

Friends of Hartsfield School Association Chair's Report 2021-22

Dear Parents and Carers

I am pleased to present my 2021-22 FHSA Chair report. I am immensely proud to be reporting on a phenomenal year of fundraising.

This year we have raised an incredible £14,232.87

There have been a couple of changes within the FHSA committee structure this year. Emma Weaver, who has been our treasurer for many years has handed the role over to Sarah Berry (who was previously our vice chair). We would like to say a huge thank you to Emma for all her hard work as treasurer. Emma is still a vital part of the committee and for this we are very grateful. Anna Ramsey remains as secretary and I as Chair. We are very lucky to have our regular committee members who often join us at meetings. They are a vital support and help us with organising and helping at our events – we couldn't do it without you all. As always, new members are always welcome and it was lovely meeting a number of you at our first coffee morning recently. Please feel free to come and join us at our meetings or simply let us know if you would like to get involved in any way via email. We will never turn help away! It's a great way of getting to know other parents, very rewarding and lots of fun at the same time. New ideas are always welcome.

The first event of the year was our Quiz night. This was very well attended and a real success. As always, it was a really fun evening and due to the Covid restrictions, at that time, we had the bar delivering drinks to the tables - What luxury! The fish and chip supper was very popular, and we raised almost £550. Thank you Anna for all of your organising.

The spooky disco was the next event. This was a very popular one with all the children who attended. We raised £438.

Moving on to Mr Darcy's Hot dogs! Hartsfield has become somewhat famous for its hotdogs on a Friday afternoon and thanks to Mr Darcy and his team we raised almost £900 and made lots of hungry children very happy (and some adults too of course).

Next, was Christmas, which is one of our busiest times of the year for fundraising. . This year we decided to try to hold the winter fair outdoors and create more of a Christmas market 'vibe' – we were very fortunate with the weather and it was a huge success. The atmosphere was buzzing and the extra space allowed us to add some new games and activities. As a result of lots of hard work from every single one of our volunteers, we raised a staggering £3,526. I believe this is a new record!

As soon as the Winter fair was over, Wrap a present was upon us. Wrap a present was just a magical us usual – We had a fantastic team of volunteer 'elves' who helped the children wrap up their chosen gifts. We raised over £850 which was amazing.

We were once again, able to provide the opportunity for the children to design their own Christmas cards – we raised £546, which was a fantastic figure.

The Hartsfield Lottery ran every week with an average of 91 tickets and had made a fantastic £2,092 for FHSA. We paid out £1,422 in prize money to Hartsfield families, we would like to thank the nine winners who generously donated back their prize. If you are interested in joining the lottery please do get in touch.

After a busy Christmas period, we had a bit of a rest. The first event of the new year was our Jubilee themed fun trail which we run during the Baldock festival. This is a relaxed, after school event which seemed very

popular this year. We raised an impressive £236 and it was lovely seeing the playing field so busy and full of activity.

We created our half term quiz packs again this year and these raised over £60 – those who participated said they had lots of fun over half term and shared their quiz night with friends and family. We had a little craft stall in the arts and crafts hall at the Baldock street fair and this raised a further £15.

One of our committee members, Karen has kindly organised our new pop up, pre-loved uniform shop. This has proved hugely popular and this year it has raised £365 as well as recycling lots of good quality clothing. Thank you Karen, and your team of sellers.

The Hartsfield Campout this year did not disappoint!! With a real festival feel, the entire playing field full of happy campers an astonishing £3,395.77 was raised. Massive thanks to Helen, Kevin, Marie and the team for organising a fantastic event.

Every year 6 child receives a year book at the end of their time at Hartsfield. This year the money raised from Ice cream Fridays - £1,356 - fully funded all of the yearbooks. The yearbooks cost £1,307. Thank you again Karen, and the year 6 team for all your work on the yearbook. Thank you also to Allison for co-ordinating and to all the year 6 parents and children who helped with the ice cream selling – fantastic job, and well done for staying calm when faced with ques that span the whole length of the playground!

Our priority, as always, will be to raise valuable funds that will benefit all of the children at Hartsfield School. All of the above fundraising enables us to make significant donations to the school – this year we have helped the school by funding the pantomime, a new sound system, gardening equipment, bouncy castles for the fun days for the whole school, ice pops for sports days for the whole school and we have contributed to the artificial grass which will enable all the children to be able to enjoy the outdoor space all year round.

None of the above would be possible without the dedication and hard work of the FHSA Committee and all of our volunteers – Thank you to all of you. We are enormously grateful to everyone who has helped. We would like to offer our thanks to the whole school staff including Mrs Smith, teaching and support staff, the school office and to Mr Darcy for all the time and effort they give to the FHSA over and above their day jobs. Finally, of course, all of our fundraising is entirely dependent on your generosity. We are continuously overwhelmed by the support at our events from Hartsfield parents, carers and relatives and we hope that 2022-23 brings us another successful year of fun and fundraising. Thank you again for helping us to continue to run the events and raise funds to spend on our Hartsfield children.

Nicky Gough, Chair - The Friends of Hartsfield