



Friends of St Mary Abbots School Annual Report

Year ending Aug 31st 2019

Report and Financial Statements (Unaudited)

Authored by: FOSMAS Committee



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FOSMAS Chair

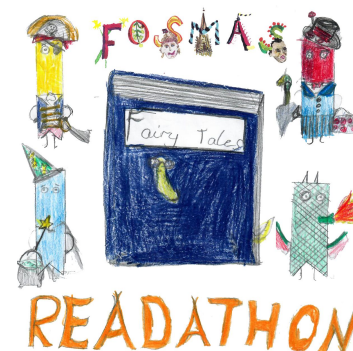
I am delighted to present our annual report which shows another strong fundraising year for FOSMAS. This report covers the financial period between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019.

I am proud to report we smashed our fundraising target of £25,000 by raising over £47,500 (net of costs).



FOSMAS donated over £24,500 to the school including £17,100 for the annual teachers' "wish list"; £2,000 for new plants and landscaping in front of the school entrance; £1,800 for school trips; £1,000 for playground equipment; £140 for Christmas parties. We also funded Christmas gifts for the teachers, World Oceans Day, Year 6 Leavers' yearbooks and disco, a drinks evening to welcome new parents and refreshments for the Sports Day.

As usual FOSMAS organised a wide variety of social activities to bring parents, children, staff and Governors together. As well as 'old favourite' events like the Fairs and the Quiz Night, we also held the first FOSMAS sponsored Read-A-Thon in April. It was hugely popular and the children read a staggering 298,000 minutes overall. Thank you **Miss Keck** and the **School Council** for organising and your constant encouragement, and ALL the children for working so hard. Thanks to their efforts we raised over £5,000.



Thank you to all the parents that have signed up to CAF to give FOSMAS a monthly donation, and those who have given a one-off donation. We received an amazing c. £25,500 in donations. This includes over £920 received on Paypal's Donation Day in November, something we will sign up to again. We also make good use of those parents who can access Matched Funding.

In June 2019 the trustees voted to 'ring fence' a portion of the money in the FOSMAS reserve account. This is in anticipation of expensive future school projects such as replacing laptop computers and the possible playground resurfacing.

FOSMAS ended the year with a healthy bank account of £96,973.56 split between our current account (£18,772.46) and our reserve account (£78,201.1).

In October it was announced that Nicola Doyle was retiring, and as part of a year of change, it was decided that the FOSMAS committee should be reconstituted; thus, an EGM was held in February 2019. We would like to thank our outgoing committee members for all their hard work.

Charity Information

Background and Objectives

The Friends of St Mary Abbots School (FOSMAS) is a registered UK charity formally constituted in January 1994. It is governed by its Constitution, as amended and adopted on 12 July 2011.¹

The main objective of this charity is to advance the education of pupils in St Mary Abbots School (SMAS) by:

1. Developing effective relationships between the staff, parents and others associated with the school;
2. Engaging in activities or providing facilities or equipment which support the school and advance the education of the pupils.

The charity relies on a formally constituted Committee in order to pursue this objective. FOSMAS Committee administers the charity and meets at least quarterly with further meetings as required. All members of the Committee are trustees of the charity and have control of its property and funds.

FOSMAS' trustees bring a variety of skills to the board including financial, communications, administration, and events and charity management. All Trustees are encouraged to keep up to date with the role and responsibility of a trustee. Nominations for election to the Committee may be made by any charity member with the consent of the nominee. The formal election process takes place at the AGM where decisions are taken by simple majority.

Trustees

The Trustees presented their annual report and unaudited accounts for the year ending 31st August 2018 at the AGM held on 22nd November 2018. FOSMAS decided to hold an EGM on February 26th, 2019 to reconstitute the Committee and be in a better position to face the challenges ahead given the leadership changes the school was to face.

