

Charity Registration No. 1030955

THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY ABBOTS SCHOOL (FOSMAS)



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2011

I. CHARITY INFORMATION

Trustees

Jade Aebi (resigned February 2011)
Melinda Dodd (appointed March 2011)
Caroline Harding (appointed March 2011)
Tif Loehnis – Secretary (appointed March 2011)
Tony Maxwell – Treasurer (appointed February 2011)
Rebecca Miles (appointed March 2011/resigned July 2011)
Victoria O’Neill (resigned March 2011)
Marta Rodkina (appointed March 2011)
Jules Roeber (resigned March 2011)
Molly Sieghart (resigned March 2011)
Claire Slinn – Chair (appointed March 2011)

Registered office

c/o St Mary Abbots School
2 Kensington Church Court,
London W8 4SP

Bankers

NatWest Bank Plc
Melbury Court
Enfield CSC
Lee House
Baird Road
Middlesex EN1 1FD

II. TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31st August 2011.

The Friends of St Mary Abbots School (FOSMAS) is a registered UK charity formally constituted in January 1994. It is governed by its constitution.

The charity's trustees bring a variety of skills to the board encompassing financial, communications, events management and charity management. All of the trustees have children who are currently at St Mary Abbots School. All Trustees are encouraged to keep up to date with the role and responsibility of a trustee.

The board of trustees administers the charity and meets at least quarterly with further meetings as required.

The charity's finances are reviewed by trustees at each board meeting against prior years and forecasts. The accounting policies employed by trustees are as follows:

Voluntary Help	Voluntary help is not included in the accounts. FOSMAS is entirely dependant on the voluntary help given by parents and staff.
Non Cash Donations	Donations of goods other than cash (eg items donated to the Summer Fair) are not included in the accounts. However the proceeds of the sale of these items are shown as income.
Expenditure	All expenditure incurred within the period is included in the Income and the Expenditure Account. Expenditure committed but for which invoices have not yet been received is excluded but is identified in the notes of these accounts.
Fixed Assets	FOSMAS has no Fixed Assets.
Investment	Other than the current and deposit account balances, FOSMAS has no investments.

III. ABOUT ST MARY ABBOTS SCHOOL

St Mary Abbots School is a Church of England primary school located in the heart of the borough of Kensington & Chelsea in central London. The school includes a reception class and years 1 to 6 and each class has approximately 30 pupils.

This school is at the heart of its community, offering an outstanding education to local children. It has an engaged and active parent body who are keen to support the School's aims of encouraging every child to develop in skills and knowledge, in confidence and personal responsibility with respect for others, within a happy, caring and secure environment.

IV. OBJECT AND ACTIVITIES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

The object of FOSMAS is to advance the education of the pupils at St Mary Abbots School. In furtherance of this object the Association may:-

- i. Foster relations between the staff, parents and others associated with the school.
- ii. Engage in activities which support the school and advance the education of the pupils attending it.
- iii. Provide and assist in the provision of such facilities or items for education at the school (not provided from statutory funds) as the Committee shall from time to time determine.

The trustees have paid due attention to the guidance published by the Charities Commission on 'Charities and Public Benefit' and believe that FOSMAS benefits the children of St Mary Abbots School, their families and indirectly the wider public.

ANNUAL REVIEW

FOSMAS experienced another very busy year in 2011. This report covers the period 1st January 2011 to 31st August 2011 (i.e. a partial year due to the change in our accounting period.)

Molly Sieghart, Jules Roeber, Victoria O'Neill and Jade Aebi all stepped down from their roles at FOSMAS after a long stint of dedicated input. We would like to thank them for all their tremendous hard work. New trustees were voted in – Tony Maxwell as Treasurer, Claire Slinn as Chair, Tif Loehnis as Secretary together with Melinda Dodd, Caroline Harding, Rebecca Miles and Marta Rodkina. Rebecca Miles moved overseas at the end of July and therefore stepped down as a trustee. We would like to thank her very much for all her hard work and ideas.

At an EGM on 12th July 2011, members voted to change the FOSMAS financial year from the calendar year to the academic year in order to make fundraising targets clearer for all.

