

FOSC CORNER

Autumn 2020

Hello to all our families new and old. We hope you have had a fab summer (somehow) and the children are all happily settled back into school life. Oh how we missed school!! This is our FOSC newsletter. FOSC aka The Friends of St Catherine's is our PTA and we try to come up with lots of fun ways of raising funds for our children and our school.

Your FOSC committee is **Annie** (chair), **Annette** (vice chair) **Alison** (secretary) and **Julie** (treasurer) We have many parents who are happy to help us organise events, if you have any ideas or would like to organise an event please feel free to get in touch.

hello@friendsofstcatherines.co.uk

FOSC WEBSITE



www.friendsofstcatherines.co.uk

Preloved Uniform

At the end of last term we set up a preloved uniform project. Thank you to Laura Adams for organising this .. we raised **£23**. The remaining uniform has been donation to HelpingCharity, we hope to see an update on how they helped soon.

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FOSC

Friends of St Catherine's
(C of E) Primary School

Chromebooks Project

Despite hard times during lockdown our school community pulled together and we managed to raise enough money, with the help of gift aid, to buy the **60 new Chromebooks** the children needed.

Mrs Leslie has confirmed that these should be arriving sometime in October. Thank you to everyone who supported us and helped us achieve this. This was an incredible achievement in the circumstances.

Dates to remember

Wednesday 21st

October – non-school uniform day in exchange for **£1 for FOSC**.

26th-31st October – FOSC Pumpkin Trail

Monday 7th December

School Pantomime (in school)

AGM – tbc

Non Uniform Day on Wednesday 21st October, the children can come into school in non-school uniform in exchange for **£1 donation** to FOSC. You can pay on the day or online at

<https://friendsofstcatherines.co.uk/events/>



Half Term Pumpkin Trail.

We have a little fun activity we are putting together for half term. The idea is that children can colour a template of a pumpkin and display it in the windows of your homes for other children to seek out over half term. Visit <https://friendsofstcatherines.co.uk/events/> to get involved.

We are asking parents to register online (with your address) for a voluntary contribution of £1 per child. From this we will provide the template and a small prize for the best pumpkin in each year group. At the moment we don't have many opportunities to come together to raise money for our children and our school. We hope that this little activity will be something the children can be part of around the town during the holidays.

FOSC Christmas Shop

Another tradition is our fabulous FOSC Pop-up Shop. This gives every child the opportunity to buy 2 grown-ups a secret Christmas gift. The cost is **£2.50** per gift and each child can buy up to 2 presents for the adult/s of their choice. If you would like your child to be able to buy a gift you will be able to make payment in advance online. More details to follow soon.

Christmas Cards

We will be asking the children to create their own Christmas cards this year, you will be able to place orders on line to save us handling order forms and cash. We hope to get the designs to you after half term and orders will need to be placed in November, details and dates to be confirmed.

There is also an option to order **Personalised Santa Sacks**. All profit made from these projects will be added to the FOSC bank account to help us provide for our children. Last date for orders is **Friday 13th November**, go to <https://sforders.co.uk/friendsofstcatherinesWare>

Christmas Panto

It's a tradition at St Catherine's that FOSC pay for the whole school to enjoy a Christmas panto treat. This year things will be a bit different but we are sure that the children will have a great time. We have arranged for a company to come into school to perform Aladdin (Y1-6) and Search for Santa (EYFS) on **Monday 7th December**.

A Gift for Every Child

Once again we are buying a book for every child. Unfortunately, Father Christmas won't be delivering them personally this year but we will find another fun way to get them to every child.

Thank you to **Ashley Manners, Laura Calaz, Noemi Tocco** and **Debbie Clark** for organising these events again for us.

Christmas Wrapping Help Needed

We need an army of parents to help with the wrapping of all the gifts & books, if you can help with this please let Debbie Clark (Y3 / Y5 mum) know.

Some other ways you can still help up bring in the pennies every time you shop is by using **Easyfundraising** <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stcatherinesware> this raises small donations every time you shop on line – sign up at the link above. We currently have **93** supporters and have raised over **£1000**.

Bags2School

Thank you to everyone who had a clear out and bought in bags of old clothes for Bags2Schools collection. We had a lot of donations and raised **£176**. We would like to arrange more collections in the future but we need to work out logistics and dates. We will keep you posted.

Recycle/Reuse

We have set up a facebook group to help parents recycle goods you no longer want & may just end up at the dump or in landfill. The idea is that parents and friends of St Catherine's School can offer items that they no longer need or use to other parents and friends in exchange for a small donation (min £1) to FOSC via our website. Please only offer items that are in good condition and have some life left in them. Here is the link if you would like to join. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/715188892594355/> So far we have raised a further **£171**

School Lottery Back in February we started a school lottery. We have **44** families who have bought tickets and we've had lots of lucky winners some of whom have donated their winning back to FOSC. Thank you to everyone who has bought tickets to help us raise funds for our children. If you would like to buy a ticket you can at <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-catherines-c-of-e-primary-school-ware>. It costs £1 per week. 40p of every pound goes back to the school and someone from our lottery wins a cash prize every week. There's also the chance to win £25,000 jackpot. Please feel free to share with Grandparents, Aunties, Uncles and anyone else who you think would be interested. So far, this has helped us raise over **£800** – thank you so much!