



Friends of Monkfrith School (FOMS) Annual General Meeting 2025

**Meeting notes and outcomes
07/07/2025**

Agenda

1. Background to FOMS

3. Annual Report

- Summary of activities and achievements for the 2023–2024 academic year

4. Treasurer's Financial Report

5. Headteacher's Update

- School highlights and developments during the academic year
- Acknowledgement of the charity's contributions to the school

6. Funding Plans for 2024–2025 + beyond

7. A closer look at the EYFS outdoor space renovation proposals

8. Appointment and Election of Trustees + Committee Members

- Nominations and elections
- Resignations
- Confirmation/ election of new trustees/committee members

Background

- **FOMS is the parent teacher association (PTA) of Monkfrith School and is a registered charity (charity number: 1146032) that runs to support the activities of Monkfrith school – all parents, guardians, carers and teachers are members of the association**
- **We exist to support Monkfrith School and have two aims:**
 - 1. To fundraise for the school to provide some of the extras that the school budget cannot otherwise cover**
 - 2. To contribute to building the sense of community we have at Monkfrith – by putting on fun events and supporting other school events**
- **FOMS is governed by the rules of the charity commission and our governing constitution of the school**
- **It is comprised of a group of trustees who meet termly, and a fundraising committee who meet regularly to organise and carry out fundraising events throughout the year**
- **The trustees must ensure FOMS complies with our constitution and carries out its aims whilst acting responsibly and in the best interests of the charity**
- **The trustees also ensure it is financially accountable (general account figures are submitted to the charity commission on a yearly basis). This was completed for 2024/2025. Funds are allocated based on requests from the school**
- **We have now installed two cashless facilities for the school through EVO via Takepayments, which was a request by many parents of cashless facility be used at events, and for which makes the summing of takings more transparent, the terminals cost just as little as £1.00 per month for all registered charities**
- **Current FOMS Trustees are Giuliana Rubinia, Jude Deasey, George Powell, Vimal Shah, Lydia Paschali, Katerina Sakki, Luke Louca.**
- **New Trustees to be voted in – Yukie Chan**

Financials:
For the Academic Year 2023-2024

Fundraising Event	Amount Raised £
Quiz Night Event	1,373.00
Christmas Event	5,018.06
Charitable Donations	4,209.71
Summer Fair + Dancethon Event	10,823.99

How much money was raised after expenses?

TOTAL RAISED:

£21,424.76

How was the money spent 23/24?

Expenses	Cost £	
Christmas Fair expenses	597.13	Charity operating costs
Quiz Night expenses	188.67	
Summer Fair expenses	1,227.47	
Parent kind expenses and terminals	208.39	
Contribution to Monkfrith School		Contributions to Monkfrith School
➤ Hobgoblin Theatre 2024 £650.00		
➤ Swimming Contribution April 2024-March 2025 £2,000.00		
➤ Annual Contribution to Resources £1,000.00		
➤ Annual Contribution to Communication service £600.00		
➤ Online Safety workshop £700.00		
➤ Zoolab Workshop 2024 £449.00		
➤ Music Contribution Academic Year 23/24 £800.00		
➤ Djembe Drums £770		
➤ Year 6 Leavers £1000		
➤ BMX Workshop £600		
➤ Mini First Aid £2000		
➤ Books £1000		
	12, 403	

FOMS Funded activities: 2023/4

Including:

Arbor

Swimming

Books

Music

Drums

ZooLab

Resources



Looking ahead: FOMS funding for 2025 and beyond...

- **Redevelopment of the outside EYFS area - £16,000**

Including surface and equipment - see next slides

- **New Laptops/Chromebooks/IT £10,000**

This is to replace the laptops that school purchased in 2020, visualisers and camera

We are in the process of getting 3 quotes (we have 2)

- **Audio/Visual equipment for the hall £10,000**

We have got 2 quotes for this that vary significantly – we now need a 3rd.

- **Books - £3000**

Following on from the reading survey we would like £2500 to refresh the books based on the children's interests. Top up our whole class reading sets so they children don't have to share and we don't have to stick back together with sellotape (and book wallets) to help them last longer. Vocabulary Books for Year 5 and 6

- **New Picnic benches £3000**

For both Key Stage 1 and 2

- **KS2 Climbing Frame (unsure – need to get quotes)**

This was purchased with school funds in 2014/5. There are parts that need repairing that we have not been able to find a contractor for as they do not want to take on liability. We are stuck. A new climbing frame is the best (only) solution. - This will be our big fundraising drive for 25/26

Current Balances as at 01/07/25 stand at:

Current A/c	£ 2,376.71
Reserve A/c	<u>£48,779.47</u>
Total Funds	£51,156.18



Transforming our EYFS Outside Area



Physical Development

To address ongoing flooding issues, part of the ground will be resurfaced and replaced with PlaySafe AstroTurf. This durable, safe surface will provide a reliable and secure area for children to engage in a wide range of physical activities.

By introducing equipment and provision designed to develop **gross motor skills**, such as climbing, balancing, and running, we are creating an environment where children can **build strength, coordination, and confidence**.

These activities are critical for their **physical development**, supporting their ability to navigate the world around them and **encouraging active, healthy lifestyles**. The new surface ensures that children can explore these physical challenges safely, promoting **risk-taking and resilience** as they develop essential skills for later life.



