FOSS Newsletter Autumn 2020

Dear parents, carers, children and friends,

We would like to offer a warm welcome to all the children and their families who have joined this term under such difficult circumstances. 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. In a normal school year we would help pay for school trips and outings, educational activities, swimming lessons etc. and every year there is a large project that we contribute to. Needless to say this year has been very different for all of us and we are having to adapt how we do our fundraising as all of our usual events are very sociable occasions which haven't been possible to hold under the circumstances.

As all parents automatically become members of the FOSS (Friends of Stratford-sub-castle School) during the time their child attends Stratford school 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 planning and helping with our fund raising efforts we would be delighted to hear from you. Every single contribution, no matter the size, counts towards funding the extras that all of our children will use and enjoy during their time at Stratford school.

Funding update…

Firstly, we would like to share the news that many parents decided to make a voluntary donation to FOSS once it became clear that we wouldn't be able to go ahead with the June Fayre this year. Many thanks for the idea and to all who contributed toward the amazing end total of £1,144.51. It was a real morale boost to know that even during lockdown people were still committed to supporting the school even when we couldn't all be together.

With regard to the remaining events this year, it is beyond disappointing that we won't be able to hold the Christmas Bazaar this year. It is always such a highlight of the school year but it just isn't feasible to make it safe for everyone to attend in the normal way. We are busy planning some alternative festive treats so the children don't miss out.

Bags2School Collection—24th November

This term we will be having another collection for Bags2School but with the slight difference that we will not be sending empty bags home to be filled. If you are having a sort out over half-term please save your items and bring them to school in a black bag instead. For each kilo of items collected we will receive a cash amount towards FOSS funds. Bags should be dropped off at school and we will provide some instructions on where to leave them nearer the time. As always, it is a bit of challenge to move it all from the front of school to the shed

at the back of the school so we would appreciate any offers of help in the mornings to carry the bags across the big playground. Here is a list of what can put in the bags.

Bags2School…

We accept the following 'good quality' items for RE-USE*:

- Men's, ladies' and children's clothing

- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)

- Handbags, hats, bags, scarves and ties

- Jewellery, lingerie, socks, belts

- Household linen, curtains and towels

- Soft toys

Bags2School…

We DO NOT accept:

- Duvets and blankets

- Pillows and cushions

- Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats)

- Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing

- School uniforms with and without logo

- Corporate clothing and workwear

- Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

100 club new for 2020, sign up online…

Hopefully you will have seen the letter from school and facebook posts about the launch of this year's 100 club. If you haven't already joined, please do so by October 30th for a chance to win a cash prize each month. Click on the surveymonkey form below to sign up:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PWR7NTR

The draw will take place each month with the following prizes:

1st prize = £35, 2nd prize = £22.50, 3rd prize = 17.50

FOSS Committee News…

As we are unable to hold the AGM as a social event in the school hall we will present our yearly update and financial statement by letter instead. There are vacancies on the committee for a Chairperson and Vice-chairperson as Sam Vigor and Isabel Habert have both given notice that they would like to step down. For more information about what is involved in these roles please contact us.

<u>Next FOSS meeting</u>
Via Zoom—date and time to be confirmed

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

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