FOSMAS Committee (August 2018 – February 2019)

Ioana Bozan (C)	Silvana Armstrong (T)	Simone Brigden	Catherine Bedford
Guy Regis	Gabriella Mitchell	Lorena De La Torre	

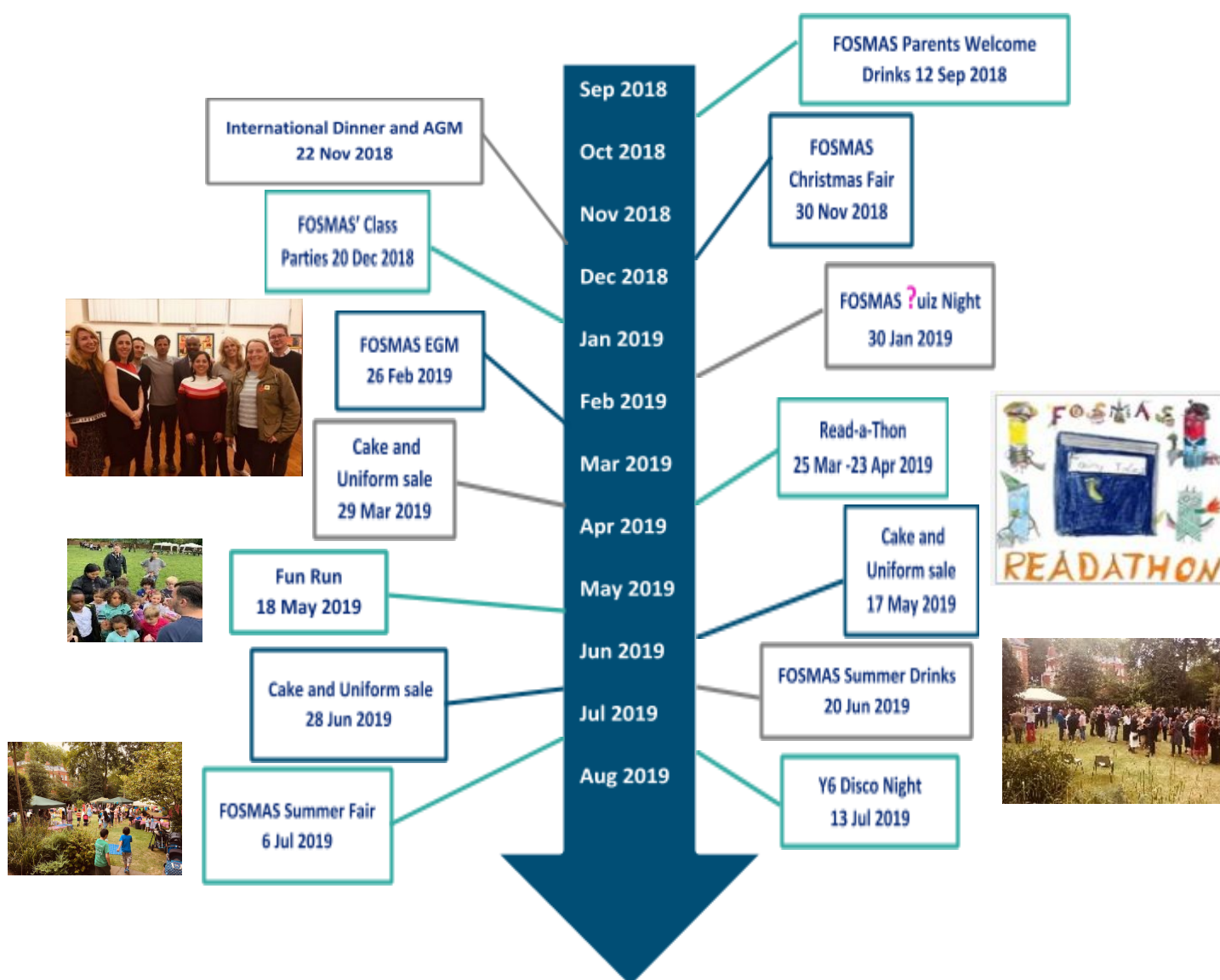
FOSMAS Committee (elected on February 2019)

Laura Sylvester (C)	Marina Lussich (co C)	Chloe Wainwright	Andres Espinosa
Tom Wegelius (T)	Nicholas Kyprios (co T)	Thea Lenborg	Guy Regis
Sandra Vasquez (S)	Ioana Bozan		

¹ The Constitution can be downloaded from our website: <http://www.fosmas.info/constitution.html>

Activities

As the school's dedicated charity and Parents Teachers Association (PTA), FOSMAS plays a crucial role in organising activities and events to foster relations between the school's staff, parents, pupils and Governors. A key part of FOSMAS' activity is to raise funds for educational materials and equipment for our children to have the best education and learning environment where to thrive. The main events held over the school year are listed here:

