

## **FOWS NEWSLETTER**

**Autumn 1 - 2023** 

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**Hello!** Is it just us, or has this half term gone *really* quickly?! The FOWS team have already had a couple of meetings and are pleased and excited to support the school through the changes that will be taking place over the coming year. We're planning lots of events and activities to enjoy together, while also raising money for all those extra special resources and experiences for our children. Please make a note of the dates listed on page 2 to make sure you/your child doesn't miss out on all fun!

As well as news about our upcoming events, this newsletter also includes an introduction to the new FOWS committee, and information on some of the ways you can help raise funds without it costing you a single penny! Read on for details...



Our first two fundraisers of the year have been *frighteningly* successful with many of you buying new costumes for you little monsters, and supporting our spooky treat sale with yummy donations & delicious purchases. Combined, these events raised a *terrifying total of £323.97.* What a fantastic start to the year!

#### Let's Glow!!

We are SO excited to be welcoming DJ Darren from JustSchoolDiscos.co.uk back to Woodlea for another amazing UV disco. The event is officially being held to raise awareness of the annual road safety campaign: Be Bright to Be Seen... But unofficially, it's just to have FUN!

There will be two disco's, split by age. (Details below.) If your child(ren) would like to attend please complete this booking form asap. Please note that spaces will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.



#### Easyfundraising.org

Easyfundraising is the UK's biggest charity fundraising platform. It turns everyday online shopping into free donations for our school. They partner with over 7000 online brands who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. (Us!!) It won't cost you any extra as the cost is covered by the brand. If you make a purchase, a commission is generated and donated to us.

It couldn't be easier to use - Just sign up <a href="here">here</a>. To make sure you don't miss a donation opportunity (or forget to use it!) we recommend you do the following too...

- ☆ If you shop on a computer, <u>download the Donation Reminder</u> browser extension.
- If you shop on an ipad or iphone, download the Easyfundraising App and enable the Donation Reminder.

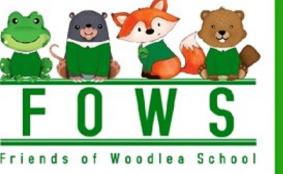
Once installed these will automatically highlight retailers where donations are available. Just click or tap to receive the donation and then carry on shopping as normal.

The potential is huge! The donation per purchase is generally between 0.5% and 10% but some retailers - including insurance and broadband providers - will pay a flat fee which can be in the £100's! An average online shopper can easily raise over £30 a year with easyfundraising. (Last year's Woodlea Easyfundraising users averaged £55 each.) Multiply that by the number of parents, grandparents and staff at the school, and the fundraising potential is massive! Just think how much we could raise in total and how these funds could help cover costs outside of the school budget, to benefit our children.

PLEASE SIGN UP TODAY and USE EASYFUNDRAISING whenever you shop online! Thank you. ③

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#### Winter Wonderland 2023!

We will be hosting our winter fundraising event on **Saturday 9th December.** The FOWS team have been recruiting stall holders, sourcing raffle tickets, and contacting the North Pole to book Santa! As well as



games galore, there will be hot food, tea & cake, candy floss, and we're pleased to announce that **Hogmoor Distillery** will be joining us to run a bar, which will include non-alcoholic cocktails for the children, & a seasonal tipple for the grown-ups too!

We'll be holding a **raffle** on the day & ticket books will be sent home in November so please watch out for those. Two of our new FOWS members, Louise & Jenny, & volunteer Ashley, have been working hard to build up a very impressive list of prizes. These range from an overnight stay in the New Forest, to family days out, to pamper treatments, to meals, to boxes of chocolates... **But you've got to be in it to win it!!** 

### **Dates for your Diary...**

- Spooky Bake Sale
  Tuesday 31st October. Donations
  gratefully received. Please bring them in
  on the morning of the sale. (No nuts)
- ★ Be Bright Be Seen Disco Thursday 23rd November
- ★ Winter Wonderland Fair\*\*\*
  Saturday 9th December, 3 6pm.
- \*\*\* This big family event will be bursting with seasonal fun, but we will need your help! In fact, we can't do it without you! It's never too early to volunteer so please give an hour of your time if you can. Thank you!

#### FOWS are going (Woodlea) green with two new recycling initiatives:

- We have a new, permanent clothing bank on site. It's bright green & located next to our shed
   You can't miss it! It takes good quality clothes, paired shoes, bed linen, soft toys, as well as accessories such as belts, hats, gloves, scarves & handbags.
- 2. We have partnered with Empties Please, to recycle ink and toner cartridges. There are two cardboard bins in reception, & bags have been sent home. (Spares are available in the letter rack in the school reception.) If you work in an office, please consider having a box there too, as they give a healthy donation for every cartridge that is recycled, as well "green points" for Woodlea to redeem on a Forest School eco-gift.





### **Preloved Uniform**

Did you know FOWS collects & rehomes good quality Woodlea school uniform? We always have stock available to browse at our events but if you need anything in the meantime, just ask!

This year, Suzy Larman (with children in yrs 2 & 3) is looking after our preloved uniform, so please chat with her or send an email to see if we can help. All enquiries are handled with discretion but if you feel more comfortable you can ask via the school office instead

If you have any uniform to donate, please place it in the black wheelie bin, which can be found in front of our shed, in the school car park.

For more information:
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