

Friends of Denver Village Primary School – Secretary's Report

I'd like to say thank you all for such a warm welcome to the Friends. I went along to the first meeting with the intention of baking a cake here and there - and came away as Secretary!

While we're all very different people, with very different backgrounds, our reason for being here is the same: we care about our school and the children's education.

I couldn't think of a lovelier bunch, and we've certainly had plenty of fun and laughs along the way. We're so grateful to Ben for all his hard work as Chair. But meanwhile, I'd also like to take this opportunity to wish Xanthe a warm welcome to the Friends - we're very excited to have you on board!

My background is in communications, and while getting to grips with the responsibilities of the role, I've tried my best to keep on top of email queries and correspondence between Friends members, the school community and the wider village community.

The 150th anniversary was an important occasion, and we did our best in challenging circumstances to make the event happen. Some things didn't go to plan, but they are lessons that we can take on board. I know I've already said thank you, but I really feel that we came together as Friends that day.

This academic year, I feel we should focus more on planning. I've mapped out the events, projects and special days so that staff, children and Friends volunteers are aware of when each event is happening.

I also feel we could reach out to parents and carers to ask what they would like the Friends to focus on. Do they think we do too much? Do they have ideas about where our funds could be spent? Would they consider volunteering?

I think it's also worthwhile saying that we all understand and respect that everyone has their own life responsibilities. We just need to all be transparent over what we can commit to - but have plenty of fun and laughs along the way.

Here's to another amazing year ahead, and thank you all for your support.

Louise Hepburn

Secretary - Friends of Denver Village Primary School

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