



Registered Charity Number: 291153

Chairs Report for 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020

This period has been an unprecedented time for the Friends of Castle School. The COVID-19 pandemic has severely impacted on the fund-raising activities and abilities of the charity and the Committee.

Since last March, we had to cancel the imminent Barn Dance with immediate effect and we have had our two other major events, the highly successful and well supported School Fete and Christmas Fair, postponed. COVID-19 has only reinforced this Committee's plans to hold 1 major school event per term when allowed but only when it is completely safe to do so.

The absence of this money, combined with knock-on effects from this year's COVID restrictions from various other revenue streams, have prevented this Committee from providing the extra support, equipment and after school activities for our pupils that we initially wanted to.

However, we have still received grants, donations and monies from individual fund raising activities. The Christmas Card and tea towel initiative went extremely well and raised more than expected. For this we are truly grateful and all the Committee would like to thank and praise all these parents, pupils, staff and contributors for their efforts and continuing support.

Over the course of the past year we have still had significant successes, particularly with the completion of the school running track allowing our pupils all-weather access to the field, which has been much-needed and well used by the pupils this year. Further major success has come with the acquisition of an MPV for the Post-16 World of Work team and Primary House has received funding for new outdoor and sensory equipment. For Christmas, we provided funds for a new Santa suit so all the pupils received a present from Father Christmas.

Looking forward to further projects, we will continue to build on these successes and develop new and exciting fund raising ideas and avenues of income. This will ensure that the Friends of Castle School can, and will, successfully continue to achieve the objectives, aims and purpose set out within The Constitution.

Guy Sargent

Chair of Friends of Castle School