

Friends of Fishergate School Newsletter Spring 2023

Hello Fishergate Families,

Firstly we would like to express our utmost gratitude for all your support for the Christmas events last term. Your warm generosity has launched the fundraising off to a fantastic start for this school year. To all of the Families and teaching staff alike who donated, helped out, turned up and took part - you are the best! Everyone gave generously and we are truly grateful to you.

Both the Christmas Fair and the Christmas shop were positively welcomed by all, especially after such a long absence. The school certainly entered into the spirit of Christmas!

2022/2023 Fundraising Highlights to date.

- The Halloween Disco & Pumpkins - **£185.74**
- The APFS Christmas card sales - **£225.00**
- The Christmas Fair - **£1488.45**
- The Christmas shop - **£895.21**

We would like to add a very special shout-out to the Year 5/6 children who hosted games in their classrooms at the Christmas Fair. They raised a very hearty **£205.70!** Utterly brilliant! Great efforts from all - Thank you so much year 5/6 children and their supporting teachers.

The Raffle was very well supported and raised an incredible £366.00. We hope those lucky enough to win have & will enjoy their prizes.


The Jam-Jar stall and the Bottle Tombola both sold-out VERY quickly indeed! These are always firm favourites with Children & adults respectively at every fair!

A special thank you to our Children who performed at the fair singing and carolling. It really was beautiful. With further thanks to parents & teachers Alisun, Laura & Harriet for coordinating such a special treat!

We offered an early bird preview to SEN families in the school, to be able to experience the fair before the loud and busy throng started. If this is something that would be helpful for your family at future fairs, please let the school office know so we can accommodate you.

Do you have any feedback from the FoF Autumn/Christmas events?

We would love to know what you thought - the good AND the not so good. So please do email us at friendsoffishergateschool@gmail.com Something mentioned might bring improvement for future running of these events.

Follow us on  Facebook, Please like and share our **Friends of Fishergate** page where we share information about school events, supporting the local community and with family led themes. It's a great way to keep up to date with what is going on.

Upcoming FoF Dates For Your Diaries:

Friends Coffee Mornings, Every Thursday at 9am, Staff Room, Upper School Hall. Free Tea & Coffee.

School Uniform Sale, Lower school Hall Wednesday 8th & Thursday 9th February

Pre-loved uniform sale of usable school clothing for Pay-as-you-feel donations. See below for further details.

Friends of Fishergate Meeting, Thursday 9th March (Busk, 9am)

Disco Planning & AOB - Open to all.

Easter Disco, Friday 24th March

Early Years & Key Stage 1 starts 6pm-7pm
Key Stage 2 starts 7.15-8.15pm

Friends of Fishergate Meeting, Thursday 27th April (Busk, 9am)

General Planning - Open to all.

Plant Sale in the John Lally Gardens, school Playground Wednesday 17th May 3.10pm

Donations of plants, seeds, houseplants for sale at pocket friendly prices. See below for further details.

School Uniform Sale, Lower Hall Wednesday 24th May & Thursday 25th May

Pre-loved uniform sale of usable school clothing for Pay-as-you-feel donations. More details below.

Friends of Fishergate Meeting, Thursday 15th June (Busk, 9am)

Summer Fair Planning & AOB - Open to all.

Summer Fair Donations Day, w/c 03/07/23 (date tbc)

Details will be sent out in Summer term, similar requests to Christmas fair. More details below.

Fishergate School Summer Fair, School Sports Field Saturday 8th July 2023. Afternoon.

Summery & Sunny (usually) leisurely outdoor gathering with lots of opportunity to meet with friends and family, food & refreshments. Make a day of it!

NEWS - Cake Sale 'Scores On The Doors'

We promised to update you with the Year Group Cake Sale totals from last term. It has to be said, that it was a very impressive amount of cake and the eating of! Great efforts all round - these weekly events are really well supported. Thank you!

- YR 5/6 **£137.10**
- YR 3/4 **£224.36**
- YR 1/2 **£187.64**
- EYU **£136.76**

These running totals will continuously be added throughout the Spring & Summer terms. The year group staff are now looking at how they would best like to spend it amongst their phases.

MORE NEWS!

