FOCUS NEWS

Bake Sale

It's been a busy six months since the new committee started in January 2025, and we're excited to share some of this year's highlights with you.

Bake Sale Revival

First on our agenda was bringing back an old favourite – the **Year Group Bake Sales**. A big shoutout to **Kathryn Moeller**, who stepped up as our Bake Sale Coordinator for the rest of the academic year. Thanks to her and the many volunteers, we successfully ran sales for all year groups. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with both children and parents enjoying the experience. Thanks to your support, we raised an incredible **£2,136**! The Senior Leadership Team is now working on how best to allocate these funds across the year groups to enhance student learning experiences.

Second-Hand Uniform Sales

Second Hand Uniforms

Alongside the bake sales, we also ran **second-hand uniform sales**, helping families manage costs while also supporting sustainability. Thank you to **Sophy Jobai** (Co-Treasurer) and **Arzu Colak** (Secretary), as well as our superstar volunteers **Nonantzin Beristain** and **Alexandra Faragher**, who've been quietly working behind the scenes washing and prepping the uniforms. These efforts raised over **£1,000** to go toward enriching our children's learning opportunities.

The Summer Fair – Our Biggest Event Yet!

Our biggest event this year was without a doubt the **Summer Fair**. After weeks of preparation, we're still catching our breath! It was only possible thanks to the **incredible volunteers** who gave more than 100% on the day.

A huge thank you to:

- **Becky Willmer**, who led the **Raffle** – the prizes were amazing!
- Our tireless helpers: **Albena Ruseva**, **Angela Gonzalez**, **Anya Aeberli**, **James Strachan**, **Lizzie Courtney**, **Mengke Feng**, **Endanie**, **Nesrin Akin Öztabak**, **Saeede**, and a very special shoutout to **Tracey Self** – we will miss you!
- Our **Second-Hand Book Stall** dream team: **Stephanie Reich**, **Pratibha Desale**, **Elkin Lopez-Fontal**, and **Gabriela Lopez-Arias**.
- The much-loved **Adopt-a-Bear** stall was run by **Ilker and Petek Colak**, **Barbara Grigoleit**, **Shona Stark**, **Notburga Rotheneder**, and **Kathryn Moeller** – who we think might have helped on every single stall!
- Helping with **second-hand uniforms** and **tote bags** were **Erin Gontang**, **Ewa Sroka**, and **Supriya Nagane**.

Preparation for the Summer Fair

"My partner and I volunteered on the food & drink stall at the summer fair along with our 4 year old daughter. To be honest, it was my favourite part of the event. My daughter loved helping, she felt really involved and part of the organisation. It also helped me meet new people and feel much more like I'm part of the school community too. As a new parent to the school sometimes it can feel overwhelming and a bit bewildering, but actually volunteering on the stall made my family feel part of it all, rather than just visitors. I would really recommend it to others. "

- LIZZIE

A massive cheer goes to **Catarina Loureiro**, who painted countless faces with the help of our wonderful **KS1 teaching team**, and to **Ciprian Colotila** for stepping in during the chaos.

Summer Colour Fun Run

One of the absolute highlights was the **Colour Fun Run**, generously sponsored by **Present Made**, one of the developers at Eddington. Thank you to **Jack Hughes** from Present Made for making it happen, and to all the teachers who showed up after a long week to help marshal the event – your dedication is the backbone of FOCUS.

Special thanks to:

- **Bahar and Volkan Turkmen** for jumping in fearlessly.
- **George Young** from Premier, who ran the course five times and played a huge part in planning the event.

A big thank you to **Vicky Sturdy** for donating her time to photograph the Colour Fun Run. We really appreciate you capturing the spirit of the event!"

To all the **students** who volunteered alongside their adults – we hope you had fun and will convince your grown-ups to volunteer again next year!

Our behind-the-scenes **clean-up crew** deserve medals: **Erin Gontang**, **John Taylor**, and **Dirk Visagie** – you are our heroes.

Acknowledgements

A heartfelt thank you to:

- **Ms Daniella Leonard**, **Mrs Marie Mensah**, and **Mr James Tweddle** for their constant behind-the-scenes support.
- **Mr Duncan Newman** and **Mr Andy Jones**, who ensured all the equipment and furniture were where they needed to be – we would be lost without you!

To **our amazing community**, thank you for your continued support. Together, we've raised a fantastic **£3,000** at the event, all while having an unforgettable time.

If you'd like to get involved – even just 10 minutes makes a difference – please get in touch! We have a small army working in the background, and there's always room for more. Email us at **focusucps@gmail.com** with any ideas, feedback, or offers to help.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer. If you're moving on from UCPS or heading off to secondary school – we wish you the very best of luck!

With gratitude,
Sarah Walsh (Chair),
Sophy Jobai & Adri Visagie (Co-Treasurers),
Azru Colak (Secretary),
Ms Charlotte Bray, and Ms Kirstin MacVicar