



Fundraising



Openness



School community



Making a difference

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S

Newsletter

Thank you to all those who took the time to complete our questionnaire at the recent Parent Evening. We are delighted to share that 92.5% of you are aware of the role of the FOSM but for those who aren't we are a parent led group (with fantastic teacher support) whose sole purpose is to raise funds to support the school and your children.

The overall feedback was overwhelmingly positive and for those who responded with feedback for the school as a whole, please be assured this will be shared with Mrs Brogden so the feedback is not lost.

Please find below a summary of some of the suggestions/ideas generated:

Section A – Communication

- One form of communication, struggle with text message communication.
- Minutes of meetings to be shared so that individuals can help identify where they may be able to support if unable to attend meeting.

Section B – Fundraising

- All to be organised by FOSM and not other parties
- Advance notice of events so funds can be adequately planned for and to consider other school fundraising to minimise financial impact on parents
- Other event ideas being school discos, St Mary's Got Talent, weekend family events and more bingo!

Section C – Involvement

- Lists of jobs to be available in future to allow people to 'sign up'
- Evening meetings & drop in options

We would like to share some of the really lovely comments left, given the time and effort put into planning and implementing events and the like, it really is uplifting to hear such support

"Continue as you are, don't fix what isn't broken"

"Father Christmas was great, as was the whole fayre, it was an experience for the children"

"All the organised events have been great"



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Actions we have agreed as a result

- We have set up a new Facebook Group – FOSM for parents or direct carers only to join. This will be used as a platform to share details of events, share relevant photographs and keep you up to date on fundraising totals and intent. Please do join the group, be mindful of the rules we have set for the group and that this is intended only for parents or direct carers, NOT grandparents and other extended family.
- If you are unable to attend a meeting but wish to receive a copy of the minutes, please do email your request to us FOSM@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk and we will happily include you in the circulation.
- ALL school fundraising is now organised through FOSM group. The only events which will be planned outside of this are charities such as CAFOD. Events will be planned for the year/bi-annually going forward to ensure there is sufficient spacing between.
- We will run another evening meeting on zoom to test the uptake on this option. Ultimately, we have to run the meetings at times which best suit the majority but of course should we see an upturn in attendance we can happily move the timings permanently.

Upcoming events –

Egg-Stravaganza Monday 3rd April 2023 (afternoon). This will be a 'hunt' style event which will require pre-paying should your child wish to take part. If anyone is available and wishes to help with the event please do let us know. More details and booking forms to follow.

Fundraising –

We are delighted to share that our fundraising pot now stands at £1320. This is after £100 donation having been made to each class this term to subsidise additional activities/trips.

This is a whopping amount and just evidences your support and commitment to the school and children. Thank you to all who have contributed to events so far, parents and teachers alike, as this is a shared achievement we should all be proud of.

The overall aim is to raise enough funds for an outdoor classroom and we are now well on our way!

Thank you again and we sincerely hope more of you will join us either permanently or intermittently – the more heads the better!