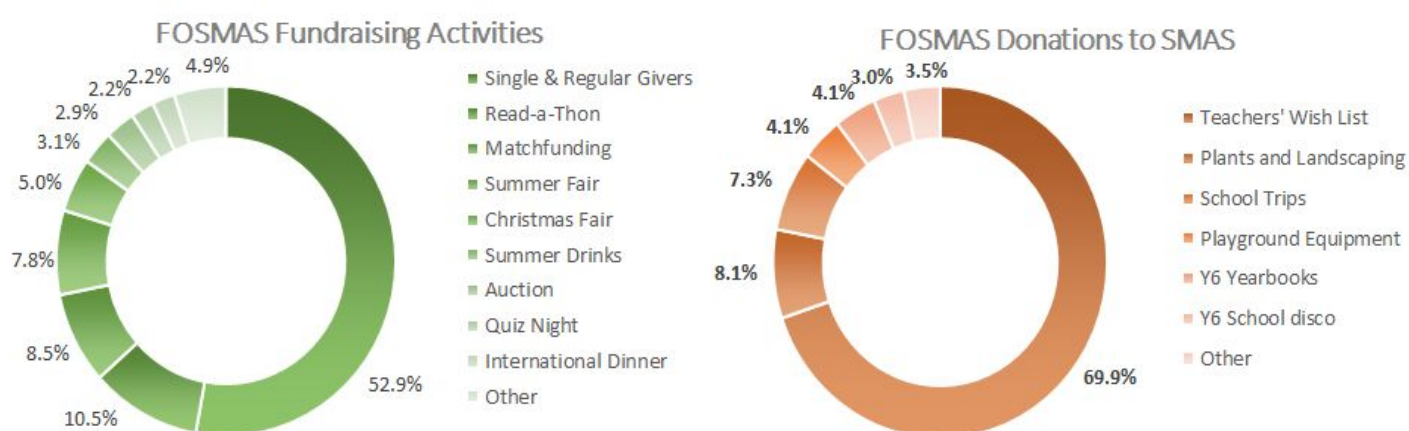


Annual Review

FOSMAS have had another very busy year and, aside from the events listed in the previous section, FOSMAS has contributed to the school through a number of additional initiatives. We have kept parents up-to-date by reintroducing a regular FOSMAS Newsletter where we publicise upcoming events, communicate our fundraising targets and progress, and report on FOSMAS initiatives. We have also continued to work closely with the **Class Reps** to pass on FOSMAS news to all parents, and "School Comms" email to parents act as additional reminders.

2018/19 was an emotional year for everyone at the school with the news that Mrs Doyle was retiring. FOSMAS, teachers and support staff worked hard on events and celebrations culminating in the Summer Drinks Party for adults, and an Afternoon Tea in the long playground for the children. Thanks must go to **Mrs Doyle**, for always supporting and encouraging FOSMAS' initiatives. It has been such a joy working with her and she will be sorely missed.

Overall, FOSMAS raised c. £47,600 (net of costs) which represents an increase of 32.7% from the previous school year. The main fundraising sources were "Single & regular givers", the "Read-a-Thon", "Matchfunding" and our popular Christmas and Summer Fairs. The teachers' wish list was, by far, the main donation to the school (c. 70% of our contribution)².



We would like to highlight again how critical **your donations** to FOSMAS are: "Single & regular givers" not only represented around half of the funds we raised. Thank you so much to all the families who made this possible. We believe that by encouraging open communication among FOSMAS' members, setting clear fundraising targets and delivering tangible results, we can do so much better and make 2019/2020 an even better year.

