN do - and there are other ways we can fundraise...with your support.

What you can do...

- You can shop at Amazon Smile and choose us as your charity! All you need to do is log on to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/> and pick us. Every time you order something the Friends of Oakmeadow get a donation (we still want you to shop local of course but if you do use Amazon at any point - please think of us).
- You can buy and use the Christmas cards created at school by the children as your Christmas cards this year - the designs should be coming home to you in the next few weeks!
- Use [Mossy Parties - Shropshire Eco Party Kits](#) if you need to hire party sets for parties at home. If you use them please don't forget to tell them you are an Oakmeadow parent/carers so that we get a percentage of your fee donated.

If you have any suggestions for us, want to help or have any questions at all you can get in touch on oakmeadowpta@yahoo.co.uk

Thank you for reading!

Rhea Alton, Chair of the Friends of Oakmeadow