



07 October 2025

Mission 26-26

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have some big news that we're really excited to share. We're starting a very large fundraising project at St John's. We will be putting our efforts together working hard to raise money to fund new play equipment on the main school playground.

Our current playground equipment has served the school children well for over 15 years, but it is approaching the end of its usable life. To ensure a safe, fun and engaging outdoor environment for every child for years to come we need to start now.

Our Ambitious Goal

The estimated total cost for the new play equipment is **£35,000**. This is a significant investment, but one that will benefit every child's physical development, social skills, and more.

The LSA, in partnership with the school, has set an ambitious, but achievable, fundraising target. We would love to raise **£26,000 by the end of 2026**. To put this into context, this would be the equivalent of every child raising £250 on average over the next year. We will be calling the project our **26-26** mission!

To reach this goal, we will be working hard to organise a packed calendar of exciting fundraising events. However, reaching this amount will require the effort and enthusiasm of our entire school, the friends and families of St Johns, we truly cannot do it without you.

How You Can Make a Major Difference

While attending our fundraisers is fantastic, we are asking if it might be possible for you to consider a few other ways you can help us raise substantial funds quickly:

1. **Corporate Match Funding:** Does your employer, or the company of a family member, offer a **Match Funding Scheme**? Many businesses will match, pound-for-pound, the money raised by their employees for charitable causes. This could effectively double the proceeds from an event you volunteer at!
2. **CSR and Community Sponsorship:** Could you reach out to your company's management or Human Resources department to ask if they have a **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** budget or a **Community Initiative Fund**? Sponsorship from local businesses is a vital way to close the gap on a project of this size.

3. **Donations and Support:** Any effort, large or small, is deeply appreciated. Lending a hand or offering advice is lovely and welcomed. We understand that not everyone has the time to contribute as much as they would like, and that's okay. If you would like to make a direct monetary donation for this **26-26** mission, please speak to a member of the LSA committee or Mrs Boylan.
4. **Individual Fundraising** In addition to the school's fundraisers, we encourage families to organise their own fundraising activities. You could turn a personal challenge into an opportunity to raise funds by getting sponsors for a marathon, a sponsored walk, or another physical goal. You can also host your own fundraising event outside of school, like a cake sale or a craft sale selling items such as homemade bracelets. Any effort, big or small, can make a huge difference!

We understand that £26,000 by the end of 2026 is a huge amount of money to try and raise in a short time frame, but with the collective energy and hard work of our St John's family, we are confident this is a dream we can achieve together. A new playground will benefit not only our current children, but also the future children of St John's to follow.

Please contact the LSA at stjohnslemsfordlsa@gmail.com or speak to any LSA member if you have connections, ideas, want to donate directly, or if your workplace offers a relevant scheme.

Thank you for helping us give our children the wonderful play space they deserve. Watch out for regular updates on our **26-26** mission.

Remember, it will only take us to raise £250 per child to achieve the goal. Let's do this!

Warm regards,

Faye and the LSA Committee

