



A Warm Welcome to FOMSA: Friends of Mendlesham School Association

Hello, we'd like to introduce ourselves and tell you some key information about our PTA (Parent and Teachers Association), how you can help us, and what's in it for you.

Why does the school have a PTA?

Our group is called FOMSA and has been running for many years. We are a friendly group of parent volunteers.

The main function of FOMSA is to support the school by raising as much money as we can to enhance and enrich learning experiences for the children. We also provide those 'little extras' that make school memorable.

FOMSA also exists to provide closer links between home and school and it is an excellent way to bring staff, parents, family, friends and members of the local community together.

Lastly, we're here for the simple reason that we want to get together socially, meet new people and have fun!

FOMSA is run by a committee who are all volunteers. We have a Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary as well as other committee members. We also have FOMSA helpers who are parents that do not want to be formally part of the committee but are happy to help us as and when they can.

We might sound like an abstract group of people, but we're parents, carers, friends and allies – just like you. Not so long ago, we were new too.

All parents and members of the school community are encouraged to get involved, even if they only have a small amount of time available. Donations and help from parents and friends throughout the year are extremely important to us. You can donate time, money, raffle prizes or by offering up your services & skills. Everyone can also be involved by supporting events that happen as part of the school day or out of school time.

Recent events held

We hold many events throughout the year. Some of our events are school based whilst others involve the village community and beyond. Events range from clothes recycling, special 'dress up days', school discos, a Christmas fair, an Easter treasure hunt, a summer fair, as well as a large Christmas raffle. We also raise money from things the children create such as Christmas cards and other personalised items.

What FOMSA funded with the money?

We always try to respond when asked by the school to help fund something. This might be for resources for the classrooms or items for the playground. It might be for one off smaller items like a set of clipboards to replace old and broken ones or something larger as a bigger project. Big projects have included £6,000 to buy permanent playground equipment, £5,000 for 15 new iPads and last year we gave a donation towards new library furniture and books. Sometimes funding happens for the same thing every year such as the books provided as presents from Father Christmas, the special leavers book and party event for the children leaving for high school and Christmas crackers for Christmas dinner. We have also provided funding so that special visitors can come into school such as authors and then companies to provide special science or

history experiences. We endeavour to spend the profit raised in ways that will benefit all the children across all areas of the school and curriculum.

How we keep you up-to-date with our activities?

The committee meet on a regular basis, usually twice a term to plan our events and activities. We have a termly newsletter which communicates the events and fundraisers that we have planned. Sometimes this gets added to as the term progresses. Our newsletter is emailed out to parents by school. We have a page on the school website as part of the parent information section. We also use the school's weekly newsletter and text messaging service. Extra letters advertising events, asking for donations or help may also come home in book bags or be emailed to parents.

When are the next meetings?

We hold our AGM in October/November and everyone is very welcome to attend. We are always open to new ideas and would love to hear from you if you have any suggestions. There is no pressure to join our committee by attending, although you can put yourself forward if you'd like to. For everyone it's a chance to get together and to hear more about what we have done and hope to do next. The date and arrangements will follow on our Autumn term newsletter.

How can you get involved?

If you would like to become involved with FOMSA, help out at events or simply give us your ideas for fundraising, we'd love to hear from you. Either return the attached slip to the school post box or contact one of us for more information.

Chairperson contact details: Danni Fletcher 07824340695 or doofletch@msn.com (Charlotte's mum)

Secretary contact details: Alison Millin 07841646569 or ageralison@hotmail.com (Fern's mum)

Remember to also look out for our Autumn newsletter coming soon with details of events this term. We look forward to you and your child/children being part of our fun and enjoying the rewards of our efforts.

Best Wishes, Danni, Alison, Michelle, Lucy, Emma, Rob, Sam and Emma.
The 2024 FOMSA Committee.

FOMSA Overview of the year: What things do we do

Ongoing all year
Easy fundraising
Ink cartridge recycling
Autumn Term: Event/Fundraiser
Bags to School
Break a Rule Day
School Disco
Christmas Cards
Christmas Market

Christmas Raffle
Refreshments at the Christmas Performances
Father Christmas Visit
Spring Term: Event/Fundraiser
Sweetie Bingo
Break a Rule Day
School Disco
Bags to school
Easter Treasure Hunt
Summer Term: Event/Fundraiser
Break a Rule Day
Placemats
Frozen Fridays
Summer Fair
Refreshments at the Year 5 and 6 Performance

Please return this slip to the School Post box.

Many thanks The FOMSA Committee.



FOMSA

Friends of Mendlesham School Association

I would like to join the FOMSA helper list.

Contact Name:	
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Name and Class of child/children at the school:	
Contact number:	

I have some fundraising ideas to share. Please list below.

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I have some skills/contacts that may help FOMSA in the future.

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Many thanks for your time and support.