

Friends Of Fishergate School Newsletter Autumn 2022

A Big Hello to all Fishergate Families!

Welcome to the first FOF Newsletter of this school year. Actually, the first one for quite a long time - a 'disbelieving' three years (I know!). So firstly, we would like to give a very warm welcome to all the new families joining us in school this term and also to the many families who joined over the last two academic years spanning the pandemic.

What is FOF? To quickly introduce ourselves, Friends of Fishergate School are a group of parents, carers and staff of Fishergate School who choose to give time to help fundraising for the school by planning and creating a number of regular events throughout the school year. Friends is a registered charity and all the funds raised each year go directly to our school to further the enrichment of our children's learning journey by providing extra funds for tools, equipment, books, treats, subsidising trips and more.

How can I get involved? As a charity we have a small committee and a growing core group made up of people from across the school year groups, who come together to drive the events forward and step up when they can. Naturally people move on from school or other life commitments take over, so Friends are always, *always* looking to welcome in all new (and old) faces as it brings fresh ideas, wider skill-sets and greater experience.

Reasons to get involved! Above all else it is a really great way to get to know other families within school, make new friends and strengthen the school community. There is always a good team spirit and sense of achievement around each event.

If you are interested to find out what Friends are doing and think you might be able to help out from time to time or fancy a committee role, please do contact us on friendsoffishergateschool@gmail.com The more the merrier! Many hands make light work and all that! We look forward to meeting you and working alongside you!

Upcoming Dates For Your Diaries:

Friends Meeting - Thursday 10th November 9am at Busk Coffee Shop

Christmas Fair planning. Come say hi and see what is going on.

School Christmas Card Project - Monday 21st November deadline for ordering online

See below for more details and further information coming soon.

Donations Day (For the Christmas Fair) - Monday November 28th 8.45-9am

Drop your donations for Tombola, raffle, jam-jars, books, teddys etc in the lower school hall. More details to follow.

The Fishergate School Christmas Fair, incl Santa's Grotto - Friday December 2nd at 3.30-5.30pm

Free entry via the school entrance. Bring your friends, bring Grandparents for festive family fun.

The Fishergate School Christmas Shop 6th/7th December

Each child in school gets the opportunity to buy small Christmas gifts for their family. £2 per gift, Maximum of 5 gifts (£10)

NEWS Updates!

Thursday Coffee Mornings 9-10am weekly in the staff room. Free tea & Coffee and often a good biccie or bake if you are lucky! An inclusive and informal space to meet other parents, make a connection and to get your day off to a good start. Turnout has been positive so far with parents from all year groups into the mix. Young siblings are welcome. Pop in and join us sometime. ☕

Halloween Disco and Pumpkin Parade 2022 After the absence of this major school event for two consecutive years, it was whole heartedly welcomed back by all. There were some fantastic costumes and some very slick dance moves spotted down on the dance floor. In contrast, the chill out room was popular for those who needed a cup of tea and little less noise (mostly parents!) The Pumpkin Parade saw dutiful carving skills with unlimited creativity. Well done to all that entered, dressed up and danced! A special thanks to everyone who attended and helped out, we successfully raised £188.50.

More News....

Cake Sales 2022/23: A collective sales total of £378.95 was raised by half-term. WOW! We will give you more detailed 'scores-on-the-doors' for each year group next term. Meanwhile each group gets another go during November, every Friday. Please send your generous and lovely baked goods into school with your child on the day.

- 04/11/22 - Year 5 & 6
- 11/11/22 - Year 3 & 4
- 18/11/22 - Year 1 & 2
- 25/11/22 - Early Years

Without your amazing baking skills, tasty donations and an eagerness to sell and eat them, this just otherwise would not be happening. So a big YAY to all of you! Thank you for all your efforts.

Cake Stall Helpers Can you step in and help to sell the cakes? We do need more helpers from across the school. Please let us know if you are available on your child's year group (or any other) week via the Friends email or leave your details at the school office. Set up is on a Friday afternoon from 2.45pm in the Lower School Hall and the sale starts soon after 3pm. If you are unable to help prior to collecting your child, come along after. You may not be surprised to find out that your child/children would like to help you, helping!

Art Projects For Schools Christmas Cards Both KS1 & 2 children have created their Christmas card designs and will be bringing their artwork home this week. These have been uploaded ready so you can go online to order from a selection of cards and items, with your child's design. *The deadline for placing orders is Monday 21st November at 12 midnight.* Delivery of the cards on December 5th for your children to bring home. This is annual fundraising where APFS donate a percentage of the sales made, back to us.

Fishergate School Christmas Fair 🎄 Please start collecting your clean jam jars, unwanted teddies and soft toys (clean, washed & in good condition pls), books both unwanted and giftable for donation to our Christmas fair stalls. Also donations of chocolate, alcohol & beverages, new giftable items across the Tombola stalls and foodie items for Christmas hampers. Further details and explanations will be sent out very soon. This is one of our two big yearly fundraisers and we are incredibly grateful for all your support to make it happen. It will also be our first since 2019, so lets make a GREAT one!

Did You Know?

At www.easyfundraising.org.uk you can shop with any of the big brand names and earn money for our school. Register, Login and choose your retailer (eBay, Amazon, Argos to mention a few) A percentage from every sale is paid directly to the FOF bank account.

How can I support the FOF Fundraising?

There are so many different ways that you can support and be part of the fund raising activities.

- Come along and support the events! Invite your friends and family to the Summer & Christmas Fairs.
- Join our mailing list to hear about planning towards upcoming events
- Offer to help on a stall, create a poster or approach local business or your place of work for raffle prizes - we can let you know what is needed.

Q: I'm interested to find out what's going on but I'm not sure I can make the meetings and commit all of the time? Don't let that stop you from being part of the conversation. Email us and ask to be put on our mailing list, we can keep you in the know around events and planning, giving you the autonomy to step up if and when you can.

Your level of commitment is purely down to you and you will never be pressured into doing things you don't want to or can't.

Q: I have some feedback to a recent FOF event, who can I give this to? Brilliant! Feedback is essential to the planning and the events. Email us and please let us know.

Q: I've got a fundraising idea to put forward to Friends. If you have an idea for an event or know of any local community fundraising pots through your employers please do let us know! Large employers like Morrisons or Aviva run 'match funding schemes'. Does your employer offer a scheme like this?

Get in touch at friendsoffishergateschool@gmail.com

Thank you for taking time to read this far,
YOU ARE BRILLIANT!
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