

Friends of Swanton Morley Primary School Newsletter: November 2018

Dear Parents,

It's been a busy start to the academic year and we still have lots of exciting dates for your diary to come this term! For new parents, Friends of Swanton Morley School (FOSM) is a charity which raises funds to supplement the school's budget, which as you will know is increasingly pressed. Last year, we raised money to help fund school trips for each year group, new cameras for three classes, and new play equipment for lunchtime.

This year, our focus shifts slightly as staff agreed that funding longer-term projects and saving up for higher-cost items would be of most benefit to the children and their development. Over the longer term, we will aid teachers and children at each Key Stage by providing funds to buy items they may otherwise not be able to afford. We will provide parents with regular updates so that you can see how we are making progress towards our goals after fund-raising events.

After discussions at meetings of FOSM and with staff, we have decided that this year's fundraising will begin with Key Stage 1. We have agreed to fund new play equipment for Year 1 so that their lovely refurbished outdoor play area can be better equipped for their needs, with items like sand, a water pump, bean bags, paint and water play resources, with storage trays and boxes to help preserve the life of these. Previous FOSM fundraising means that we are able to provide money for this immediately.

Our next project is to help Reception class to purchase robust wheeled vehicles to support their learning in the outdoor environment. New, specially designed trikes and other vehicles will enable the development of many skills, such as cooperation, motor skills and balance, and also help the school to meet the requirements of the Early Years curriculum. The Autumn Disco has already enabled us to raise over £180 towards this, so we are well on our way. Once we have managed to fund this equipment, we shall consult again to see what other children in the school require to support their learning (especially at KS2), and begin fundraising for our next challenge!

Please find below further dates for your diaries of FOSM events coming up this half term, but please note, we need volunteers to run these events. If you can commit even an hour of your time to help at one of these events, **please complete the form on the back of this letter** and return to school so we can get in touch.

Magical Monday 3rd December/ Winter Wednesday 5th December:

In place of last year's Festive Friday, we are arranging two dates this year so that more children can participate in the opportunity to stay after school until 5pm to take part in winter craft activities and watch a short Christmas film. Parents can choose which of the two dates they would prefer their children to attend. Tickets will be £4 per child and will be on sale the week before the events (26th-30th November) after school in the playground on a first come, first served basis.

Christmas Fair: Saturday, 1st December 11am-1pm.

The annual fair for stall holders and chance for you to stock up on Christmas gifts. Booked in this year are talented local artists and crafts people, refreshments, games, Santa's grotto, students' performances as well as the ever popular tombola.

Christmas Disco: 14th December. Key Stage 1: 6pm-7pm, Key Stage 2: 7.15pm-8.30pm

Separate discos for KS1 and KS2 children with a goody bag for each child. Tickets £3 on sale after school in the playground in the week commencing 10th December.

Best wishes, Friends of Swanton Morley Committee

Return slip: Friends of Swanton Morley Volunteering

I am able to volunteer my time to help out at (please tick all applicable):

Christmas Fair	
Magical Monday	
Winter Wednesday	
Christmas Disco	

Name:

Name of child:

Contact telephone number:

Contact email address:

By providing these details, I give permission for Friends of Swanton Morley to contact me regarding these events. It would be very helpful if we could keep your details to inform you about future volunteering opportunities. We will store your details securely and you may opt out at any time, however if you **do not** wish us to keep your details please indicate below.

I **do not** give Friends of Swanton Morley consent to contact me about events other than those listed above