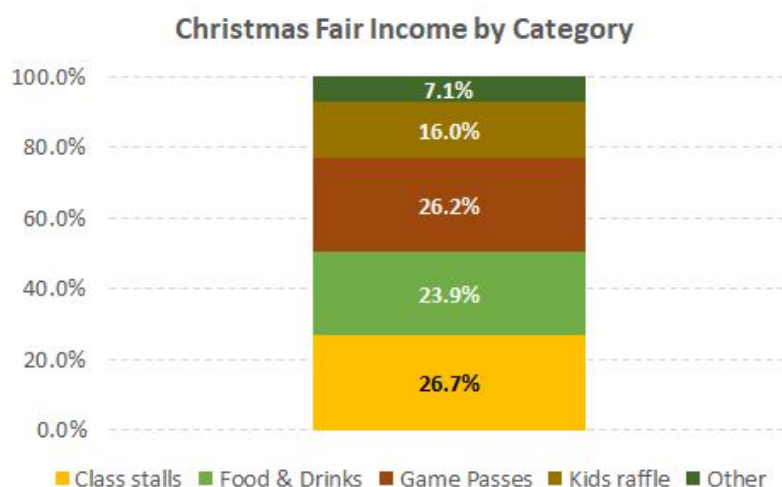
Autumn Term

The Autumn Term saw some new arrivals at the school - thanks to those of you who have joined in so enthusiastically with our efforts at FOSMAS. Our **"New parents drinks evening"**, welcomed

² More detailed information on FOSMAS' unaudited accounts is provided in Appendix 1.

Reception class parents - and other new parents to the school. It was a successful and well attended evening. This event's main objective is to integrate new parents to our school community and help them meet and socialise. FOSMAS fully funds this event.

FOSMAS Annual General Meeting and International Dinner was a very interesting evening where FOSMAS members were able to meet the Committee members, hear a summary of FOSMAS' activities and accounts, ask questions and share ideas.



In preparation for Christmas 2018, parents helped to decorate the school. Thanks to **Kevin Giles**, we had a wonderful Christmas tree to decorate. The **Christmas Fair** was a big success (and a lot of hard work from all the classes). Thanks must go to the **Class Reps** for coordinating, and also to all parents who turned up to run their stalls. Thank you to **Father Jonathan** for always supporting our

activities, in particular when he assumed an identity we cannot reveal for Ho Ho Ho many reasons. This year the Christmas fair raised £2,400 (net of costs) and was match funded by c. £2,090; for a total of around £4,490.

As usual, the Reception and KS1 plays were filmed, but sadly this didn't generate any revenue for FOSMAS this time. If one of our parents volunteers to film the plays, please let the Committee know! It used to be a real money maker for the school.

At the end of the Autumn term, FOSMAS provide a Christmas treat for the children. All the years had a party and snacks in their classrooms. Teachers and support staff received a small gift to thank them for all their hard work.

Spring Term

Thank you to **Becky Barrow** and **Tom Lyster** who provided the questions and hosted for our annual **Quiz Night** in January. The format of the event changed from our usual bring and share evening, and **Maroush** provided delicious food (thank you). The teachers triumphed (again) and won for the second time in a row. We all had an incredibly fun evening and learned a thing or two. It's such a popular evening, many old friends return for the event. We raised £1,060.



Later in the term, FOSMAS worked closely with **Miss Keck** and the **School Council** to held its first ever **Read-a-Thon** between 25 March and 23 April. Children were encouraged to read books, listen to audio books and stories - and be sponsored by family and friends. As an incentive, all the children participating were entered into a draw to prizes. There were four book vouchers to win, a class prize for the most minutes read by a class, and the top prize was a Kindle (all of these provided by FOSMAS).

Many families set up Just Giving pages for sponsorship, with family and friends chipping in from all corners of the world. As part of the **Read-a-Thon** we also had the traditional Book Day Parade on Friday, where the children dressed up as their favourite book characters. The event was photographed by a FOSMAS Committee member, prints were available for a donation with all proceeds going to FOSMAS. The event raised in excess of £5,060 which made it the most successful event of the year.

