

THE WINTER EDITION 2022



FARLEY HILL
PTA

We have been holding out for the return of events since March 2020 and boy did we make up for it! We were excited to hold our first ever Colour Run in September, which was well attended and great fun. We are hoping to make this an annual event for friends and family of Farley Hill.

We managed to hold our first Sparks since 2019 in a new location and had positively balmy conditions

during set up for Spooky Sparks. The wait was worth it, our fireworks team put on the best display ever, and nearly 2,000 people left very happy! The team were also very happy to have delivered a great community event.

To top off this term, we were delighted to finally bring back Winter Wonderland, again in a new location, but the children's happy faces and bustling activity rooms were testament to the popularity of this event. Santa's Grotto was the talk of Lapland...

We hope that the new Farley families have enjoyed the events, the families who have started since Covid have now been able to attend and take part, and the families who are now in the final years of Farley have been happy to see some of the calendar highlights return. The additional bonus is that we have raised over half our annual target in our first term! Thank you for your support, and special thanks to every volunteer who has given their time and energy to make these events happen!

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! *Abi and Rachel, Co-Chairs, Farley Hill PTA*

Sparks in the Park

We were so pleased to be able to hold a Spooky Sparks in the Park at the new venue of the Swallowfield Showground this year! This is our biggest single fundraiser, the event was started by Farley parents 26 years ago, and is a hugely popular community event. Dad Power (and some Mum Power) did a great job in set up and build, marshalling on the night and final clear down the following day. The PTA and parents came into their own to man the (very) busy bar and food tents, and we are excited to have a new home and the next generation of helpers to keep Sparks so special. A huge thanks to Abi Schmit, George Brown, Charlie Edwards, Kate Leeming, Lucy Sant, Christina Haigh and Nick Boyle. Mrs Bateman and Mrs Logan were excellent on the gate. A wonderful night was had by all - you helped raise a total of over **£8,000!**



Winter Wonderland

Santa's Grotto

Father Christmas visited Farley Hill School this year, and lots of families visited him in his magical Grotto! Each child had the chance for a chat and received a present. We raised **£375** from the grotto!

A big thank you to Rachel Barnett, Ania Waldner, Charlie Edwards, George Brown, and the rest of the Dad Power Team.



Winter Wonderland has finally made a return, only possible for the first time in our new school building this year. If you missed it, you missed out! Opening with the School Choir, Father Christmas made his journey to his Grotto with his helpful elves. Thanks to the external stall holders, and the volunteers from each class who ran the stalls, games, Secrets room and bar. Huge thanks to everyone who donated gifts and prizes and to Rachel Barnett, Jeanie Bird, Rachel Roedel and Emma-Jean Wells for organising. Winter Wonderland raised over **£3,000!**



Online Winter Auction

The PTA would like to thank all the local businesses who donated to the online auction. With your bids, we raised a fantastic **£570** for the school! Thank you to Ania Waldner for organising.

PTA Spending

This term the PTA has funded the flowers to brighten up the front of our school. These planters will be tended by the children, and hoping that the new plants all survive the frosts!



You may have noticed the TeePee in the nursery playground, and some additional items which will enhance the nursery children's play and learning.

Just Giving

If anyone wishes to make a donation to the PTA (Registered Charity No. 1041931), with the option of adding Gift Aid, The Farley Hill School Just Giving page is:

<https://www.justgiving.com/farleyhillprimarysch>

JustGiving™

Donate now

The Colour Run

The PTA tested the water with a new event in September this year—the Farley Hill Colour Run! Children and parents ran the 1km or 2 km course, making their way through the Obstacles, but getting covered in paint along the way!

We had over a 100 runners taking part and a lot of fun was had by all!

We wish to send a huge thank you to George and the Dad Power Team for organising the obstacles, the BBQ and the bar! We are hoping this can be an annual event!



Bag 2 School

We held a Bag 2 School collection on 12th October and raised **£94**, which was fund-matched to give us a donation of **£188**. A big thank you to all the parents that donated, and to Lucy Sant for organising. The next collection will be on 8th June.



www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/farleyhillpta/

We continue to receive contributions of about £100 per month to the PTA from the easyfundraising campaign. Full details of the scheme and how to maximise your donations are on the PTA webpage, and included in the newsletter each week.



Christmas Theatre



This Christmas, the PTA has funded another fantastic Christmas theatre for the children to enjoy.

The children watched a production of The Sword in the Stone, by Image Musical Theatre. We hope the children enjoyed it!

Next PTA meeting

January 2023—Exact date TBC

In the School Hall.

Have your say:

We would love to hear from you, and what you would like to see more of from your PTA. All parents are welcome to the PTA meeting, or if you would rather drop us a note, please email: pta@farleyhill.wokingham.sch.uk

Dates for the Diary: