

FRIEND ZONE

22 May 2025



You're back in the Friend Zone! Welcome to the second edition of your half-termly update from Friends of Kilmore as we work together to raise funds and nurture our amazing school community.

First, the big one — the Early Years Garden Party made a mega **£4000** which will be spent on improving and revamping the outdoor mud kitchen and water play areas for Nursery, Reception and Year 1.

Earlier in the year, our annual quiz night brought in over **£1100** (you all loved those cocktails!), while the school disco made an epic **£1500**. Plus, our Open Garden Day raised over **£280** towards ongoing garden projects.

All of this money will make a huge difference to your children's Kilmore experience — thank you!

Keep reading for some updates on what else we've been up to, some brilliant insight from our Sustainability team and more on forthcoming events, like our Carnival of Culture, Pride Picnic, and Junior parkrun takeover.

Thanks, as ever, for being part of this incredible community.

The 2025 FoK Committee

Emma, Tekie, Ian, Stefan, Claire, Natalie, Isabel, Bethan, Helena, Hayley, Kate, Liam, T, Becky, Monika, Libero, Katrina, and Sophie.

In this edition:

[Highlights of the Summer Term so far](#)

[Carnival of culture - we need you!](#)

[Coming soon](#)

[Spotlight on: Sustainability](#)

[New ways to keep in touch or donate](#)



Highlights of the summer term so far...



Furry Fun and Sunny Skies at the Early Years Garden Party

We were so lucky with the weather for the Early Years Garden Party a couple of weeks ago — it meant that attendance was high, drinks were flowing and ice lollies were being slurped with enthusiasm. Highlights included

- The adorable petting zoo from Kelly's Donkeys. Unsurprisingly, a huge hit with kids and grownups alike. And guess what? Our wonderful school was a huge hit with main man Spike too, who commented on how brilliantly behaved, gentle and polite our little ones were as they cosied up with the donkey, pony, goats, sheep, dog and rabbits who travelled all the way from Somerset. So proud. And no animals escaped, either. Phew!
- The fantastic Community Allies wild garden takeover, with our activities from breathwork coach Tareena, Rastafari centred children's book publisher The Griots Paintbrush and multicultural drama group Mulch Workshops going down brilliantly (and providing some much needed shade!).

- As ever, the amazing handiwork of Magic Eyes Face Painting whose designs were so incredible that some of the children went home looking like they could be adopted by the petting zoo.
- The tireless work of all of our volunteers selling drinks, hot dogs, treats and toys, running the fun and games and keeping everything running smoothly.

These events are a huge community effort and the garden party always feels like an important warmup for the epic summer carnival which is currently in the works.

It's also a chance for incoming nursery and reception starters to get a taste of life at Kilmorie - and we're confident they went home all warm and fuzzy.

Thank you to everyone who came along, queued, ate, drank, played, petted, bounced, helped and mingled.



Highlights of the summer term so far...



Open Garden Day - full of positive vibes and sugar!

A huge thank you to everyone who came along for a poke around and a potter at our Open Garden Day at the end of April.

The weather was glorious, we had a plethora of cakes (thank you to everyone that was so generous with their donations), and the homemade lemonade was a huge hit.

Everyone loved seeing the brilliant work from Eva and her green-fingered crew and lots of kids got their hands dirty in the wild garden too





CARNIVAL OF CULTURE, SATURDAY 12TH JULY, 12-3PM

It's the big one — the summer event! And this year, we want to celebrate our magnificent community and all the cultures that make us so special!

We believe that learning about, understanding and appreciating different cultures makes us kinder, more thoughtful human beings all round.

We are a wonderfully diverse community at Kilmore, with people from lots of different backgrounds. That is something to celebrate in our book!

We're designing the day now to make sure we have lots of fun games and activities, food and drinks that celebrate who we are. But it's your ideas that are going to make this day amazing...

Do you have any fun games we recreate? Or do you know (or are you?) musicians, dancers or performers who would like showcase their skills? We also have some room for stalls, so if you know someone who would like to sell their wares, or take part in our carnival, please email us at friendsofkilmore@gmail.com and we'll be in touch.

As we get closer, we'll be asking for help like always - volunteering on stalls, help with our wish list and other bits and bobs - after all, we can't do it without you! So watch this space.



Forster junior parkrun: Kilmore takeover for Pride Month

Sunday 22nd June, 9am

We've teamed up with Forster Memorial Park junior parkrun in Catford for a Pride-themed Kilmore takeover!

This means kids from 4 to 14 can come along to run, walk, hop, skip or jump 2KM (colourful outfits encouraged!).

Parents can run/walk too, volunteer or just watch with a coffee. If you fancy volunteering on the day, drop Isabel a message on 07805 218584 so we can assign roles ahead of time.

We'll need marshals, barcode scanners, timekeepers and more — if you've volunteered at a parkrun event before, great and if not, it's very easy and super rewarding!

If your children just want to run, all they need to do is register for free online beforehand [via this link](#) and turn up at 8.50 on the day for a quick briefing before the run.



Pride Picnic

Friday 4th July
4.30pm - 7.00pm

To support London Pride (taking place on 5 July) and celebrate the inclusivity and love that Pride represents, we're holding a relaxed social evening in the school playground.

Bring a picnic, a blanket and the whole family - the kids can play, you can chat to fellow parents.

We're encouraging you to bring your own food and drink - but we will have a simple bar (alcoholic and non) and crisps available.

This isn't so much a fundraiser, more an opportunity to get the community together and socialise.





