# Welcome to Garrick Green Infant School





#### Charity No. 1139753

#### Welcome to Garrick Green Infant School

This information has been put together by Friends of Garrick Green (FOGG) especially for you, as a new family joining our school community. Starting school is an exciting time for the whole family. Studies show that there's a direct link between parental involvement and how well children do, so why not get involved from the start! This booklet provides you with information about FOGG and lets you know how you can join in.

#### Why do we have a PTA?

We are fortunate at our school to have FOGG which is an integral part of the school community. Over the last year we have raised over £8000 which has been used to buy many different things to enrich the children's learning. These include a sturdy bench for the school garden, sun hats for the new reception children, Ikea mindful chairs for each classroom, wooden tills for reception home corner, Bike/scooter racks, leavers gifts for year 2 pupils and books for the previous reception children to name a few.

We have 2 exciting projects which we will be putting money towards including a large boat themed climbing frame/area for the reception garden and we also hope to install a new boardwalk around the pond in the school garden also.

Our association is about much more than simply fundraising. FOGG exists to provide closer links between home and school and it is an excellent way to bring staff, parents and friends together socially in support of the school, working towards a common goal. It's fun too - just ask any of the Committee members or volunteers.

All parents and members of the school community are encouraged to get involved, even if they only have a small amount of time available.

#### **Role of the Committee**

Our Committee consists of Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Committee Members.

Chair – Jo Moore

Treasurer – Sarah Cunningham

Secretary – Jade McDonald

The Committee meets on a regular basis with increasing regularity as necessary when we are planning larger events.

#### Volunteers

We welcome any help from parents, teachers and friends. Every little helps, so just one hour of assisting at an event or wrapping lucky dip prizes or folding raffle tickets (just a few examples) would be invaluable. If you would like to join us please speak to a committee member, come along to our next meeting or email us *foggcommittee@gmail.com* 

There is also a reply slip at the back of this booklet you can complete and return to the committee FOGG BOX or the school office.

### **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

Our Annual General Meeting is held in **October** and provides an excellent opportunity for all parents to come along and hear in more detail about our work, the events we have run, the funds we have raised and how the money has been spent. It is also when we elect our new committee members.

## **Support from Parentkind**

FOGG is a member of Parentkind, which is a national charity and membership organisation providing support and guidance to over 13,500 parent associations in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Membership includes comprehensive insurance cover by Zurich Insurance plc for all our association run events and gives access to support and advice on running the association plus fundraising ideas and good practice hints and tips

Parentkind also provide resources for Parents, if you would like to sign up to their Parent e-Bulletin please visit https://www.parentkind.org.uk/Signup

#### How we raise money

Like most PTAs, the majority of our funds are raised through the events that we run. Some of our most popular events are:

Summer Fayre and BBQ	Film club
Christmas Fayre	Easter Egg raffle
Fathers Day pop up shop	Halloween Spooktacular Shop

Donations from parents are extremely important. You can donate time, money, items for sale, raffle prizes or offers of services and skills.

## Easyfundraising

You can raise free donations for FOGG every time you shop online with easyfundraising

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/garrickgreeninfants/

#### How we spend the money we raise

The PTA committee are responsible for deciding how our PTA funds are spent. Usually the School Leadership Team provide a 'wish list' of items that the school would like us to consider funding.

Funds are typically spent on the 'extras' that are not provided by the school's budget, thus making our children's learning experiences so much more fulfilling and exciting. Funds are not generally spent on improving the fabric of the school building, as this is the responsibility of the school. Our Constitution commits the association to spending money on things that will benefit the children directly.

#### How we keep you up to date

The school newsletter is sent home with the children and this includes information on our upcoming events and dates plus as well as details of the help we are looking for at larger events. Following an event, we always write to let you know how much was raised, and when we reach our target, we tell you what the money will be spent on.

We have FOGG posters around the school for up and coming events and we send slips home in book bags where your help is required.

If you have access to Facebook, please join our face book page *Friends of Garrick Green*.



#### We look forward to welcoming you to our school!



# If you are interested in volunteering for FOGG please fill in

the slip below.



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Name	Name
Contact email	Contact email
Telephone Number	Telephone Number
Days/Times available	Days/Times available
Things you would be interested in helping with/skills you could bring	Things you would be interested in helping with/skills you could bring