

FOGS Presents Happy Circus – Wednesday 12th & Thursday 13th October 2022



The children's excitement began as the big top was erected Wednesday morning. By afternoon that excitement had reached fever pitch as the children caught sight of some of the acts in rehearsal, and by the time the circus was ready to open the excitement was palpable.

As well as the big top, the school grounds were home to stalls selling popcorn, candy floss, and drinks, while hot food was available in the school's dining hall provided by School catering team and served by FOGS volunteers.

The circus began at 7pm and there were more than 400 people seated in a large semi-circle waiting expectantly. All the children were placed at the front so that they had an unrestricted view with their parents, friends and relatives seated behind.

Suddenly, there was a loud fanfare and there, striding into the ring, was Mr Happy, the ringmaster. He certainly looked happy, and soon had all the children, and several of the adults involved in the evening's entertainment. Being a circus there were, of course, clowns and they caused much laughter and merriment. But before long a more serious atmosphere took over as performers were hoisted into the air on ropes to begin acrobatic routines high above the ring. They were extremely accomplished. Every time they were lifted into the air, the children reacted with loud screams (I suspect some enjoyed the freedom to scream as much as they were enjoying the performance).



There were more clowns, a high-wire act where a lady balanced on a bicycle some 6 metres above the ring, and some audience participation with parents selected to take part in comical acts.

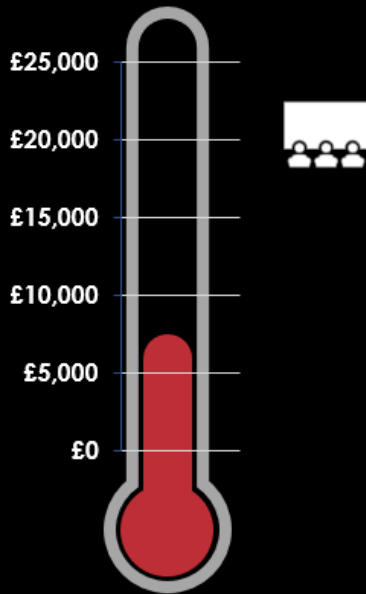
Before long it was time for a 25minute break which allowed children and adults time to stretch their legs, and stock up on food and drink.

Then it was back to the circus for more dare-devil acrobatics high in the big top, more clowning and more audience participation, this time involving several parents and Mr Sutherland, who really threw himself into the spirit of the evening.

The circus was on for two nights and provided excellent entertainment for over 1,000 spectators. In total £6,600 was raised for Grimsdyke School and children. We thank all parents who attended and hope you had a spectacular time.

2022/2023 Fundraising

Our multi-year Fundraising Objective is to contribute to extended learning spaces and equipment for the children to use during lesson hours and after school clubs.



Media Suite – Vital long-term project in conjunction with the school