



**Friends of St John's Highbury Vale School Association**  
**St. John's Highbury Vale CE Primary School**  
**Conewood Street**  
**Islington, London, N5 1DL**  
**Registered Charity No: 274172**

21 June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

As many of you are aware, Friends of St John's (our equivalent of a PTA) has been central to life at St John's for many years. They are responsible for the social events that contribute towards the sense of community at the school. Together with other FOSJ activities, these raise much-needed funds for the school - covering things such as equipment, trips and experiences that otherwise wouldn't be possible.

FOSJ are now in urgent need of a new committee to take the organisation forward. The current committee are all coming to the end of their term. We need new committee members for next September or the fundraising and social activities will come to an end, together with £30k raised through these activities.

FOSJ works best with a team of about 6, and the committee members need to cover the following roles: Chair (this is often shared between 2 or more people), Secretary, Treasurer, Gift aid officer and Communications lead.

We are now putting a plea out there to ask parents to consider stepping forward! Please do talk to the current or past committee members if you're interested: the kids and parents enjoy the activities. It would be great to get a group of volunteers.

The Chair role does not have to be too onerous and can be one of mainly coordination and oversight. The Chair and team have full autonomy over how many and which fundraising activities to run and most activities can be managed by sub-teams rather than the Chair themselves. The Chair is supported by the trustees and the parent Class Reps.

The treasurer and gift aid officer need to be financially literate. The treasurer will keep the accounts in order and present them yearly to the charity commission. The Gift Aid Officer will process the claim for Gift Aid to the HMRC.

The roles have been performed by parents in all sorts of circumstances over the years: parents who are at home, as well as those who are working; by mums and by dads. It can also work well if a team of two or three people can share the role. Those who have done it have found it to be an extremely rewarding way to contribute to our wonderful school and special community.

Please do have a think about whether this is something you'd be able to consider. If you have any question, don't hesitate to reach out to Mrs Hodgson or email us at: [fosj@gsuite.stjhv.islington.sch.uk](mailto:fosj@gsuite.stjhv.islington.sch.uk)

FOSJ Committee

