

## Chair Report 2025

The AGM is the Friends of OLOP's formal meeting of the year covering committee elections and chairs and treasurer's annual reports. Our status as a registered charity requires us to submit our accounts to the Charity Commission each year and also to annually elect a committee of trustees whose role is to ensure that the charity is run in accordance with its constitution, objectives and charity law.

This annual report covers September 2023 to August 2024 and the accounts for this period will be presented by Kirsty during this meeting.

As written in our constitution, the objective of Friends of OLOP is to 'enrich our children's school experience - to develop effective relationships between staff, parents and others associated with the school, and engage in activities or provide facilities or equipment which support the school and advance the education of pupils.'

In order to achieve this, and to hold our fundraising events, we rely on the support of our whole school community of parents, carers and staff - the events couldn't happen without the team effort involved - and all the baking, crafting, gardening, painting and many other unseen jobs that happen behind the scenes mean that we are able to provide more resources and funding to benefit all the children in school, so for that we would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has contributed in so many different ways.

As well as our parent helpers, we'd also like to thank all the teaching, office and site staff who always find time to help us - we can't stress enough how valuable this support is and we are grateful for their enthusiasm and contribution. We have always felt that building a strong sense of school community is as important as the money we raise and the support from staff and the school leadership team is vital in achieving this aim. Thank you also to Mr. Stopps for backing our ideas and supporting our aim to keep going for bigger and better!

During the year September 2023 to August 2024, the highlights were:

- Development of Vegetable Garden - overgrown area cleared and tidied including painting fences to allow children a space to get involved in gardening. This can be used by year groups as needed and also by ASC.
- We took part in the National Trust Cliveden Scarecrow Trail. Our OLOP scarecrows were displayed at Cliveden during October half-term - great for school visibility in local area and lovely for children to see the school represented when visiting.
- 2nd year of Christmas card design project - raised just over £400. Not as much raised as first year but still very popular, will continue.
- Reindeer visit - our first 'treat day'. Lovely to be able to provide extras such as this for all children and something we will always aim to continue to do in different ways.
- Christmas Fair – Moved to LKS for the first time with stallholders outside. Great success. Amount raised increased on previous year.
- World Book Day Events -Book sale very popular, costume sale did not do as well as previous year. Less donations and less sales - will not repeat this year as very time consuming to prepare
- Sponsored Egg Throw- Great fun for the whole school with a visit from the Easter Bunny - lots of enthusiasm for the staff egg throw competition.
- Summer Fair - A wonderful day. The farm and bouncy castles were again popular, and the splash zone was a great addition. Our biggest fundraiser to date.

- Wildlife area - redeveloped over summer holidays by Elite Landscapes, we are so excited to have this area available and will continue to work with school to help ensure it can be used to support the curriculum as widely as possible and provide opportunities for the children to benefit from time spent in the natural environment.

We also held the following regular events:

- 2 x Doughnut Sales and 1 cake sale – cake sale run with prefects to raise money for their Leavers Legacy project. This year the aim was to provide a new reading area for LKS - special thank you to the team of painters (prefects and Friends of OLOP) and in particular Liah for the mural.
- 3 x Bags2School - Amount collected continues to increase each time. Due to falling rates paid for collections, we are reviewing the best way to continue with this.
- Christmas & Summer Choir Concerts – lovely events that we support by serving drinks and treats.
- Mother’s Day and Father’s Day Gift Shops - Very popular with the children and one of our favourite events to run.
- Coffee Morning and Uniform Sales - held once every half term - momentum has built and is well attended. Uniform Sales during this event has proved really popular.
- Year 6 Events - SAT Ice Creams, Leavers Disco and Production refreshments - great to be part of these events to make Year 6 memorable. Also organised Year 6 send-off on the last day of term. Friends of OLOP also took charge of organising the leavers hoodies through School Days Direct to allow children to buy their hoodies for the last half term of Year 6. All to be repeated.

Other things that happened:

- Engagement with Facebook page continues to grow.
- Received support from local companies through sponsorship and we hope to explore more opportunities for this going forward to increase school visibility in the local area and maximise profitability of events. Also built strong links with local companies for product donations for events - Tesco, Wenzels, Maidenhead Cake Company.

Due to the large amount of money raised during this time, we were able to make lots of donations to school and are regularly receiving requests for funding to support the learning and overall school experience for the children. It’s amazing to see the results of all the hard work really paying off and making a difference - please remember that when you hear the children talking about their lesson in the new art room or their day with the Easter Bunny or shopping for Mothers and Father’s Day gifts, or if you’ve ever experienced the excitement of being at a Year 6 Leavers Disco, they would not have these resources and experiences if it wasn’t for everyone's efforts so, we’d like to finish the chair's report with a big thank you to everyone who has helped in any way for your hard work and enthusiasm. Any time you are able to give makes a huge difference to what we are able to do. We are lucky to have such an amazing team and look forward to seeing what we can achieve this year.