

FOWS NEWS

September Term 2021

Upcoming Events

- November 12th, AGM
- November 19th, Children in Need Day
- November 25th, Winter Disco
- December 16th, Christmas Lunch
- December 17th, Panto trip
- January 2022, Bags2School, date TBC

Reminders

- Teatowel deadline, MONDAY 1st NOVEMBER
- Please confirm attendance to AGM by WEDNESDAY 3rd NOVEMBER

An uninterrupted return to school!

It is so wonderful to be writing this, having had the first half of term without any Covid interruptions! I can't remember the last time the children had a solid seven weeks of learning on the school grounds. This is definitely worth celebrating!

First and foremost, please accept our apologies as we have been a little quieter than normal this term. Work commitments and the return to normal life has meant that free time has been limited for all of the trustees.

Another huge shout from the rooftops about the £9785.00 raised towards the new classroom, during a global pandemic. Outstanding effort by all involved.

After half term things are getting busy and not just with the lead up to Christmas! Traditionally there has been an event pre the half term holiday however this year we took the view that we would rather do something when the entire school was doing a full day. I won't lie, we also didn't want to jinx the non school closure thing!

So this year we will hold a **Winter Disco** on Thursday 25th November. More information to follow! Would you like to run this? Get in touch if so.

WHAT HAPPENS?

- Hear about FoWS activities over the past year
- All current trustees step down and new trustees are voted in.
- BYOB for some cheese and wine pre, during and after the meeting!

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Take on a Trustee role
- Fundraising suggestions
- Volunteer
- Networking/contacts sharing
- Skill share

FOWS AGM 12TH NOVEMBER

A film night will be held for the children, with a suitable film for all year groups, and light refreshments to ensure that you can attend without having to worry about childcare. This will be early evening, actual time to be confirmed after half term.

As you may or may not be aware, The Friends of Whaddon School is a registered charity. As part of our constitution we are legally bound to hold an AGM. The current trustees are required to step down from their roles and new members step in or in some cases, anyone who has stepped down can be voted in again.

Myself and Mary have done this for two years and will both be stepping down, with a view to handing over to others which will leave a Chairperson role and the Secretary role. There doesn't have to be just one chair! There can be two or a vice and a chair. Whoever steps in can decide! Without people in the role, The Friends of Whaddon School cannot operate as a charity and will have to cease operating.

Stepping down does not mean stepping away so for anyone who is considering one of the roles, please do so knowing that we will be on hand to help with anything! There's also an abundance of information on line through various organisations such as Parentkind. Parentkind specialises in parent involvement within schools.

WHY DO WE NEED FOWS?

To advance the education of pupils at Whaddon School in particular by:

- 1) developing effective relationships between staff, parents and others associated with the school;
- 2) engaging in activities or providing facilities or equipment, which support the school and advance the education of the pupils (not normally provided by the local education authority).

Basically, bridge funding gaps and fund a few lovely activities that build the school community spirit!

We will also be looking for class representatives - two or three parents from each class to ensure that all year groups are covered.

This is a perfect opportunity to buddy up with someone whilst supporting the school. We currently view this as a 'GoTo' role and something that works more on the school community side. From reminders on Facebook about items to remember to take in, teacher and members' of staff gifts and class run events. E.g. The Badgers Bake Off, The Squirrels Sing Song and The Hedgehogs Hooley ... the first things that spring to mind!

These roles are not mandatory for the Friends of Whaddon to continue as a registered charity merely a way of reminding us about the friends element of the charity!

Huge thanks to all involved with the Sausage Sizzle in September (where we raised £120, considering this wasn't a fundraising event this is great!) and all who volunteered for the tea towel and Christmas card work. Without those volunteers a long standing tradition wouldn't go ahead. Lorna, without you there would be no school tea towel! The figures from the sales of both the cards and tea towels will be available at the AGM.

Have a happy half term!

OTHER WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT THE FRIENDS OF WHADDON SCHOOL

- AmazonSmile
- Easyfundraising
- Monthly Direct Debit
- Skill Share

If you would like any information regarding the above or have any questions , about anything, then please don't hesitate to contact us either via e-mail friendsofwhaddon@gmail.com or via Facebook.