



FRIENDS OF POVEREST

Poverest Primary School
Tillingbourne Green
Orpington, Kent, BR5 2JD

Chair Gemma Marshall 01689 816060

Headteacher Paul Haylock 01689 816060

Registered Charity No: 1163062

Annual Report 2024-25

The Role of Friends of Poverest

The Friends of Poverest exist to support Poverest Primary School by raising funds and running events for the pupils. Funds raised are used to pay for agreed items and services throughout the school year, including Athletics, Y6 coaches, book gifts for children moving from Reception to Year 1, Teddy Bear's Picnic packs and Christmas decorations for the Christmas lunch, and more.

We are a registered charity, dispensing 100% of funds raised for the benefit of the school. Funds are raised throughout the school year through events, donations and employee fundraising matching schemes. The charity is governed by a constitution registered with the Charities Commission and is a member of Parentkind.

All parents and carers with children at the school are automatically members of the Friends of Poverest and we invite you to join us for our regular meetings.

Spending Funds Raised

When a funding request is received, it is discussed with the committee either in a regular committee meeting or - if more urgent - the committee's WhatsApp group. Decisions on what to fund are made by a simple majority, after which the treasurer will pay the agreed amount. Funding decisions are minuted or, if discussed online, captured in the WhatsApp history. We operate with full transparency and invite anyone interested to inspect our financials.

Highlights of the Year

Highlights of the past year were undoubtedly the events we put on, especially the Summer Fair that raised a fantastic **£2,585.09** (after all deductions and payments). Other notable events were the Santa's Grotto, Christmas Market, Mother's Day Crafts and the Neon Disco. A heartfelt thank you to the parents who championed our cause! Their nominations led to a wonderful fundraising effort, bringing in **£1,708** via our JustGiving portal. That helped us to make significant efforts to fundraise towards purchasing an outdoor classroom and have made great progress so far.

This year we have also gained regular attendees from the teaching staff, which helps drive better engagement with the school. Their knowledge, enthusiasm and willingness to help has been of great value and importance to the continued success of the Friends of Poverest.

We have continued working to bring structure to how the Friend of Poverest works and operates, introducing face-to-face meetings in addition to our online meetings to encourage volunteers to meet others who are involved.

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Areas for Improvement

As ever, there are always things that we can do better for the benefit of the school and we will aim to improve, such as:

- Class representatives
One of our targets is to ensure that each class has a representative in the Friends of Poverest, to act as liaison and coordinator between us and the classes. They will ensure that communications are promptly shared and, where appropriate, followed up. We want to continue working towards this objective into the next year, recognising that it takes time for new methods of communication to be embraced..
- Fundraising engagement
This year we had a very successful external fundraising campaign and we want to invite others to nominate us as their charity when undertaking sponsored events. This will provide a great opportunity to raise additional funds from the wider communities.

What have we done for the Pupils?

In the last year we have:

- Made sure that Santa came to visit!
- Arranged Mother's Day Craft.
- Hosted a free "inflatables" day
- Hosted the Summer Fair
- Had a school disco
- Focused our fundraising for an outdoor classroom

We have also successfully organised and held the following events:

- Christmas Market
- Easter raffle
- Easter egg hunt

Thanks

The Friends of Poverest would not function without the continued support of Amba Golding, Sarah Wardle, Tatiana Karpilina, Clare Beddow, Tanya White, Roxanne Hughes, Haylea Elsey, Jude Williams, Tracey Gunn, Paul Haylock, and our (very appreciated) volunteers, supporters and sponsors.

We would like to thank the teachers, staff and leadership team at the school for supporting and recognising the work done by the Friends of Poverest.

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We will be saying a sad goodbye to our Treasurer Tanya who has been a huge part of growing the Friends of Poverest.. We will all be very sad to see you go Tanya - thank you and we wish you all the best. In light of this we have to nominate a new Treasurer. If you would like to nominate yourself, please raise your hand and a vote will be taken.

Last - but certainly not least - a huge thank you to **YOU** - our parents, carers, families and pupils. Without your generous donations and support, we would not be able to raise the funds to do what we do.

Financial Report

Throughout the school year 2024-2025 we raised a total of £18,308 and spent £12,660, leaving the closing balance £19461.15.

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Funds Raised | £18,308 |
| Funds Spent | £12,660 |
| | |
| Opening Balance | £13,812 |
| Closing Balance | £19,461 |
| P&L | £5,648 |

The table below shows the larger expenditures of the year, excluding any funds spent in preparation for the hosting or running of events (e.g., purchasing gift or food items).

| Large Expenditures | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--------|
| Month | Item | Cost |
| Nov-24 | Mathletics Subscription | £2,066 |
| May-24 | Reading Eggs Subscription | £1,700 |
| Sep-25 | Y6 Coach | £963 |
| May-24 | Reception Farm trip Coach | £299 |

The full financial report has been submitted to the Charities Commission in accordance with Part 8 of the Charities Act 2011. Any member wishing to inspect the report in detail can send a request to hello@friendsofpoverest.co.uk.

What's Next?

We will shortly start looking ahead to 2025-2026 and will have a list of events that we want to host.

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We want to focus on improving our volunteer engagement by becoming much more visible and making it simpler and easier for you to help out! We plan to do this by creating clearly structured and communicated tasks that volunteers can complete in support of the school.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the charity and in order for us to continue running the events - and fundraising for the school - we need your help! We need all skills and experiences to make the Friends of Poverest work, including project or event management, event management, creating risk assessments, or any kind of volunteering experience. If you can help and don't mind having some fun along the way then we will be happy to hear from you!

We will of course continue to send out reminders for all regular meetings and we welcome all creative ideas for events or fundraising!

On behalf of Friends of Poverest,

Gemma Marshall
Chair