

Dear parents/carers,

Hello and a warm welcome from Friends of Russell Hall

We are a registered charity (1186966) and a Parent Teacher Association (PTA). Friends of Russell Hall was set up with the aim to raise money to support Russell Hall Primary School. We are a small team and always looking for more members and volunteers. At the helm is Kelly Bareham, Yvonne Blackburn, Katie Bond and our fabulous volunteers.

What do we do?

We raise funds for much needed school resources to improve the education of all pupils, not otherwise available in the school budget.

Since 2015 it has been claimed that more money is being put into schools than ever before, however the hard truth is that **nearly all schools in England are worse off now than 5 years ago**. The average amount spent on a pupil has fallen from £5,000 a year in 2015 to just under £4,700 now. When you look at the rising school costs and the number of pupils the budget has to cover, the numbers just don't add up.

Previous years has seen the PTA provide:

- Classroom lockers for children to keep items safe
- New school Library with a wide range of new books
- Chromebook tablets for children's use in class
- Annual Christmas experience including meeting with Santa
- Education Life Caravan
- Maths, Literacy and Science resources.

Our Next Goal

Russell Hall Primary needs to dramatically increase the number of reading books that they have available. In doing this, they will be able to provide our children with more choice on the books they can take home, while allowing for a quarantine period upon the books return. Friends of Russell Hall would like to make this our next focus.

How will we achieve this?

We hold meetings throughout the school year, (currently we are running these meetings virtually) where we discuss ideas and plan events. These meetings allow us to not only organise events and fundraise for the school, but is a great way to meet other parents and make new friends.

Previous events have included The Treasure Trail, Russell Fest, Festive Flare, school fairs, dress down days, cake sales, movie nights, raffles, copper challenges, just to name a few.

How you can help?

As a parent or carer, you are automatically considered a valuable member of the Friends of family. Your level of involvement is up to you as there are a number of ways that you can help us to raise money and help the school:

- Join the PTA:** Be part of our team where you will attend meetings, share your ideas and help us to arrange future events for the school.
- Volunteer:** Give us your time. We appreciate that time is precious, we all have families, commitments, work and studies, but the more people we have on board, the less time each member will need to give.
- Donate:** We are always looking for donations – chocolates, bottles, toys, books and baked goods. We use these in tombola's and as prizes at our events.
- Shop Online:** You can support our PTA without any cost to you, by signing up for #easyfundraising, which allows you to raise donations while you shop. <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/forusselhall/?invite=K819HI&referral-campaign=s2s>
- School Lottery:** Join our school lottery, there's a winner each week, plus a chance for the grand prize of £25000! www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/russell-hall-primary
- Matched Funding:** Check if your employer has a match funding policy; this means that they will match the fundraising total of an event or sponsorship raised.

Thank-you!

We truly appreciate the support we have received in the past, and for all your generosity, without it; we would not be able to provide the school with the events and equipment that we have so far.

If you would like to know more or offer support, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us through our email friends@russellhall.bradford.sch.uk, alternatively you can contact us via our Friends of Russell Hall Facebook page: www.facebook.com/FriendsOfRussellHall

Thank you from the Friends of Russell Hall, we look forward to seeing you at our next event.