



Proud of our kids. Proud of our school. Proud to be involved

FRIENDS NEWS

Friends of Polesden Lacey Infant School
Autumn Newsletter 1

Friends of Polesden Lacey Infants School
AGM Tuesday 13th October 2020

What a year, I think I need say no more on the subject, so if we can cast our minds back to September 2019, when the sun shone and social distancing was not a phrase I think we thought our children would ever know!

September 2019 heralded the arrival of a new Headmistress, Ms Mole who has brought an abundance of energy, forward thinking and positivity to one of the toughest years in all of teaching. Keen to kick 2019 off with a bang, the Friends hosted the inaugural Harvest Festival, this saw a plethora of weird and wonderful animals in the decorate a veg competition, followed by bags full of donations to Epsom FoodBank all wrapped up with Good as New uniform sales and mufti – raising £77 and also the first sign of true Polesden spirit!

In October, the adults had their chance to get competitive with the annual Quiz Night, with beer donations from Tillingbourne Brewery and fish and Chip van outside, the evening raised a brilliant £550 – a cracking start to the year ahead. With the decision not to host a Christmas fair, but to look at new inventive ways to raise funds, Christmas took a new approach – the annual Christmas ‘product’ raised £278, Christmas jumper day – raised £61, the Christmas wreathmaking workshop – raised £107 and Christmas Movie Night – raised £237. All of these events were well attended by parents for the workshop and the movie night – by most of the school. A lot of learnings were taken from the team with regards to the two events and the intention is to run these again in Christmas 2020 with relevant guidelines ‘rules of 6’ in place.

Our shortened Spring Term did not stop the Friends from fundraising, and with a Valentines Day ‘who would you love to be’ mufti raising £61 and our annual Sponsored Bounce raising a whopping £1146, along with Gift Aid Funding mounting to £213, the Friends fund was in a good place going in to lockdown.



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As, we can all appreciate, the summer term closures meant no fundraising and no summer fair, but the Polesden spirit was still alive – with children and families coming together to donate ‘lockdown’ recipes to a school cookbook, which will be available to buy in November, a perfect Christmas present for all the family – and all monies raised will go to the Friends fund.

With all that fundraising, where did we spend it, well we have been able to purchase 10 laptops for the school – a significant step in enabling technology in the children’s learning, coding caterpillars, badger cameras and importantly support for the school to be able to reopen safely in June 2020 – something that I think we can all agree was vital in our children’s wellbeing and I personally thank Ms Mole and her amazing team for their efforts in ensuring our children were back at school in the summer term.

Finally, this is my final AGM as Chair of Polesden, as I am stepping down after 2 years. It has been an absolute privilege to help fundraise and donate to this lovely school and I look forward to attending and supporting the rest of the events and activities over my next two years in the school. Thank you also to Emma and Kirsten who do so much behind the scenes to keep this all moving forward and who will be stepping down at the end of this academic year.

Thea Phillips
Chair

Join Polesden Friends Committee

At the end of this academic year the three key roles of the Friends will be vacant, without these roles in place the Friends cannot run as these are a minimum requirement of the Charity Commission, therefore, the Friends need you!

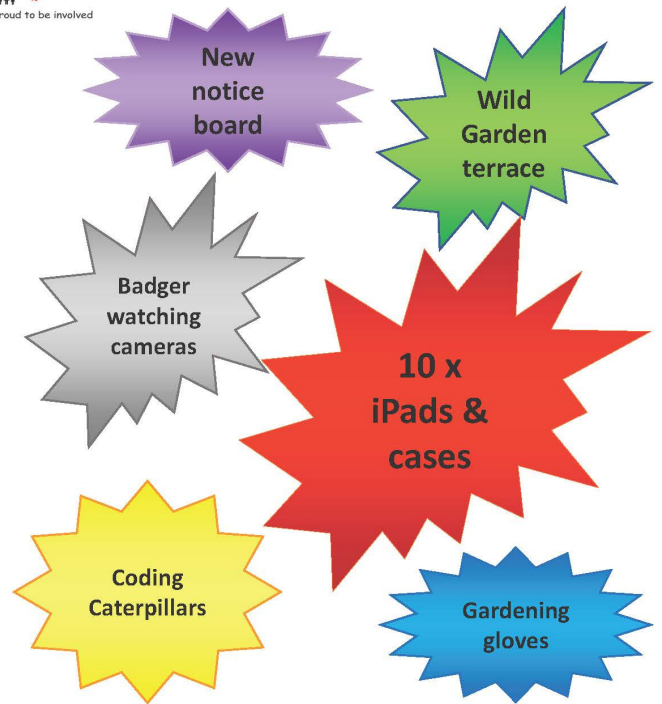
Whilst taking on the role of Chair, Treasurer or Secretary can seem daunting, fear not! The time commitment is a few hours each month to attend and arrange meetings and ensure that any fundraising has a team of volunteers to make each event run smoothly. The Friends have been running for over 30 years and is a great way to be connected to the school and enhance the experience of all the pupils. For further details please do get in touch with Thea Phillips (Chair), Kirsten White (Treasurer) or Emma Gibbs (Secretary) who can give you further information.

Our fundraising activities, thank you for your donations which continue to support this lovely wonderful school

2019/20 Fundraising



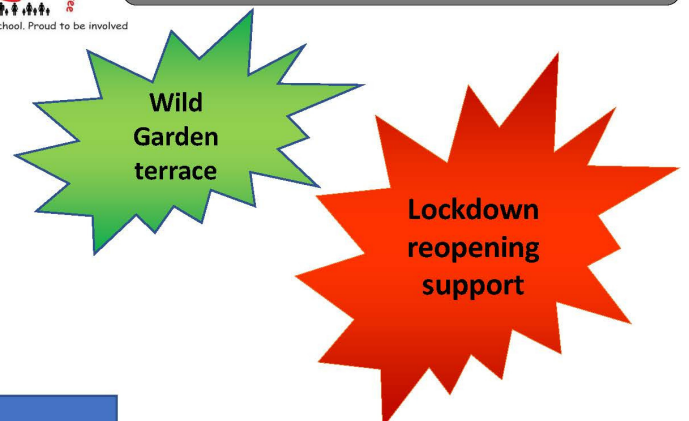
Donations to School



2020/21 Fundraising



Donations to School



Total Funds (as at 12/10/20): £1,796



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We are delighted to be able to announce a number of events this Autumn Term. These will all follow social distancing measures, we hope you can take part!

Sunday 15th November

9am - 12pm

Dad's Car Wash

**Bring your muddy SUVs, 4x4s, electric cars, scooters and bikes
to our Dad's car wash**

£10 a car minimum donation.

School Driveway

Sunday 29th November

10am - 1pm

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop

**Have a quiet child free morning with our
festive Wreath Making Workshop,
mince pies and mulled wine available**

£30 per head

School Hall

Thursday 10th December

Christmas Movie Afternoon - Rabbits

More details to follow

Friday 11th December

Christmas Movie Afternoon - Squirrels & Badgers

More details to follow

Weekend Working Party

Please keep an eye out for another weekend working party, prepping the school for Spring. Dates will be in main school newsletter in the coming weeks.

Any questions do get in touch : Thea Phillips (07866622286)