Fowsa AGM 2021 8th October 2021

Attendees

Mr Williams, Mrs Coleman, Claire Cowling, Melissa Wylie, Alex Brettel, Vicky Connelly, Suz Prior- Crossan, Lou, Sarah, Michelle Blake.

Apologies

Sharon Turley, Jamie, Katie, Eleanor Shawcross, Laura Corrigan, Lisa M, Nicola, Carys, Gaynor, Jenette, Verity, Alison, Lauren Bedford, Anne Grondahl, Miriam Jones, Wendy, Lisa P and Nicola.

Mr Williams addressed the FOWSA members:

Thank you to all FOWSA members and for the money raised. This is helping to support essential school equipment e.g KS1 &2 reading books, junior trim trail, nursery play area.

**Future projects:**

**Trim trail update**: the design has been finalised (this now needs to go to the governors for approval). Original company have increased their costs so another company has been sourced. As a result, the cost has been revised and currently stands at £32,800 so school are asking if FOWSA can cover the £2,800 increase. This price will possibly be less once the removal of the old trail by Mr Inskip is factored in. Mr Williams to update will final costs.

All being well, work will start on the new trail in March over an approximate 1-2 weeks.

**Sensory Garden** - School would also still like to go ahead with this.

**Large Trees to provide shade:**

We have £1k funding from Tesco that could be used towards this. Alex then brought up the Queens jubilee initiative which could tie in with this as we can apply for a grant from the woodlands trust for further tree/s?

**Pond area** (to be used as a scientific study area in the copse):

This will need to be fenced. Cost approx. £400. Mr Inskips long term plan is for there to be bushes surrounding the fencing area to help establish a clear border.

**Books** – Mr Williams confirmed no funding will be needed in the short term.

**Smartboards** – A number of boards in the school require replacing in the near future to be replaced with the same boards that are being used in years 5 & 6. Costing around the £3k mark each.

**Espresso** – We are now in the final year of a 3-year deal. Remaining payment to be made of £2k?

Catrin will need to re-negotiate in 2022.

Claire Cowling (Key points):

* Thank you for the last 8 years.
* The last year has been tough but we have had some great successes e.g. coin wars, ice cream Fridays, secret Santa etc
* The decision to not hold the summer/Christmas fairs has come at a large loss.
* We’ve had to be more mindful in the current climate about costs for parents.
* The items we now fundraise for have now changed from the niceties to essentials.
* We have a healthy and supportive team at Fowsa.
* Big Thank you to Alex Brettel who is standing down as treasurer.

Alex Brettel (financial overview):

* Online payments are working well and are particularly good for being covid secure. Roughly 50% of parents pay the associated charges but ultimately, using this payment platform means we don’t always see the full amount e.g. on £5 product, if fees aren’t paid, we get £4.15. This means collecting small amounts is very costly to us and is likely to shape our fundraising in the future.
* Coin wars was very successful however we now have no local HSBC branch, limits on counter service for coin deposits etc so this kind of fundraiser has become unworkable. This will need factoring in for all future activities.
* Alex has now completed the safeguarding questionnaire with HSBC who are satisfied we aren’t money launderers!

Top 3 profit makers:

1. Ice cream Friday - £1,193
2. Non- uniform - £1,113
3. Coin wars - £935

Following our outgoings, we made a total profit of £4317.11

**Election of offices:**

* President – Mr Williams
* Chair – Claire Cowling (note: will not remain chair once youngest leaves the school in 2023)
* Vice chair – Melissa (note: Does not wish to become chair in the future)
* Treasurer – Sharon Turley (taking over from Alex Brettel)
* Assistant treasurer – Michelle Blake (new post)
* Secretary – Vicky Connelly
* I.T – Suz Prior-Crossen

**AOB**

* Amazon smile requires more promoting
* Agreed notice board purchase
* Jamie Wheatcraft picking up with China butterfly re: Christmas card alternatives.