



www.foes.org.uk
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Charity No. 514189

20th May 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

FOES Facing Closure

You may remember that I wrote to you back in January about the FOES committee roles that will become vacant at the next AGM in September 2019.

Unfortunately, to date, we haven't found anyone to take on these voluntary roles. In addition, our Treasurer's circumstances have recently changed, and as a result she will also now be standing down from her role. This means we are now looking for volunteers for all three committee roles: Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.

Our current position is that if we don't have anyone to pass these committee roles on to at the AGM, our only option will be to disband FOES. In accordance with our Constitution, we would then be required to give FOES' net assets to the school 'for the benefit of the pupils of the school'. (You can view a copy of our Constitution on our website: <http://foes.org.uk/About-Us/Charitable-status.>)

As many of you will know, FOES are fortunate to be the trustees of a managed Fund, the Bicentenary Trust Fund, worth in excess of £100,000. The original fund was raised by our predecessors, parents and friends of the school, to provide an annual interest income that could be spent by FOES for the benefit of students of the school. The Bicentenary Trust fund would make up the bulk of FOES' assets to be passed on to the school.

FOES has been an integral part of the Easingwold School community for nearly 40 years, and we feel it would be a desperate shame if it came to this. Hence, we are urgently appealing for volunteers either from the current parent community, or from the wider community, to come forward to take up the FOES' mantle.

FOES has so much to offer! Over the years, FOES have raised literally hundreds of thousands of pounds for the benefit of the students attending our local secondary school. Funds have been spent on a wide range of equipment and resources such as laptops, sound equipment, 3D printer, as well as experiences such as theatre trips, authors visits to school, afterschool sports clubs and inspirational speakers to name but a few. Most recently, FOES made a £40,000 contribution towards the new all-weather pitch soon to be built on school grounds which will benefit students attending the school for years to come.

However, FOES is about so much more than just fundraising. One of our aims is to encourage closer links between home and school, and we believe that the many events we have organised over the years, our Autumn Dances, raffles and quiz nights, have been an excellent way of bringing staff, parents and friends together socially in support of the school.

I am writing to you ahead of our final FOES meeting of this academic year (**Tuesday 11th June, 6.30pm, in the school library**) to encourage you, 1) to attend the meeting, 2) to consider if you would like to see FOES continue to operate beyond 2019, and 3) if you would, to think about what you could offer to help make this possible.

The present committee have worked hard to build positive relationships with the school, and we have everything in place for a smooth handover. Committee roles can be shared, so if you are thinking you would like to help but are daunted by the prospect of taking on a committee role on your own, sharing it with a friend might be an option?

Please get in touch with any questions you might have about the committee roles and what they entail. We'll do our best to answer them. You can contact us by email (hello@foes.org.uk) or via our facebook group (just search for 'FOES' and request to join if you haven't already). I hope we will see you on the 11th June.

Best wishes

Fiona Skelton
FOES Chairperson