Spotlight on: Sustainability

From our Sustainability Lead and Kilmore parent, Bethan

Our Kilmore children are growing up in a changing world. Last year was the warmest on record globally and temperatures continue to rise, with far-reaching impacts. Friends of Kilmore is keen to reduce the environmental footprint of our events.

So over the next year, you'll see more of the following...

- Recycling points
- Discounts for re-using your cup
- Fewer plastic or disposable prizes
- Sweets and treats with less packaging

We will continue to offer meat-free food options and to ask for donations of pre-loved toys and games. Where possible, we will work with local suppliers.

Let us know what else you would like to see!

Keep reading for tips on being more sustainable this summer...



8 tips for a sustainable summer!

Shop secondhand

Source your sunhats, sandals and sunglasses from secondhand sites like eBay and Vinted or local charity shops.

Rent don't buy

Whether you want to try out an ice-cream maker, borrow a projector for an outdoor cinema or jet wash your patio, why not rent the equipment from [The Library of Things](#) (available in Crystal Palace and Dulwich)?

Travel by train

Heading away? Travel by train and make the journey part of the adventure! With bigger baggage allowances, shorter check-in times and more space on board, trains are a great way to travel with kids. Check out www.seat61.com for advice and route-planning.

Get your wardrobe ready for winter

Do you have a hole in your winter coat or a broken zip on your jeans? Do you dream of sewing your own outfits? Sewing classes (for kids and adults) are offered at [Make Mee Studios in Crofton Park](#) and [KHY Sewing School at Beckenham Place Park Mansion](#)

Recycle your old sunglasses

If it's 'new season, new you' for your sunglasses (or ordinary glasses), you can [recycle your old pair at Specsavers](#). They'll even take your old glasses cases and contact lenses.

Know your sunscreen

It's important to protect your skin from the sun, but did you know that sunscreens can contain chemicals that harm ocean-life?

Check whether your favourite brand is free from chemical UV filters (Oxybenzone and Octinoxate).

Both Nivea and Boots' Soltan brands give more information on this -

[Nivea.co.uk-reef safe sunscreen](http://Nivea.co.uk-reef-safe-sunscreen)

[Boots.com - protecting our planet](http://Boots.com-protecting-our-planet)



Enjoy local nature

Lewisham is London's top borough for parks service (Good Parks for London Report, 2024). Check out summer markets, sports and music events at larger parks like Beckenham Place Park and Crystal Palace (technically in Bromley, but close enough) as well as enjoying the open spaces at Mayow, Blythe Hill and Horniman etc. Check out [Lewisham Local](#) for summer festivals and events.



HOW TO STAY IN TOUCH:

We've got a new website where we pop all our event details...so save it as a favourite. The Class What's App messages from us will often send you there so that we can keep them a bit shorter!
friendsofkilmorie.blogspot.com

INSTAGRAM

You can email us with suggestions for events, questions and general info here
friendsofkilmorie@gmail.com



How to donate to FOK

For those who've asked, we've put together a little guide to donating to Friends of Kilmorie throughout the year (instead of just letting your kids rinse your bank card at events!).

[Learn about EasyFundraising and workplace schemes here.](#)

That's it from us...

..for this edition of Friend Zone.

We have kept in the specific interest group info on the last page - loads of you joined them after the first edition (amazing!) - so just in case you missed it.

Enjoy your half-term break and we'll see you on the other side for the busiest term of the year...



Who wants more WhatsApp notifications?

REMINDER: If you have a specific interest and want to meet like minded parents, chances are there's a mini Kilmore community for you. And if there isn't? Start one, give us the heads-up and we can spread the word in our next newsletter!



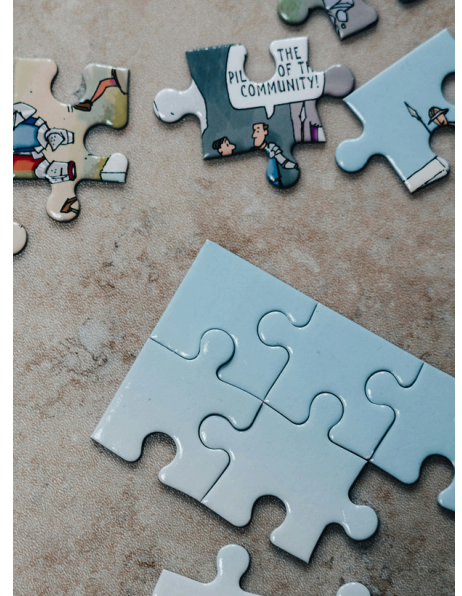
Kilmore Crew

A gaggle of helpers who pitch in to all things FoK when they have time, particularly in the run-up to big events, but without needing to join the main committee. Bakers, artists, all-round eager beavers... [join here](#).



Kilmore Runners

Originally founded to assemble a team for The Big Half a few years back, now runners of all abilities chat Achilles tendons, arrange parkrun meet-ups and more. They're looking at planning a running event for the kids too. [Join here](#).



Hispanoparlantes Kilmore (Spanish Speakers)

A group for our school's small but mighty Spanish speaking community. [Join here](#).



Kilmore Garden Group

Our green-fingered gang who keep the school grounds looking pretty.

If you know your magnolia from your marigolds, or just don't mind getting your hands dirty, [join here](#).



Kilmore Makers

The home of our talented creative types, who design and make beautiful things for events, including the school production.

[Join here](#).

Smartphone Free Kilmore

A group for parents interested in the smartphone-free childhood campaign to discuss smartphones and share experiences. [Join here](#)

SEND Support & Chat

A friendly community of parents and carers of children (with and without a diagnosis) sharing SEND experiences, advice and resources. [Join here](#).