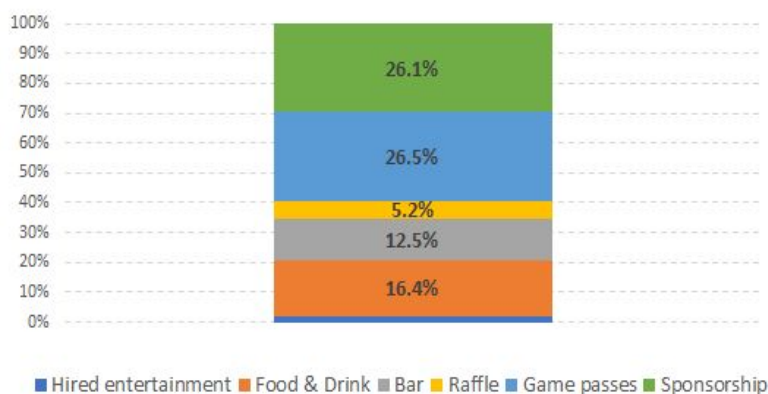
Summer Term

Alex Tovey and **Guy Regis**, together with their professional running team (**Chi Chi Luong** and **Matthew Lakapo Foulds**), hosted the **FOSMAS Fun Run** at Holland Park. Parents and children ran laps around the park and raised £988. Thank to everyone who organised and participated in this much loved event.

The Midsummer Drinks Party focused on parents, staff and Governors saying farewell to **Mrs Doyle**. We enjoyed delicious food thanks to **Maroush**, who donate all the food, and a brilliant bar run by **Nicholas Kyprios** and **Tom Wegelius**. Many ex-school parents came to say goodbye to Nicola and even Father Gilleen made his first visit back to Kensington especially for the event. It was a fundraiser and made over £1,500.



Summer Fair by Income Category



The **Summer Fair** has always been the most anticipated event in our diary. This year we had trampolines, a fire engine, face painting, and each class contributed with two stalls. The Vicar's garden was packed from noon to 4pm. It's a huge event to pull off and couldn't be done without the hard work of **Class Reps** and **parents** together with the FOSMAS Committee. Thank you to **Martina Sadovska** for massaging people for over 3.5 hours and donating all the

proceeds to FOSMAS. This year, **Lancer Square** developers sponsored the Fair and we raised a grand total of £3,750. This, however, is 33% less than the c. £5,600 raised in the previous year, mainly explained by the fact that we didn't have a Silent Auction this time due to timing. The graph above shows gross income by category.

Other Initiatives

Throughout the year, the Friday **Cake and second hand uniform sales** have been a hit with pupils and parents. Thank you to **Lorena De la Torre, Sandra Vasquez, Thea Lenborg- Walsh** and **Victoria Toland** who coordinated and helped run the events. Thanks to all the **Class Reps** who ensured cakes were baked and stalls manned, and to all the children and parents for buying!

We are delighted that the **SMA Times**, the school newspaper, continues to be edited by **Becky Barrow** with content 100% contributed by school children. All the proceeds go to FOSMAS. Thank you as well to **Louisa Snowsill** for organising a pampering morning and donating the proceeds to FOSMAS.

Monthly donations

24 school families give to FOSMAS on a monthly basis. We KNOW we can do better than this! You can donate via the link on the FOSMAS website, www.fosmas.info. Click on the "make a monthly donation" button and follow the steps. If you are a UK taxpayer, make sure to click the 'Gift Aid' button so we can maximise your donation (Gift Aid adds 25% extra to your donation, which comes from taxes). If all our parents gave just £10 a month per family, the annual teachers wish list would be covered - and we could finance even more enriching activities into school. This year, **a school family donated £10,000** to FOSMAS! We cannot thank them enough for such a generous donation.

Match Funding

If you work for a bank or a large company, please ask your HR department if they operate a match funding scheme whereby they "match" charity fundraising undertaken by their employees. Your organisation might have set aside charitable money that we can access! This year **Ioana Bozan (Barclays), Elena Lindmark (MUFG)** and **Elie Hanna (Axa/XL Caitlin)** have all applied to their employers' match fund at FOSMAS events, expanding our fundraising by £4,092.

Thanks and Farewells

The end of the Summer term saw a number of families and Mrs Doyle leave the school. They have been major supporters of FOSMAS and we thank them for their huge contribution to the school over the years. **Laura Sylvester** is stepping down from the Committee as FOSMAS Chair, as is **Guy Regis**. We would like to thank them for their hard work and support throughout the years.

We would like to thank all the **parents** and **school staff** who worked tirelessly this year in events and fundraising, and donated generously to FOSMAS. A very special thank you goes to **Gergana Panderova**, a school mother who kindly audited our annual accounts.

Thank you to **Mr Reeve**, who provides constant support for all the events at school and makes sure that everything runs smoothly in the background (we wouldn't be able to do it without you!)

