



Friends of St. Catherine's

Who are we?

Whilst we are a PTA, we call ourselves the "Friends of St. Catherine's" because we are just that – friends to our school, who want the best for our school.

We are parents and guardians who want the children in our school to have every opportunity for development, enrichment and fun. We are a diverse group, with a variety of backgrounds and perspectives. Some of us have lots of time to put in, others just join in as we can. **But together, we bring something special to St. Cath's!**

The leadership and staff of St. Catherine's already do a fantastic job of educating and looking after our little ones, and we aim to supplement their efforts to **help broaden the scope of what can be achieved within our school.**

What do we do?

What do schools usually need the most? More funds. **So, raising funds is what we're all about.** In action, that includes things like:

- Ⓢ Connecting with school leadership and staff to discover important areas of need.
- Ⓢ Meeting up for coffee and cake to brainstorm and share ideas. (Very important!)
- Ⓢ Organising fund-raising events within the school and the community.
- Ⓢ Championing campaigns for BIG fund-raising projects.
- Ⓢ Encouraging other parents to join in. (The more the merrier!)

Here are a few typical term-time events we might put on:

- Ⓢ Discos for KS1 and KS2
- Ⓢ Christmas Craft Fete
- Ⓢ Christmas Hamper raffle
- Ⓢ Easter Egg raffle
- Ⓢ Sports Day refreshments

Why join?

Elizabeth's experience sums it up perfectly:

“ When I joined the friends when my eldest daughter was in Nursery, we were taking money for the adventure trail and bars. I think it was around £14,000 then so was a big project. I loved being part of the friends as **I met lots of other parents and could support the school in a practical way. It was also rewarding to see the children enjoy the events we organised and ultimately benefit from the funds we raised.** ”

What's next?

Joining is easy! Just speak to a current Friend or simply attend the next Friends meeting. The school newsletter usually includes a Friends update, and you can also request to join the Friends of St. Catherine's Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/665828766893617/>).

Thank you for considering becoming a Friend of St. Catherine's!