



October 2019

## FOMSA Autumn Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to a new school year and welcome to all the new children and parents that have joined us this September.

Following on from last year's success we are keen to continue our fund-raising efforts. We have met with Mrs Sait to discuss some of the events we hope to organise this academic year as well as discussing items FOMSA might financially support. We are pleased to hear that the mud kitchen purchased at the end of last year is proving to be a big favourite in Willow class.

We have just donated £300 to help resource the forest school projects that are currently taking place in Willow class but which all children will hopefully get to experience at some point this school year. We are also funding the special activities taking place for all of the children during the upcoming STEM week. We are purchasing a moveable whiteboard that can be used throughout the school. We have also given each class £200 to spend on items for their classrooms. We will let you know what they decided to spend their money on in the next newsletter.

This year we will continue to communicate with parents and carers via our termly newsletters, our noticeboard in the foyer of the Community Centre and also on the FOMSA page of the school website which can be found under the parent information drop down section. So please look out for updates as the school year progresses. New parents to the school should have also had our welcome letter.

This term we are hoping to organise the following events and activities:

### Fortnightly Bake Raffle and Book Swap Box

Every fortnight on the Friday we will be selling tickets before school to win a baked treat like a cake/batch of biscuits. The winning ticket will then be drawn and the treat sent home that night. We will be creating a rota for making the baked treats so if you're a keen baker and would like to take a turn, or can help one week to sell the tickets for us, then please speak to Anna Dawson. (Gil and Nancy's mum). The school office will send texts to let you know when each raffle is happening. The first one will be after half term. At the same time as this, following a suggestion by a parent, we have our book swap box. Children are welcome to bring in books that they have finished with from home to then swap for a book/s from the box. Please don't confuse this with school books.

### Break a Rule Day

With Mrs Sait's agreement, we would like the children to break a rule once a term to have fun whilst raising money. Each term we will select a date when one agreed rule can be broken. This term this will be held on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October**. We have asked the children of the School Council for their ideas. Details to follow. This term rather than a £1 donation we are asking for donations for Raffle and tombola prizes. A box of chocs, tin of .... unwanted gifts, smellies, any suitable in date items will be gratefully received. There will be boxes in the hall ready for your kind donations.

### Christmas Cards

Look out later this term for your child's artistically designed and completely unique Christmas card design. The designs will be completed at school. Once the designs are finalised by the card company the proof will be sent home for you to see along with order details. You are under no obligation to purchase them but all profits will go towards FOMSA's fundraising.

### School Disco

Mrs Sait and FOMSA would like to run a school disco for the children this term. This will be on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November from 5pm to 6.30pm**. More details to follow in a letter.

### Firework Night Hot Drinks Stall

The Community Council hold an annual firework event on the playing field. As part of this FOMSA run a hot drinks stall. So, on **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 6pm** we will be selling tea, coffee and hot chocolate in aid of FOMSA. Please support this village event and enjoy the firework display.

### Bags to School

We will be sending out bags and asking for donations of unwanted clothing. Bags will be sent out before half term. The collection day for bags will be **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November**. Bags are to be left on the stage.

### Class Placemats

Children will be creating their class placemats again this year. These show drawings of all the children in the class created by them. The price will be held at £1 per placemat and orders will be taken towards the end of term. These make lovely keepsakes as your child moves through the school.

### Christmas Market

This years' market will be on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**. The school and FOMSA will be running stalls and selling refreshments. Would you like a stall selling homemade crafts, produce? More details to follow.

### Reception and Years 1, 2 3 and 4 Christmas Performances

We will be providing tea/coffee and mince pies before each performance. There will also be a raffle at each show.

### Ink Cartridges

Did you know that we raise money from recycling used ink cartridges? Please leave any cartridges in the labelled green bin near the school office.

### Easy Fundraising

Have you signed up yet? So far, we have raised £138.15 from this. If you shop online you can raise money every time you buy something. Over 3,100 retailers, including **Amazon, John Lewis, eBay, and Aviva** will donate a percentage of what you spend to us to say thank you for shopping with them. All you have to do is register at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and when asked to choose your cause type in **Friends of Mendlesham School Association**. Each time you want to shop at one of their partner retailers just click to the retailer website through the link on the easy fundraising website (or download the reminder widget to your desktop and be reminded each time you go to a partner retailer website). It is a simple way to raise money for the school **without it costing anything**.

### Lastly: Our AGM

Our AGM will be in the school library on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 7:30pm** for no longer than an hour. Please come along for tea/coffee and cake and show your support for FOMSA. We always welcome new faces that would like to join our group of willing volunteers either as a Committee member or to be part of our helpers list. **Please know that if you come along, you will not be pressured into any commitment but this is your chance to find out more and share ideas about things you might like to see happen in the future. We look forward to seeing you there.**

Many thanks in advance for your support, The FOMSA Committee.