



Friends of Whitchurch

Newsletter

Dear Whitchurch Families,

I'm really excited to share our first Friends of Whitchurch (FOW) newsletter of the year and take a moment to reintroduce myself to you all.

For those who don't know me yet, my name is Hetel, and I'm a proud Whitchurch mum with a child currently in Year 2 and another little one who will be joining the Whitchurch family next year! I first got involved with FOW when my eldest was in Reception, joining the committee and getting to see first-hand just how much goes on behind the scenes to make our school a special place. Following our recent AGM, I'm delighted and honoured to have been elected as Chair.

Being part of FOW has been such a lovely way to get more involved in school life, meet other parents and help create those extra special moments our children remember. As a mum myself, I know how much these experiences mean to our children, whether it's the excitement of a school disco, the fun of a fair or simply seeing everyone come together as a community. When I'm not busy with family life, work and FOW, I love curling up with a good book or spending time with my family and friends.

For anyone who is new to Whitchurch or hasn't come across FOW before, we're a parent-led group that brings families together, organises fun events and raises money to help enhance our children's school experience. We have lots to look forward to this year, including our much-loved Winter and Summer Fairs, children's discos, bake sales and more. There really is something for everyone, and we can't wait to share these moments with you!

Here's to a wonderful year ahead, full of fun, laughter and lots of lovely memories. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

Warmest wishes,
Hetel Shah
Chair, Friends of Whitchurch (FOW)



Meet the Team

The Trustees



Hetel
Chair



Dipika
ViceChair



Treasurer
Sundip



Secretary
Charley

The Committee



Ayesha



Bhavna



Disha



Nikil



Raluca



Ravi



Sanjiv



Zena

Get to know the team



Hi, I'm Dipika! I'm a proud mum of two – a boy and a girl. My son is currently in Year 6 at Whitchurch, and my daughter is in nursery, hopefully joining the Whitchurch family in September 2027!

I'm the Vice Chair of Friends of Whitchurch, and I love being part of a fantastic team that helps bring our school community together.

For me, FOW is about more than just fundraising. It's about creating fun experiences and special memories for our children, bringing families together and making a positive difference to school life.

Outside of FOW, I love spending quality time with my family, catching up with friends and meeting new people. I'm a sociable person who enjoys getting involved, having a laugh and making new connections.

I'm always happy to have a chat, hear new ideas and welcome more parents into our FOW family. I'm looking forward to another exciting year of fun, fundraising and making memories together!

Hello, I am Sundip. I have two daughters at Whitchurch (Year 1 and 4) and have been a FOW committee member for 3 consecutive Summer Fairs. I am a Mathematics graduate from Imperial College London and have previously worked for large technology companies. Outside of my career, I love to read.



Hi, I'm Charley! I'm the Secretary and look after social media for Friends of Whitchurch. I love being part of a team that brings our school community together, raises money for the children, and creates fun memories for our families. When I'm not busy with FoW, I'm usually reading fantasy books, dancing at Zumba, or spending time with my son.

Hi, I'm Ayesha! I'm a Year 6 parent and have been a Class Parent Representative since the start of our Whitchurch journey, which began during the unusual Covid days! I joined Friends of Whitchurch (FOW) in 2025 and have loved helping create memorable experiences for the children and bringing families together.

I'm also mummy to a three year old daughter who certainly keeps us on our toes and, all being well, will be joining Whitchurch next year! With two children at different stages, life is certainly busy, but never dull!

Outside of school, I work at a national charity. I love being part of things that make a positive difference, however big or small. I believe every child should feel included, valued and treated fairly, with the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive.

I'm usually rushing from one place to another, but if you see me around school, do come and say hello!





Hi, I'm Bhavna, a proud mum of two children in Years 4 and 6, as well as a secondary school teacher. Outside of family and school life, I enjoy all things crafty, especially knitting and crochet, as well as running and reading.

I'm delighted to be part of the FOW committee and look forward to helping raise funds for our school by organising fun events, bringing families together and creating wonderful memories for the children!

Hi, I'm Disha Khimji, former FOW Treasurer and now a proud Committee Member! By day, I'm a qualified accountant, but beyond the numbers, my real passion lies in planning events, bringing people together and making a little magic happen!

I love turning ideas into fun-filled, memorable moments, especially when it means putting big smiles on little faces! After all, a little chaos, lots of laughter and happy children make it all worthwhile!



Hi everyone! I'm Nikil - proud dad of two, part-time taxi driver, full-time snack provider and a familiar face around Whitchurch!



My son has officially graduated to the big world of secondary school, while my daughter is still flying the Whitchurch flag in Year 6!

I've been part of the FOW team for the past five years, previously serving as Vice Chair and now happily continuing as a committee member.

Over the years, I've loved getting stuck into school events, helping raise money, meeting some fantastic parents and, of course, having plenty of laughs along the way! Seeing the children having an amazing time makes all the hard work (and occasional chaos!) totally worth it.

Here's to another year of brilliant events, lots of fundraising, plenty of fun and working alongside an amazing team to make even more wonderful memories for our children!

Hi, I'm Raluca Utui! I'm a proud mum of two lovely girls who are both part of the Whitchurch family, currently in Year 4 and Year 6.

I've been working at Whitchurch as an SMSA for the past two years, and I have six years of experience volunteering and working with children of different ages. Being part of the school community means a lot to me, and I love being able to play a part in making school life a positive and enjoyable experience for our children.

Outside of school, I'm a keen reader and love getting lost in a good book. I also enjoy bringing people together, especially during the festive seasons, when I love organising events and creating special moments for family and friends.

I look forward to getting to know more families by joining the amazing FOW team, sharing ideas and helping make our school community an even more welcoming and special place for everyone!





I'm Ravi Parikh, a proud parent at Whitchurch School, where my son joined Reception this September. Having seen first-hand how warmly the school welcomes new families, I was keen to give something back and recently joined the Friends of Whitchurch (FoW) committee.

I'm passionate about supporting our school community and helping create memorable experiences for the children.

Hi everyone, my name is Sanjiv and I've newly joined FOW so looking forward to seeing what it's all about.

My daughter is in Year 1, 1RA, and has been with Whitchurch since nursery.

I attended the AGM last month and ended up joining to see how it goes.

I enjoy the events arranged for the school so now is my chance to get more involved.

I spend any spare time (very limited) watching most sports, going to concerts, festivals and above all travelling to new countries with my family to see new places.



Hi, I'm Zena, I have been a FOW Committee member since my child was in Reception. He is in Year 6 now! By day, I work for DWP and I also look after my elderly Mum.

I joined FOW all those years ago, to help raise funds and organise events, to give back to the school community. I love being a member of FOW, it is so rewarding to see the children enjoy the events I, help bring to life! I am also a Class Parent Representative.

I love spending time with friends and family. I love listening to all kinds of music, my favourite singers are Michael Jackson and George Michael. I'm sure that's, where my son gets his passion for music too. I love going for walks. I also love watching horror movies and true crime documentaries. I also love building lego sets. I love baking too.

Say hello if you see me in the playground!



Mirco Volunteers

Ever thought about volunteering to help at one of our events? We know that people don't always have the time to commit to help plan our events but maybe you could spare an hour or two at some of our events. By joining our micro volunteers Whatsapp group, there is no obligation to volunteer, simply a way for us to post messages asking for help and if you are able to, just reply and we will let you know next steps. We cannot run many of our events without volunteers and we truly appreciate any time that anyone can give. Scan the QR code to join. Thank you!



