



AGM/Committee Meeting – 10th October 2020

Present: Lucy Potter (Chair), Alex Perrett (Treasurer), Anil Saxena (Researcher), Lisa Silk-Hale (Secretary), Michael Dillon (Head), Sarah Pitcher, Nicola Pottinger, Leizel

Apologies: Maria Lewis (Vice Chair)

Christmas Cards

The Christmas cards were a success again and more popular than last year. Next time we will ask for the Surname on the bank account people are using to pay as it was difficult to match. Everyone's got sorted in the end. We are waiting for confirmation of return date from the Company and will advertise once we know. In general, it was a success doing this with parents using bank transfer and was easier for Alex to do the requisition. Now people have the bank details set up it will be quicker for them next time. We do still need to look at ordering a card reader for other events such as the summer fete however with Covid, this is not a priority.

Banking

We currently have £10,239 in the Friends account. Money from the fancy dress day still needs to be counted and added.

We have now lost the monies paid for the outdoor cinema. This was supposed to be in 2019 but had to be cancelled last minute because of the weather. We looked to re-arrange in Spring 2020 but lockdown put a halt unfortunately.

Spending

We had been asked for £5,000 to go toward new school paving but a quote has come back for less so waiting for confirmation. Mr Dillon has been getting quotes and work is due to start as soon as possible. We have requested a 'Friends' engraved paving slab to advertise our funding has helped with this.

We discussed future projects to fundraise for. It is the outside areas that need help/updating including Badgers Retreat, Tyre Park, Sail areas, updating classroom markings and a climbing frame for the Nursery. Mr Dillon is going to provide a list.

Upcoming Activities

Dress down day for children in need on Friday 13th November. Payment will be made on Eduspot or cash which is easier for the school to pay straight to children in need.

Bingo is the next event organised by Friends and has been rearranged from Friday 13th to Friday 20th November. Start advertising Thursday 12th. Bingo cards and dabbers to be sold from Monday 23rd November in the bottom playground at pick up times. The bingo will run on zoom from 18.30. Sarah will set up the call and we will take peoples email when selling tickets so we can send them the zoom details. We need to organise some chocolate type prizes. It will be £1 per game (playing 3 games) and £1 per dabber.

The school are still hoping to do the school bazaar this year to keep things as normal as possible for the children, potentially 4th December, Mr Dillon to confirm.

We are hoping to do a dress down day on the last day of term with a Christmas party in each bubble. Mr Dillon to confirm and ask the kitchen if they can make some snacks.

We are also hoping to arrange a virtual pantomime for the last day of term as a surprise for the children, we are waiting for more details from a company.

We have decided not to do a raffle this year as we are conscious of the effects of Covid on families and do not want to do too much.

Annual Vote

At the beginning of each school year a vote is taken to elect committee members. This year the results are as follows:

Chair – Lucy Potter

Vice Chair – Maria Lewis

Secretary – Lisa Silk-Hale

Secretary – Anil Saksena

Alex Perrett – Treasurer

Shelley Taylor – Treasurer

Sarah Pitcher and Nicola Pottinger offered to help whenever they can.

Next meeting 15th December 2020 @7pm via zoom.

friendsbirchhill@gmail.com

Facebook: Friends of Birch Hill School