



Old Grovian Association AGM 2021 – Foundation update

The WGS Foundation has ‘opened’ again after a period of disruption due to the pandemic, we thank all of our supporters who have continued to donate through this difficult time, showing the true empathy and support from our community. The current account balance stands at close to £170k.

Whilst specific fundraising projects will start to gain momentum throughout the year, the Foundation has received legacies, one off donations and several new donors have signed up to regular giving via standing orders over the last 12 months. The Foundation principle of “Paying it Forward” will be driven through our social media platforms and further communication after Christmas.

The events calendar of the OGA and Foundation remains on hold for 2021 but we are hoping to release a programme of events for 2022 shortly; including a Golf day and a number of decade reunions at school along with regional events.

Ensuring our database is kept updated remains a priority and we will continue to drive this through media posts and Xaipete. Without the various events and reunions normally held throughout the year, our ability to connect physically over the last 12 months has been limited we therefore urge the OG community to use whatever means they favour to “Update, Engage and Commit”.

We are delighted to announce that our archive digitisation is now ready to launch and all Old Grovians will receive an email update in the next couple of weeks with access details. We hope that this fantastic resource will be welcomed by generations of Old Grovians.

As we have emerged out of covid there have been some changes to the School Foundation Office. Roger Howard has stood down in his full time role as Foundation Director but will still be present on the Grove rugby pitches as he takes on the coaching of the mighty 2nd XV. Mrs Sarah Lockwood has moved departments and is now supporting the school Admissions team. We thank Roger and Sarah for their tremendous work for the Foundation over the last 3 years and I am sure we will see their faces at events in the future. The School Foundation will now be run through the Marketing department led by Old Grovian and current Director of Marketing & Commerce, Sam Cadman (89-96, st10-).

The email account: foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk remains a reliable means for more detailed correspondence and photos, along with of course traditional mail or telephone.

The support received by the Foundation during the pandemic encourages us that our project is well established and heading in the right direction. The goodwill evident within the OGA community offers immense potential. Our aim now is to reinforce knowledge of our aims and beliefs regarding bursary fee support. Now, more than ever the School remains committed to enabling pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds to access the opportunities on offer at the Grove.