Communication and Language

While communication, language, and mark making are well-developed within the classroom, we recognise the need to enhance these areas in our outdoor provision. This is especially important as many children enter Reception with lower starting points in these key areas. By transforming our outdoor space to better **support imaginative play**, storytelling, and early writing, we can create **rich, engaging opportunities** that naturally encourage children to **express themselves, build vocabulary, and develop the fine motor skills** essential for writing. Outdoor learning allows for bigger movements, collaborative mark making, and real-life experiences that inspire meaningful language use. Strengthening this provision outside will help us **close gaps** early and lay the **essential foundations for future learning** in literacy



Storage

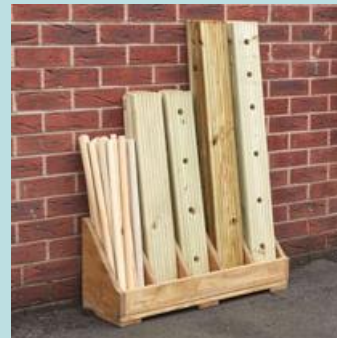
To ensure efficient use of the space and promote long-term organisation, we will introduce two types of storage.

First, adult-managed storage will be implemented to house equipment in a way that optimises the available space and protects the longevity of resources. This system will enable educators to keep the environment tidy and well-equipped, ensuring that resources are always available and in good condition for children's learning.

Second, we will include self-selection storage sheds to encourage children's **independence and responsibility**. By allowing children to choose and return their own materials, we are fostering a sense of ownership and empowering them to take charge of their learning. This setup will also support the development of **organisational skills, problem-solving, and decision-making**, key aspects of early years development.

Children at Monkfrith love construction, and we want to build on this enthusiasm by offering a wider range of open-ended construction opportunities. This dedicated area will not only support the development of **physical and fine motor skills**—such as lifting, stacking, joining, and manipulating materials—but will also be a powerful driver of **communication, language, and social development**. As children collaborate, plan, and build together, they will naturally engage in **meaningful conversations, negotiation, and problem-solving**. The flexible nature of the construction equipment means it can be used in countless imaginative ways, encouraging **creativity, teamwork, and critical thinking**, while also supporting key areas of the Early Years curriculum.

Construction





Maths

We want to create a **flexible, engaging** outdoor Maths area that allows us to offer a **wide range of learning opportunities beyond the classroom walls**. By introducing large-scale mathematical equipment—mirroring the resources already available indoors—we can embed mathematical thinking naturally into children's outdoor play. This approach supports key concepts such as counting, measuring, comparing, sorting, and pattern-making in an active, hands-on way.



Outdoor maths invites children to use their whole bodies, **work collaboratively, and explore number and shape through real-life, meaningful experiences**. It also enables practitioners to respond to children's interests and extend learning in the moment. By weaving maths into the outdoor environment, we are not only enriching their understanding but also helping to **build confidence and enthusiasm for maths** in a fun, memorable way.

Reading



We want to create a wooden teepee to serve as a dedicated outdoor reading space—an **inviting, magical spot** where children can **escape into the world of books**. In the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), reading plays a central role in **supporting language development, imagination, comprehension, and emotional literacy**.

By providing an engaging space like the teepee, we are extending the literacy-rich environment beyond the classroom, making books accessible in a new and exciting context. Whether children are sharing a story with an adult, retelling familiar tales with friends, or exploring books linked to their outdoor discoveries, the teepee becomes a hub for **meaningful, language-rich experiences**.

For children who may not yet view themselves as readers, this calm, cosy, and enchanting space can help foster a love of stories, build confidence, and support the essential foundations

of literacy in a way that feels joyful and natural.

Water and Sand Play

The sand pit will remain in its current location, but will be enhanced with new equipment to allow for more versatile and purposeful use. Alongside this, a dedicated water play structure and sink will be introduced to significantly expand opportunities for **open-ended, imaginative exploration**. These additions are not just for play—they form a vital part of the Early Years curriculum, supporting children's **physical development, problem-solving skills, scientific thinking, and collaborative play**. By giving children the tools to experiment with textures, volume, flow, and cause-and-effect relationships, we're fostering **curiosity and creativity** in a hands-on, sensory-rich environment.



Costings

Surfacing

We have had three quotes to explore options for the space. Astroturf with a shock absorber layer (required for schools) was the best balance that would enable us to solve a drainage issue and make the best use of the area.

Quotes ranged from £6000 to **£8000**.

Equipment

We are asking **£7000** to purchase the equipment (most of which is pictured) to help transform the space. This will mean that we can rezone the areas outside and make the learning environment flexible and purposeful.

School has a small pot of money (approximately **£3000** that it will also

AGM Outcomes

Trustees and Committee Members

Trustee appointments and resignations:

The following Trustees were nominated and successfully elected as of the AGM on 07/07/2025:

- Yukie Chan

No Trustee resignations were received however, Giuliana Rubinia has given notice of her resignation as a Trustee at the end of 25/26.

Committee

The following roles for the committee were voted in and subsequently accepted by those present at the AGM and to commence in September 2025:

- **Committee Chair:** Yukie Chan
- **Vice-Committee Chair** - Geeta Sabunani
- **Secretary** - Karen Jones
- **Jane Nicholson** – Treasurer (from 01/10/2025)

Contact FOMS: friendsofmonkfrithschool@gmail.com