



A Warm Welcome from CHPS Fundraising Friends

14th September 2020

We'll keep this brief because we know how busy it has been since September. But, since we're a friendly bunch, we'd really like to introduce ourselves and tell you some key information about the Greenbank Fundraising Friends Team, how you can help us, and what's in it for you!

Why does Castle Hill Primary have a Fundraising Friends Team?

Our friends' group of volunteers is called **CHPS Fundraising Friends** and has been running for over **10** years.

The main function of our Fundraising Friends team is to support the school by raising as much money as we can to enhance, enrich and improve learning experiences and facilities for the children. We also provide those 'little extras' that make school memorable, such as leavers books for our Year 6's.

Our aim is to bring the school community and home closer together for our parents to be more involved in the life of their chosen school.

Lastly, we're here for the simple reason that we want to get together socially (as much as COVID can allow us at the moment!), meet new people and have fun!

The Fundraising Friends Team is run by a committee who are all volunteers. 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.

Recent events held and how much we raised

unfortunately, due to lockdown a lot of our events that were planned in last academic year were cancelled

Event	How much we raised
Nearly new uniform sales	£165.00
Easter Disco 2019	£787.00
End of SATS cake sale	£128.00
Mini Summer Festival 2019	£575.00
Christmas Disco 2019	£579.00
Sales from Stikins Labels	£50.04
Tesco COVID Recovery Grant	£500.00

As you can see a lot of our successful fundraisers have included large gatherings so this year we will have to be a bit more creative and think of lots of clever, new, fresh ideas!



What the CHPS Fundraising Friends Team funded with the money

We always try to respond when asked to help the school, and after the work is done, it's so rewarding to see the children enjoy new resources and equipment provided by the **CHPS Fundraising Friends**. Please see examples below;

- £1000 towards the cost of school trips per academic year
- Contributed towards the cost of Year 6's end of year/ SATs treat
- Purchased leavers books for our Year 6 leavers 2020
- Helped towards the cost of additional resources that were required due to COVID i.e. safety equipment, signage etc
- Assisted with the 'fit out' our sensory room with lighting and calming activities to enable us to have a quiet and relaxing room that children are able to use as an additional intimate learning space for small groups.

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

Facebook group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/167108237090710>

We post notices about all upcoming meetings on our Facebook group as well as reminders about events and requests for volunteers. This is a closed group and you will have to answer certain questions before you are 'accepted' all names are double checked with a member of the school office before being authorised.

CHPS School Newsletter & Website

The school website is a great tool to find out any information regarding school and the Fundraising Friends activities and events. Here is the link;

<https://www.castlehillprimary.net/parents/fundraising-friends-greenbank>

CHPS Fundraising Friends Newsletter

We have a CHPS Fundraising Friends newsletter once a term which is emailed out via the normal scopy school email and will also be uploaded onto the school website

Noticeboard

The CHPS Fundraising Friends noticeboard is located on the window facing outwards by the side of the main reception. *(Whilst parents cannot access school premises at the moment this will be ready for when we are able to do so and Facebook will be our main way to communicate new events)*

What are we raising money for next?

We would like to continue to subsidise school trips by £1000 each academic year, this is one way of really helping out *all* families by bringing down the cost of all school trips across the year.

Again, this year we would like to be able to purchase year books for our Year 6 leavers, this is becoming a bit of a tradition and something our Year 6 leavers look forward to receiving, many look back and refer to their leavers books years down the line!



Due to COVID, 2020 has highlighted the need and the advantages of outdoor learning and classroom spaces. It would be fantastic if we could start building a 'pot of funds' to help purchase an outdoor classroom space (a lodge type building), an exciting, fresh and alternative environment for the teachers to educate our children in. An outdoor classroom would provide an engaging and motivational place for little minds to learn, helping our children to reconnect with nature and realise their potential.

Obviously, this is a big project and something that may need to be our goal over the next couple of academic years or maybe with your help we could make this a possibility sooner! Watch this space!

When are the next meetings?

The below **Google Form** will be emailed out to all parents inviting them to join in our first ever 'Virtual Meeting' which will be;

Thursday 17th September at 5:00pm

If you are interested in joining in and getting some more information, please reply to the Google Form below;

<https://forms.gle/T8YyLaPVB9A1XdnP9>

How can you get involved?

Log into our initial meeting on the **17th September at 5:00pm**, there will be more information on the type of 'job roles' we are looking to fill. Any help is a great help! Alternatively, please email gbff@chjs.net and we can email over some information to you after the meeting.

