

FRIENDS MEETING

Meeting minutes

Thursday 22nd February 2024, 7.00pm

In Attendance

Sarah, Karen, Rachel, Clare, Charanjit, Maria, Paula

Apologies

Gill, Stella

Easter Bingo Update– Friday 8th March

- A. Tickets – So far, we have sold 24 full books and 4 single £248.
- B. Bingo prizes – Thanks to Clare for working with Tesco to arrange the eggs. These have been collected and are stored at Clare's until we need them for prize packing. Tesco donated 2 of the larger eggs so the total cost to us was £125. £14.55 less than last year. We do also carry over some money from the non-uniform pot at the start of the year which gives us £119 for future prizes.
 - 1 line – medium egg and bag of mini eggs
 - 2 lines – small mixture of eggs
 - Full house – Easter egg hamper
- C. Hamper packing Monday 4th March – Volunteers in after school 4.30-5.30pm
- D. Non-uniform will be taking place on Friday 1st March. Easter egg donations from Year 8's and £2 donations from Year's 7, 9, 10 and 11 to go to Young Minds Matter who support us in school.
- E. Flyers have been sent through to Emma for printing. These will be ready for next week.

Medieval Street Market – Sunday 9th June

Bottle tombola – same format as last year. We are able to take bottles now, these can be dropped into reception.

We have had a number of bottles already donated which are being stored in Clare's garage. Thank you Clare!!

We will require 3 tables, gazebo and tombola drum. Timings for the day to be confirmed nearer the time as we won't receive these until a couple of weeks before. Last year it was set up from 10am and we were packed up and finished before 4pm. When we get the form, we will try and request the same location as I think this was a great location as the flow of people was steady and we weren't close to where it can bottle neck sometimes.

Costumes – medieval theme. We will decide near the time.

Summer Event Plans

Start think about a possible summer event to be discussed at the next meeting. Possible summer quiz.

Summer Raffle – I have secured 2 tickets to Classic Ibiza 2025 which we can use as a top prize in a summer raffle.

Rock Academy Studio Fund

Rock Academy have donated £5'000 themselves from events that they have done.

We have had other donations of £1025.25 so far. £600 of that was kindly donated by the Alcester and Bidford Rotaty Club. £136 via the school gateway.

We are still awaiting Just Giving to sign us off and then we can launch our Just Giving page and go bigger in the community with this. This way we can utilise Gift Aid.

The Friends collected £200 for our participation in the Santa Route. Rachel proposed that £100 of this be donated to the studio fund. This was seconded by Paula and agreed by those present in the meeting.

Sabrina thought it might be a nice idea to also do a buy a brick for a certain donation. Then we engrave their name on the brick. She suggested £50. We will consider this further.

The Round Table has said to contact them with any volunteering needs we may have when we need to empty the unit as they may be able to assist.

Charlie McKenzie, Assistant Headteacher will be liaising with Mr Badbam about a Rock Academy gig with special guests to raise funds for the studio fund. She is also waiting to hear about a grand from a bid she has put in.

AOB

- Sarah talked about doing a summer challenge similar to the "Grow £10" which raised a significant amount last summer. Miles was asked to look into this and we discussed ideas on how we can improve this for this year. Miles suggested getting Year 7 and 8 groups to apply and propose their plan and we choose 5 groups and give a £20 start up. This would mean that there would less teams selling the same kind of items and be easier to manage.
- Now that we have overcome the IT issues we experienced during the first half of the year, Sarah has asked us to look into getting quotes for the Chromebooks that we were raising money for last academic year. We will speak to Mr Hall and contact one of the parents who also said that they would be able to get us a quote. We will update in the next meeting.
- Sarah also talked about the possibility of an audit due to the amount of money that we are now generating. This will be able to be picked up through our school auditors.

Next Meeting

There will be no meeting in March due to Easter and it being close to February's meeting. Our next meeting will be on Thursday 11th April 2024 at 7.00pm, online via Teams. A link will be sent out prior to the meeting.

A review of the bingo night sales will be sent out week commencing 11th March.