

A Word from your Friends.....



Friends AGM

Following our AGM on 6th October 2015 a new committee has been elected onto the Friends Association. We are delighted to announce the committee is as follows :

Gill Watson (Chair), Claire Firmin (Vice Chair), Caroline Ley & Louise Sheehan (Treasurers), Jen Maher & Kate West (Secretary & Publishing), Christina Chan, Kierson Tanner, Laura Horne, Marie Leatherhead, Nina Sondh, Penny Newcombe, Richard Pearce & Viv Mahony (members) Claire Britnell, Angie Bailey & Natalie Duke (Staff).

We wanted to thank resigning committee members for all their support and hard work: Jacqui Laverick, Helen Sumbler, Caroline Tierney, Jo Fox and Gary Read.

The first event of the new committee was a fancy dress Halloween Disco on Tuesday 3rd November 2015. It was a great success and the children really enjoyed themselves.

The Friends Association provide fun events for the school, families and the community, to bring everyone together to raise funds for the school. Over the years The Friends have purchased or helped to provide, the Foundations 'Friends House' – play house, lots of IT equipment such as new iPads, the shelter in the playground, the climbing frame and much more. It is so rewarding knowing that all monies we raise go into purchasing and funding new and improved equipment for the children at Gilesbrook.

This past year the Friends have been saving for a very exciting new area in the playground. This is to be situated where the pond is currently. This space is then to be used as a nature trail with wooden equipment called a Trim Trail for the children to balance on, climb through, under and around. It is very exciting and we look forward to seeing work beginning in the Spring. We will be creating a display in the school reception so you can see just where your money and the money raised is going.

The Friends Association this year have ambitions to provide the school with a mini bus and funds to develop the Nursery's outside area. Which with the disco we've all made a fantastic start towards.

Our events can't happen without you, your support is so very much appreciated. If you work for a company who would be happy to donate a prize, pound match a stall at the fete or you, yourself are happy to offer a bit of time but not make a big commitment, we would be so pleased to hear from you. If you have any ideas of events you would like us to put on, or purchases you'd like us to make for the school we would also love to hear your ideas. We are creating a Facebook page, so please give us a 'like' and feel free to contact us there.

We would like to thank The Grange Indian Restaurant who have donated £100 to the school, vouchers for a three course meal for a prize and are excited about becoming a sponsor of the school in the future.

We look forward to arranging events for all the family, so we can all come together have fun, make new friends, raise some money and most of all do our bit to improve on the amazing facilities provided for the children by Giles Brook School.