Fitzjohn's School Association

About Fitzjohn's School Association (FSA)

FSA is there to enhance the school life of all pupils of the Fitzjohn's community

The FSA is a voluntary charity set up to support Fitzjohn's Primary School. It is run by the parents at Fitzjohn's with the support of the Head of School, Rob Earrey.

The objective of the FSA is to ensure we work together as a community to support our school. The FSA has two main objectives; firstly to encourage and build the community for both pupils and their families/carers at the school, and secondly to raise funds for the school.

Over the past 10 years, the school has seen a decrease of 23% in its funding from the UK Government. This means yearly deficits in the Fitzjohn's School budget are becoming an increasing reality. The role of the FSA in helping to raise funds for our children's school has as a result become increasingly important.

The FSA has therefore set itself an ongoing target of raising £70,000 per year.
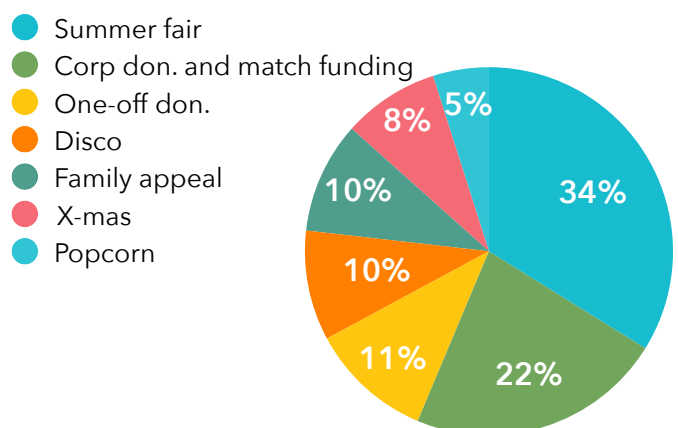
Did you know that during the summer of 2018 financial assistance from the FSA enabled the school to replace all of its smart screens in the class rooms and hall to ensure our children have access to technology that helps their learning?

About the FSA's fundraising

The FSA arranges regular fundraising events throughout our school-year. These events are run successfully with support of all our families and our community. The events also create a positive environment for our children at Fitzjohn's.

Over the past two years the FSA has raised on average £25,000 per year. FSA events on average raised £17,000 per year over the past two years; and the remaining funding came from parent donations, one-off donations, corporate donations and match-funding is very important . These are areas we need to grow together this year and going forward..

The breakdown below demonstrates the importance of each current fundraising source.

- Summer fair
- Corp don. and match funding
- One-off don.
- Disco
- Family appeal
- X-mas
- Popcorn

Pie chart values: 34%, 22%, 11%, 10%, 10%, 8%, 5%

How will donations to the FSA be used in 2019/20 and going forward?

The aim going forward is for the FSA to raise £70,000 per year. We believe this is possible because it has been done before when the school raised money for specific projects such as playgrounds, the hall and other capital spends.

The difference now, is that the money will go towards the music, art, sport and mental health. By supporting these initiatives, the school is able to ensure that valuable teaching assistants are employed to help our children.

1. Every year the FSA supports some of the ongoing needs of the school. This currently covers sports coaches, text-messaging services, music tuition and club scholarships. This amounts to c.£10,000.

2. Develop the **music** offer at Fitzjohn's:
   All our children will have the opportunity to create music and be a part of weekly music lessons. This is in addition to the music tuition already provided by the school. Fitzjohn's previously had an excellent reputation for music, and with consistent support from the FSA this can achieved again. The annual cost for this would be £15,000 per year.

3. Continue to have sports and gymnastics coaches at Fitzjohn's:
   Since 2014 Fitzjohn's has been able to offer highly qualified and motivated sports teachers, due to a grant provided by the Olympic Legacy Grant. However, this grant is coming to an end and without further support the school will not be able to fund specialised sports coaches. The FSA is committed to matching this funding of £20,000 per year.

4. Continue to have an art teacher to work with Y5 and Y6: We currently employ art teachers to work with Y5/6 so that they learn skills which will help as they move on to secondary school. The teachers use this time as part of their planning, assessment and preparation. The annual cost of this is £9,500

5. Continue to be able to support children and families who may have mental health issues: The school currently works with a psychotherapist and counselor who works with individuals and families who may be impacted by negative mental health issues. The counselor also works with teachers and classes to plan lessons to help improve the mental health of all children. The FSA is committed to ensure that this continues at an annual cost of £15,000.

How can the FSA make this happen?

By continued support from our community and families at Fitzjohn, the FSA believe that this increase in fundraising is possible. There are several initiatives the FSA is exploring through grants, additional one-off events, increasing the match funding donations by corporations etc.

The FSA is reaching out to all parents and careers for a monthly donation to the school. Please see below for ways to support Fitzjohn's and the FSA.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

All the FSA events at the school are run and supported by parents and careers. Please get involved and help in any way you can. This can be by reaching out to your local community for vouchers, coming up with fundraising ideas and helping at the events.

Reach out to your class reps to support and get involved in upcoming events.

HOW TO DONATE:

Family appeal:

Please help the school by donating a voluntary minimum amount of £10 per month per child. This voluntary donation that will have an incredible effect on the running of our school.

Direct debit details:

Set up a direct debit to pay: Fitzjohn's School Association Sort Code: 30-93-80 Account Number: 00008235 Complete the *ATTACHED FORM.*

Match Giving:

Many companies that our parents work for support match-funding and corporate donation schemes. More information and supporting letters on this is available from the FSA.

Volunteering at FSA events: Help by donating your time, ideas and energy to make the FSA events successful

Easyfundraising: Raise money through your online retailer. This has no cost to you and raises money for the school:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fitzjohnsprimary

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Find out how the school is funded at the upcoming FSA information meeting:

Thursday 10 January 8:30 -9:00