



# FOSS Newsletter Christmas 2019



Dear Parents, Relatives and Friends,

Firstly, we would like to offer a warm welcome to all the new children and their families who have joined us this year. We hope you are all settling in, making friends and enjoying your new school.

In case you haven't heard of FOSS, or aren't sure what it is we do, we organise the social events that raise money to buy the fun things that aren't provided out of the ordinary school budget. We help pay for school trips and outings, visiting educational activities, swimming lessons etc. and every year there is a large project that we also contribute to.

All parents automatically become members of the FOSS (Friends of Stratford-sub-castle School) during the time their child attends Stratford school and you don't need to do anything more if it's not your thing. But if you feel you would like to get involved in the planning and running of these fund raising events we would be delighted to hear from you. Either way, please support us by just turning up to the events and spending some money. Every single contribution, no matter the size, counts towards funding the events and equipment that all our children will use and enjoy during their time at Stratford school.

## ***Committee News...***

We have had some recent changes to the FOSS committee. Kerry Fitzsimmons and Trudy Chenery decided to step down from their roles at the end of the 2018/19 school year leaving us with two committee member vacancies. We are pleased to announce that the Treasurer role has been filled by Sarah Heath and the Secretary role by Sharlene Lucas. We thank them both for stepping up and hope you will support them as they learn the ropes.

We do of course extend our gratitude to Trudy and Kerry for the tireless work they have performed on behalf of FOSS over the last two years. We hope they enjoy their well-earned rest.

## ***Rainbow raffle collection***

<b>Butterfly Red</b>	<b>Owl Blue</b>	<b>Woodpecker Green</b>	<b>Fox Gold / yellow</b>	<b>Robin Silver / white</b>
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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. 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.

## ***'Jolly Jars' and Non-uniform day on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November***

Mrs Bridson has kindly allowed the children to wear non-school uniform in exchange for bringing in a 'Jolly Jar'. This is basically an empty jam jar that you fill with something and bring to school to go on the Jolly Jars stall at the Christmas Bazaar. You can decorate the jar as well if you wish and make it as festive as you like.

Ideas for filling the jam jars include; wrapped sweets, small craft items, pipe cleaners, buttons, colouring pencils, stickers, hair slides and bobbles, marbles or miniature soaps.

### ***Christmas Bazaar - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm***

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

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 £2 and will be on early 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 helpers who will help this run smoothly. Please bring small change if you can.

**If you would like to help set up, pack up afterward or run a stall on the day please let us know, all adult members of the family are most welcome to join in!**

### ***Nativity Play – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 9am***

Come and get your seats early as there will be hot drinks, mince pies and raffle tickets on sale every morning while the children get ready to perform their play. The performance will be recorded and DVD's will be on sale for around £2.50 each. This is a ticket only event so you will need to have arranged this by filling in the reply slips sent out by the school office.

### ***Funding update...***

The first school disco of the year was a great success, raising £259.68. Thank you to all who attended and we hope you enjoyed it. We also 'bagged' an additional £175.20 from the Bags2School donations. The next Bags2School collection will be in March 2020.

### ***Next FOSS meeting - 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020 @ 7pm***

If you would like to get involved with any FOSS activities please contact Sam Vigor, Isabel Habert, Sarah Heath or Sharlene Lucas. There is no obligation to come to the meetings or help regularly, just a few hours as and when you are able is fine.

### ***Nearly new school uniform...***

We have plenty of pre-used school uniform items ready for sale. If you would like to order any items just fill in a request slip. These can be found along with the price list and payment envelopes on the red box on the table outside the school office.

**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.**

**Season's Greetings to one and all!**



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