The more people who become involved, the more we can achieve and the easier it will be to raise money for our much-loved school and children!

Even if you have younger children at home, or only a small amount of time, could you attend a virtual (or face to face – post COVID) meeting, help set up an event, serve food (post COVID) or design a poster? Perhaps you have a professional skill you could help us out with? Many of our volunteering tasks can be done from home. We need as many ideas as possible especially during these difficult times where we have to adhere to social distancing.

Match Funding

If you work with an organisation that has a match funding policy, any money you/we raise could be matched by your employer. Companies match the fundraising total for an event that their employee is working on. Usually, the employee will need to supply them with a letter from CHPS Fundraising Friends detailing the date and nature of the event, together with the total raised.

We understand that high street banks, building societies, supermarkets and large corporations are likely to do match funding but these schemes are not exclusive to the major corporation giants.

We would be grateful if you could see if your employer has a match funding scheme, or if they are willing to match fund any of our events. If you cannot offer your time to the Fundraising Friends but the company you work for has a match funding policy, this could be a really large source of income and help us raise money for our ultimate goal of an outdoor classroom.



Please contact gbff@chjs.net if you think your company may be able to help us out.

Contact details

We'd love to hear from you. We have a dedicated email address for all new parents wanting information about the *CHPS Fundraising Friends* and our activities. Feel free to drop us an email with any questions about events (rather than the school office) or drop us any ideas, we love to hear them!

Email Address – gbff@chjs.net

How you can support us right now?

Did you know that you can start fundraising straight away? Use these companies when you buy school essentials and the CHPS Fundraising Friends gets paid without costing you more.

Stikins

Stikins a label on me... or I end up in lost property at Castle Hill Primary

We have teamed up with Stikins to offer parents the opportunity to purchase quality labels for your children's school uniform, whilst earning the school commission at the same time!



As we all know, lost property is a problem in all schools and I am sure we are all familiar with our child, at some point, coming home from school with a missing item. As parents, we are aware that time is precious, which is why we think these labels are such a great idea; they simply stick onto the wash-care label of clothing. They can even be used in shoes! Naming of clothing is a school requirement and we are hoping that with this opportunity we can start to eliminate some of parents' frustrations that surround these issues.

They are really easy to use – no sewing or ironing – just stick them to the wash-care label.

They are washing machine, tumble-dryer, dishwasher and even microwave-proof!

Use them on coats, clothing, lunch boxes, water bottles, shoes, bags, PE kits, glasses cases, trainers, musical instruments, etc.

****Use the Stikins 'button' on the school website homepage (at the bottom of the screen) to enable us to get 30% commission from your purchase****



The Ink Bin

Collect used inkjet cartridges and recycle them with us!

We are now working with The Ink Bin- a specialist teacher-led business which supports pupils to collect empty inkjet printer cartridges.

The Ink Bin pledge to recycle as much of the single-use plastic as possible and also send away some cartridges for refilling in order to reduce their carbon miles. For refillable cartridges, the company will give the school money which we can spend on exciting new equipment.

The project aims to support children to be as eco-conscious as possible as well as learn through enterprise. Wherever possible, it will be child-led. Please do check at home, at work and with friends and family to see if you have any old cartridges which can be brought into school- every cartridge makes a difference!

****Should you have any ink cartridges that you would like to donate, please send them into school in a sealed bag with your child****

CHPS 100 Lottery Club

We would like to introduce you to our 'Fundraising Friends 100 Lottery Club'. Lottery Clubs are a popular way of raising money for schools and other charities. It is a private, monthly lottery and is open to all parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and staff. New members can join at any time. The main features are:



- The Lottery is drawn monthly throughout the academic year (Oct 2020 – July 2021) with **2 CASH** prizes per month
- One lottery number costs £2 per month
- A maximum of 2 numbers can be purchased per household.

If you are interested in joining the lottery, all you need to do is complete the following 'Google Form' (just copy and paste into your internet web browser). Please contact gbff@chjs.net if you would like more information.

<https://forms.gle/qVs35zGF8iX4gfux9>

We look forward to 2020-2021 new academic year and we would love to show COVID 'who is boss', let's make this year our best year yet!

Wishing you a very warm welcome!

The CHPS Fundraising Friends Team – Greenbank

Amy Rounce, Jody Flynn, Martinne Ellis, Jo Austin and Teacher Representative Miss Edwards