Cake Sale Dates were emailed out recently and there will be posters around school but you can also find them on the calendar of the school website right up to the end of the school year. At a glance, the forthcoming dates are:

- Early Years 03/02/23, 24/03/23
- YR 1&2 27/01/23, 17/03/23
- YR 3&4 10/03/23
- YR 5&6 03/03/23

We have created teams of parent volunteers to set up and sell the cakes for their children's year groups, which happens once in each half of a term.

We are particularly in need of extra helpers for

- **Year 3/4**
- **Early Years - Can you help?**

If you would like to be a part of your year group team, please email us with your details on friendsoffishergateschool@gmail.com

School Uniform Sales.

This is donated pre-loved, pre-used school clothing which is in good to excellent condition. Sale dates in the calendar are:

- Spring Term 08/02/23 & 09/02/23 3.10pm
- Summer Term 24/05/23 & 25/05/23 3.10pm

Do come along and take a look if you need any extra items for your children. There is no pricing structure and only a suggestion of a pay-as-you-feel donation.

Lots of clothing donations came in last term including some new-still with tags items, embroidered jumpers and plenty of shirts, dresses & trousers.

In the meantime, if you are unable to make the sale dates or require any specific clothing for your children at any stage throughout the term, please leave your item & size requirements at the school office and we can bag suitable items in stock for you to take and try. Anything not needed can be simply returned back to school.

Any money raised is added to the fundraising but more importantly is making good and usable school clothing available to all the families in our school with growing children in an inexpensive and sustainable way. (Did you know that 350,000 tonnes of wearable clothing - worth £140 million, still ends up in UK landfill? Crazy!)

School Plant Sale

If you are a green fingered & keen gardener or like pottering around on your patio and are planning on sowing seeds and bulbs this year, why not consider sowing a few extras as donations for the school plant sale in **May** this year?

Also welcome are potted cuttings, garden shrubs (potted, not too big) & potted herbs if you are clearing or thinning out your garden. Unloved houseplants and spare seeds too! More about this soon!

Please save your Jam-Jars!!

As mentioned earlier, the Jam-Jar stall at our school fairs are extremely popular and it helps nearer the time when you can just lay your hands on a few for this very reason. The Summer Fair is in July so this is a gentle & early request!

Fill them with small & mini items (sweets, chocs, stickers, pencils, notepads, hair clips, stick on tattoos, marbles, sewing kits, lego, stationary, crafting kits, pens, modelling kits, sensory jars, nick-nacks) be creative, do it on the cheap - these are like little boxes of treasures to the children.

Other Fundraising

Friends are signed up to a number of schemes that raise funds continuously and indirectly when participants shop online.

Amazon Smile We have earned a total of £135.84 from Amazon Smile (which incidentally is ending in late February)

EasyFundraising.com raised £56.72 during 2022. This is fundraising for doing very little other than purchasing things you were intending to do online. If you are willing to sign up to this scheme, bookmark the site or download the app for quick access. It is at no extra cost to you and the trickle of funds will turn to a flow, headed directly to our children in school.

Name Labels Effective ways to label your children's belongings quickly and reduce lost property at school. Also great for other projects, around the home and personalised gift ideas!

We are currently signing up to a selection of name label companies which offer the same kind of fundraising.

These will be available very soon and will be located together on the school website so you are able to find them whenever you want to use them. We will let you know.

OPPORTUNITIES!

Do you enjoy using social media? We need someone to manage our Facebook page in order to keep the page alive and nurture the flow of information to our followers. Work with FoF committee and from time to time liaise with the school office, to post FoF updates, events and celebrations, respond to comments, like & share local community & family friendly happenings around York. Could you do this for less than an hour a week? Inclusivity, kindness and a community spirit is essential. Email us if you are interested.

WANTED: FoF Skills & Resources Library

Families, Parents, Carers!! Do you have any skills, equipment or talents that we could tap into for future school events? Sound & audio, cooking, dancing, music, entertaining, crafting skills, designing, making or more? Equipment: bbqs, stoves, gazebos, cool boxes, costumes, signage, play equipment, bunting, flags and beyond? Please let us know if you have things that might be useful to us in creating fantastic events.

Wow! You read this far. We love you ❤️
Friends of Fishergate.