

Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College Oaklands Friends' and Parents' Association

Annual Report November 2024

I am pleased to present the Annual General Meeting (AGM) report for Oaklands Friends' and Parents' Association for the year 2024. Again, with heartfelt expression I thank all the OFPA members for their unwavering support, commitment, time, enthusiasm and the Oaklands staff who continue to support us.

Our vision of raising those additional funds for the school and supporting the needs of parents, carers and pupils within Oaklands remains at the forefront of our activities in the true "Oaklands" way.

Achievements for the year:

- The continuous growth of the preloved uniform. This continues to be at the forefront of our vision. Thank you to all those parents who donate uniform and make this vision possible.
- Funds raised this year have made it possible for us to continue to support school initiatives.
- A total of £5,428.18 has supported the hardship fund, Media and Film department, Alan Hammond's memorial fund, the Music Department, Culture Week, Learning Support, Chaplaincy, the Sixth Form College, English department, STEM activities, Performing Arts, the PE department and the staff wellbeing fund.
- Community involvement.
- Andrea Hills (Vice Chair) and I were delighted to attend the laying of ashes for Alan Hammond and had the opportunity to meet Alan's family.
- In response to the parental survey, we were again able to offer the drop-in evening for the Year 7 parents which was particularly beneficial for those new to Oaklands from outside the main feeder schools.
- Following last year's launch of the Prom Attire sale we continue to offer preloved prom attire. Upon reviewing a previous survey, 12.5% of parents/carers expressed an interest in buying. It is evident that this event gives the students opportunities to try on a variety of dresses and suits and embrace the experience, but we are endeavouring to continue to promote the growth of this opportunity, possibly with the creation of an online Prom Attire SumUp store.

New ventures for 2024-25:

- Rugby boot and kit exchange opportunity.
- We have now closed the 50:50 monthly draw, with the remaining funds being donated to support student leadership.

This year, we are experiencing a transition within the Committee, with several long-standing members stepping down after many years of dedicated service. I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to Andrea Hills (Vice Chair) for 15 years of support to the OFPA. As Chair, I am also proposing to step down. It is with sincerity that I thank the current committee Caroline Rose, Maria Howell, Timea Iacob, Hazel Duffy, Nikki Tricker, Astrid Brossier, and Antoinette Cyriaano who have shown immense passion in devoting their time. On behalf of the committee, I also thank Sarah Mann and welcome back Dawn Brettell. Their constant support is an invaluable link to the school and is much appreciated.

In addition, thanks also go to the Finance Team for their support throughout the year and the Site Team for the repairs to the uniform store steps and their readiness to support our events.

It has been a pleasure welcoming Liz Cluett (Chair of Governors) to journey alongside over this year and we look forward to collaborating with the Governors further over the next academic year.

Finally, we have new faces onboard, a new committee on the horizon and we will look forward with confidence and positivity as we support the school community.

It has been a pleasure serving as Chair and I am deeply grateful for the support of our team and the community. Together, we have made progress in creating a welcoming and supportive environment for all. As we move forward, I look forward to seeing new members bring fresh perspectives to the Committee, and I am confident that our initiatives will continue to grow.

Thank you for your trust, dedication, and support in making this year successful.

God Bless

Nicky Woolhead
Chair