

FOSS Newsletter Nov / Dec 2017

Dear Parents, Relatives and Friends,

We have changed our name and will now be known as *Friends of Stratford-sub-Castle Primary School* or FOSS for short! Our charitable status remains the same but we can open up the association to wider members of the school community, rather than just current parents and teachers. This means ex pupils, grand-parents and local residents for example can volunteer to help at the fund raising events and we will be insured to do this. We hope you will get used to the new name soon but other than that we will continue much as before.

We would also like to introduce some new committee members who were voted in at the recent AGM. Trudy Chenery is the new secretary, Kerry Fitzsimmons is the new treasurer and Isabel Habert is the new vice chair. We extend our thanks to Tamara Antone and Sarah Alford for supporting the new people during the hand over period.

Here is some information about the events coming up this term.

Christmas Bazaar - Friday 1st December at 3pm

The school hall will again be filled with a festive collection of stalls selling cakes, sweets, seasonal goods, stocking fillers and craft items. Santa Claus will be waiting to see the children in his grotto and there will be tombola games for adults, boys and girls as well as the legendary chocolate tombola, where every prize is guaranteed to be... chocolate!

The winning tickets for the 'rainbow raffle' are drawn and the grown-ups can try their luck at winning some 'seasonal drinks'. The FOSS will be selling hot dogs, soft drinks and crisps from the school kitchen.

Doors open at 3pm. Tickets to see Santa cost £1 each and will be on sale from the school office or at the bazaar on the day. To avoid long queues the children will be called in small groups, look out for Santa's helper who will help this run smoothly. Please bring small change if you can.

The FOSS would be very grateful for donations of the following items for prizes:

- * Bottles of wine or spirits
- * Chocolate – (any kind, large or small, but lots of it please!)
- * Cakes, biscuits, sweet treats – homemade or bought
- * Prizes for adult, boys and girls tombola stalls, e.g. toys, pens, books, new and packaged toiletries, stationery sets, ornaments, notepads, etc.
- * Unused small toys and novelties for lucky dip prizes, e.g. small stationery, rubbers, sticker packs, bouncy balls

Also... any offers of help to set up or run stalls on the day, all members of the family are most welcome to join in!

We also use the following to decorate the stalls and wrap gifts and would welcome any donations:

- * Christmas wrapping paper (part rolls are fine)
- * Strong string
- * Cable ties
- * Christmas themed table cloths
- * Christmas decorations
- * Christmas napkins
- * Anything Christmas themed

Nativity Play – Tues 12th and Weds 13th December at 9am

Come and get your seats early as there will be hot drinks and mince pies on sale before each performance. The FOSS will also hold a raffle each day with tickets on sale before the play. The performance will be recorded and DVD's will be on sale for £2.50 each. Further details will be sent out in the weekly school newsletter.

Rainbow raffle collection

Each class is given a colour and the children are encouraged to bring in donated items to match their colour theme. The contributions from each class are packaged into a bumper sized coloured hamper which is raffled off at the Christmas bazaar.

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| Butterfly class Red | Owl class Blue | Woodpecker Green | Fox Silver / white | Robin Gold / yellow |
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All kinds of things can go into the hampers - big or small and the cost isn't important so please give if you can. We only ask that the items are new, or as good as new. Here are some ideas to get you started; tinned / packet food, drinks, sweets, small gift items, soap, candles, Christmas items etc.

Please have a look around your home to see if there is something you don't use or no longer need, we can probably find a use for it! Why not ask grand-parents, your employer or other family members for donations too. All profits made from FOSS organised events will be spent on activities and equipment for the children at school so please give if you can.

Finally, we have been asked to raise awareness of the forthcoming **Stratford-sub-Castle Christmas Café** which will be raising money to buy a defibrillator for the local community. The event will be held at the reading rooms on Sat Dec 9th from 11am until 2:30pm. Why not pop along for lunch and help raise funds to purchase this life saving piece of equipment?

If you would like to help at this or any other FOSS event please contact Sam Vigor, Kerry Fitzsimmons, Trudy Chenery or Isabel Habert. There is no obligation to come to the meetings or help regularly, a few hours when you are able would be just fine.



Join us on Facebook - *Friends of Stratford-sub-Castle Primary School Page (FOSS)*

Finally, the FOSS would like to say a big thank you to all the wonderful parents, teachers, helpers and children who support us at our events.

Friends of Stratford-sub-Castle Primary School (FOSS)
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