

FRIENDS OF DITCHAM PARK SCHOOL AGM – September 2014

Good evening and welcome to The Friends of Ditcham Park School Annual General Meeting. My name is Vicki Harvey and I have been the Friends' Chairperson for the past year. My daughter has just left Ditcham & started college and my son is now in Form 3 of Seniors.

Every parent, all members of staff and Governors of the School are all automatically members of The Friends of Ditcham Park School.

The Friends is a registered charity and our aim is to organise fun social events for the benefit of the pupils, parents and staff, which helps raise additional funds to buy things that are not directly required by the School curriculum but do enhance the life of our children at the School.

The elected committee, supported by our friendly group of helpers and school "buddies", works hard to ensure we achieve our [charitable aims](#), at the same time making sure everybody has a lot of fun in doing so! We organise a number of social events and activities throughout the year, including discos, quiz nights, pupil activities and our popular annual Christmas & May fairs. Additionally we also assist the School at their two Open Mornings in May and October.

This forthcoming year, we are currently organising a family 'Bingo & Burgers' night on Friday 10th October and in January, we are holding a very glamorous 'Burns Night Ball' at The Tithe Barn, near Petersfield.

Money the Friends raise at these events goes towards equipment extras for the school as well as providing the children with guest speakers and cultural days, which without the dedication and help of all the friends committee would not be possible.

The Friends is a warm and friendly group of parents, teachers and school staff who are all very enthusiastic about giving the children that extra something special. Ditcham is a school that knows and values every child and the Friends work in conjunction with the school to enhance our children's school experience.

The Friends usually hold half termly Committee meetings with some extra sub-committee meetings being held when we're organising larger events. We welcome all new and existing parents to come and join the Friends, to help with events and bring suggestions for new events.

For anyone who is interested in joining the Committee or would like to find out some more about us, or who just would like to help at some events, then please feel free to speak to any member of the Friends who are here tonight.

We have some forms here that you can leave your details on.

We welcome anyone to come along to our first Committee meeting next Wednesday 24th Sept, 7pm in the School Library, which is by the main entrance – to find out 'what we are all about'.

I would to say a very big thank you to everyone on the Friends Committee who has helped make this year such a successful one and hope that this will continue.

Please, also check out our fantastic website:

www.friendsofditchampark.com – this is constantly updated to keep the whole School community informed.

Thank you for listening and I hope that some of you will consider joining the Committee and becoming 'a Friend'.

I'd now like to pass you over to Denise Allen for her Treasurer's report.

(After the Treasurer's Report)

The 3 officers; The Chair, Treasurer & Secretary now have to all officially step down and be re-elected.

The current officers; myself, Denise, our Treasurer & Jules Wilson, our Secretary are all happy to be re-elected – unless anyone else would like to put themselves forward for any of these positions?