Finally we would like to thank **Fr Jonathan, Fr Steven, Simon Fitter**, the **PCC** of **St Mary Abbots Church** and **Adam Norton** (SMA Centre Manager) for all their help and support throughout the past year.

FOSMAS Objectives for 2019/20

The objectives of the Committee in 2019/20 are to advance the education of the students of St Mary Abbots School through:

- Building positive, productive relationships between parents, staff and other friends of the school.
- Raising at least £25,000 to fund improvements to school facilities and enrich educational experiences.

We plan to achieve those objectives by:

- Maintaining close and productive links with the Board of Governors, particularly the Parent Governors and Mr Primrose, the Head Teacher.
- Getting families who are new to the school involved with FOSMAS.
- Holding social events and a range of fundraising events.
- Making good use of our network of class representatives to get to know our parent body, their skills and interests and any needs for support.
- Increasing levels of regular giving by our membership, making efficient use of Gift Aid and raising awareness of the tax efficiency of Payroll.
- Maximise any 'match funding' opportunities from employers of our school parents.
- Drawing on the skills, experience and creativity of our membership to develop new forms of social and/or fundraising activities.

Appendix 1 : FOSMAS Unaudited Accounts

FOSMAS Y/E	2018	Y	1	2	3	4	5
Sum of Movement Category	Sub Category	I/E	donated to school	income	expenditure	transfer - reserve a/c	Opening Balance
☐ Nat West Current A/C	Operating Balance 16/09/18						44,797.48
☐ Benefaction to School	Teachers Christmas gifts		-115.40				-115.40
	Christmas Parties		-138.54				-138.54
	School Trips		-1,800.00				-1,800.00
	New Parents Drinks		-50.73				-50.73
	Plants and Landscaping		-2,000.00				-2,000.00
	Sports Day		-59.60				-59.60
	Science Day		-170.00				-170.00
	Playground Equipment		-1,000.00				-1,000.00
	July Tea Party		-65.90				-65.90
	Y6 School disco		-732.00				-732.00
	Y6 Yearbooks		-1,004.52				-1,004.52
	Y4 Ice Creams		-80.30				-80.30
	Teachers' Wish List		-17,143.00				-17,143.00
	Read-a-Thon Prizes (Kindle, book vouchers)		-179.99				-179.99
☐ Donations - Non Event	Single & Regular Givers			25,597.14			25,597.14
☐ Fundraising - Fosmas Event	International Dinner			1,185.00	-145.40		1,039.60
	Christmas Fair			3,179.76	-777.84		2,401.92
	Quiz Night			1,306.00	-238.27		1,067.73
	Summer Drinks			2,168.65	-862.17		1,506.48
	Summer Fair			5,996.89	-2,243.36		3,753.53
	Read-a-Thon			5,067.79			5,067.79
	Fun Run			988.50	-46.68		941.82
☐ Fundraising - Other fundraising	Christmas Cards			402.00	-281.90		120.10
	Auction			1,376.40			1,376.40
	Leavers' Albums			210.00			210.00
	Cake, Uniform and Book sales			907.71			907.71
	Other fundraising			46.23			46.23
	Matchfunding			4,092.00			4,092.00
☐ Operational Costs	Fees, memberships, dues				-528.49		-528.49
☐ Other	Contributions for Mrs Doyle			2,365.00	-1,450.00		915.00
☐ transfer to reserve account	Donation - Ringfenced					-10,000.00	-10,000.00
	General Reserve - Ringfenced					-40,000.00	-40,000.00
Grand Total			-24,539.98	54,889.07	-6,374.11	-50,000.00	18,772.46

FOSMAS is YOUR school charity!

FOSMAS is your parent teacher association and we work with the school teachers and governors to fundraise to provide **exciting, enriching activities** that are **not funded by the school budget**. All parents are members of the association (as are your children!).

Parents - we need you to give financially on a regular basis!

Please sign up for regular giving via the link on our home page www.fosmas.info FOSMAS aim to fundraise AT LEAST £25,000 per school year.

ALL the money goes to school to be spent on our children.

Parents give upwards of £5 a month (it just has to be something you feel comfortable about doing/family finances. Remember to tick 'gift aid' if you pay tax, and remember **ALL proceeds go to FOSMAS who manage the accounts with full transparency.**

For further info on regular giving, please talk to any of the FOSMAS committee members!