Fundraising & Social Events

Fosmas members staged many terrific events during the year, starting with the Quiz Night which was a huge success both socially and financially. Many thanks to Lucy Taylor for organising this popular event and to William Sieghart for his considerable efforts in compiling the quiz and hosting the evening, which raised just under £1500.

Rebecca Miles and Claire Slinn raised £500 (£1,000 split jointly with the church) at their Nearly New Childrens Clothes sale. A huge thanks to them for their much appreciated efforts.

The Fun Run, relocated to the Sports Field in Holland Park this year, was organised by Corene and Tim Vaughn-Hughes, and was a fantastic day with many children and parents participating. It raised £1,700, which is an impressive amount. A number of pupils took advantage of the newly set up Just Giving website to solicit sponsorship from their families abroad.

The Summer Drinks Party was a great social success, popular with parents and teachers alike. A beautiful evening in the gardens of Father Gillian, many thanks to him and to Lisa Jones, who headed the team which organized this well-attended and beautifully designed event.

Our main fund raiser of the year was the Summer Fair, held in the Paddock. With some wonderful gifts donated for the raffle, some fabulous stalls enthusiastically run by parents and friends of the school, and donations from many local businesses, we raised just under £10,000 and we hope everyone who came had a great time.

Throughout the year the Friday Cake Sales, of which we have held roughly three each term, have continued to be a huge success with the pupils and in raising just over £500 in funds.

Thank you to all the Class Reps who ensure the cakes are baked and the stalls manned, and for the children and parents for buying!

Other initiatives

Our new FOSMAS branded drinking bottles have proved popular and we hope to repeat these this year. Many thanks to Caroline Harding for organising this excellent project.

FOSMAS worked with the School Governors on a one-off 'Hard Drive' appeal to raise almost £18,000 to overhaul the IT facilities at school. This fundraising appeal proved phenomenally successful and the entire school is now using new computers.

FOSMAS registered with Just Giving (www.justgiving.com/FOSMAS) which provides a very easy way for anyone to donate money to us. A number of pupils used the site to make sponsorship pages for the FunRun2011, and we are delighted that a number of parents (and a Grandparent!) are now actively using this method to donate to FOSMAS on a monthly basis. We have also received a significant number of one-off donations made in this way.

We completed our registration with HMRC to enable us to claim Gift Aid. Just Giving automatically claim Gift Aid for us on donations received through their site, and we have worked with HMRC to learn how to structure our fundraising to make it more efficient for Gift Aid. We currently have a manual claim of just under £5,000 pending payment. We now have over 50% of FOSMAS members signed up to Gift Aid – again, our thanks to Sally Bessada and Tony Maxwell for organizing this so well.

Our website has grown this year, thanks to the tireless efforts of Sally Bessada. www.fosmas.info now features a event (google) calendar and a fundraising thermometer, so we can see how much money we are raising against our target. There are many pages of useful information on our fundraisers, how to contact the FOSMAS class reps and team members. There are also links to our our Just Giving pages and the brilliant Internet shopping portal where we are paid commission on purchases made through the site (www.spendandraise.com/FOSMAS/). We are able to see that we are receiving an average of 70 unique viewers most months to our website.

We overhauled how FOSMAS uses email to communicate with the membership by centralising email addresses onto a central secure database. This has enabled us to reduce duplicated messages where parents have more than one child at the school and helps to ensure that parents are advised simultaneously. We have also launched a termly hard-copy newsletter which is book-bagged to keep our members up to date with activities.

We are now offering second hand uniform for sale regularly. Thanks to Marta Rodkina for organising these sales and for presenting the clothes in such impressive condition.

Objectives for 2012

Our aims in 2012 are to maximise fundraising potential (including being as efficient as possible on claiming Gift Aid), to increase regular giving amongst members where possible, and to work with Governors to plan for the best use of funds overall. We also hope to recruit new committee members from reception and Key Stage 1 parents and start a 100 Club.

Summary

I'm pleased to say that 2011 saw us raise a grand total in excess of £16,000* after all our expenses. We gave £5,000 to the school to use as per the agreed wish list.

*£1.6K banked in the next financial year

Claire Slinn, CHAIR