



The Friends of Woodland Grange

The Fundraising group of Woodland Grange Primary School

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FOWG Newsletter - Spring Term 2004

Welcome !



Welcome to the Spring Term FOWG Newsletter. Hope this finds you all well after a great term and looking forward to Easter. The Friends of Woodland Grange committee are happy to report a successful few months as well as lots of upcoming activities for us all to get involved. As usual please make a note in your diaries!

A lot of fun was had over the winter with the Christmas Fare, carol singing, Christmas cards and calendars, as well as more recently at the pop quiz. You have helped raise almost a thousand pounds through these events so a very big **Thank You!**

Do keep in touch with your committee and keep those ideas, suggestions and offers of help rolling in! Looking forward to seeing you at an event soon.

Easter Celebrity Quiz

Easter is almost upon us and what better way to indulge than the traditional Easter Egg. FOWG are giving three away! You have to win them of course, and we'd have to assume competition will be fierce. Given four weeks of mind-sharpening abstinence and a thorough knowledge of "celeb" culture this shouldn't prove too challenging. Get your entries in by Monday 29th March for a healthy chance to win.

Do you have a speciality area? Would you like to put a quiz together for FOWG? Why not have a think and let the committee know your ideas. We are always looking for interesting, perhaps locally relevant quizzes to help raise funds and engage our school community in a bit of competitive fun! Don't forget you can email the committee on fowg@woodlandwideweb.org.uk

Bedding Plants Sale

Another great idea from FOWG to help you save money and raise some for the school – the Bedding Plants Sale! Once again this is being held in conjunction with C D Bell and FOWG. The benefit here is bulk discounts, our supplier is prepared to give very competitive prices for a school – size order. Please study the recent flyer sent out and choose a selection of Summer Bedding Plants to emblazon your borders. If you are not sure what each plant looks like, you may rest assured they are all beautiful in the garden, or you may want to check the website www.cdbell.co.uk.

Please get your orders in by 2 April via your child's form teacher. Prices per tray are mostly £1.80 for 9 plants!!

Don't forget this year the offer coincides with Woodland Granges' exciting GroundForce project. We are all looking forward to seeing the superb ideas and efforts going into the school grounds. Why not contribute a bit of your own colour and use the bedding Plants sale to donate some plants to the GroundForce project?



Pop Quiz Review

A very big thank you to Harry & Cathryn Hoyland and all who helped organise the Pop Quiz earlier in March. The event was a great success and great fun! About 70 people attended and took part in the quiz at the school hall. Early estimates show the event raised almost £210 for the FOWG PTA school fund.

SUMMER FUN DAY

Any talk of Summer is a welcome diversion from the current woeful weather, so FOWG would like to ask you all to start thinking of a long, hot Summers day in June.... Sunday 13 June actually!! The committee and a host of volunteers are beginning to bring this event together. The Summer Fun Day is always very well attended and is a super way for all the school community to get together.

There will be a host of activities organised, with a superb array of entertainment to compete with the best variety performance. Woodland Grange children will be amongst



those entertaining the crowds and shows for kids are being booked. There will also be the bustling array of stalls, crafts and refreshments to dazzle the senses. All this on a perfect English summer's day (i.e. we'll make the best of what we get!!).

Please think about volunteering for stalls, setting up / breaking down, cleaning up, providing your own special craft perhaps. The usual help will be solicited near the time, so do put the date in your diary! In particular help is always very welcome for filled jars and raffle ticket sales. The Fun Day is also the best fundraising event for FOWG,

Web pages / email address

FOWG has information and interesting articles on the WoodlandWideWeb pages (www.woodlandwideweb.org.uk). Follow the link under home-school. You can also email the committee at fowg@woodlandwideweb.org.uk.

Christmas Fair – 5 December 2003

The FOWG Christmas Craft Fair was a great success in December last year. Many people enjoyed the event and attendance was very good. Nearly £450 was raised for FOWG so a very big Thank You to all those that helped organise the event and for you all for participating on the day. This event seems to get more popular every year so let the FOWG know if you have any fundraising ideas to go with this event!



Christmas Cards

The Christmas Card scheme was another great success last December. Many thanks to all those who ordered the cards and of course to the budding young artists for designing them!! Thanks also go to the organisers (Sue Bird and Susan Nowobilski) for raising around £285 for FOWG and the school!

Carol Singing

The carol singing evening in December raised over £100 for the charity Wishes 4 Kids. This is a Leicester based charity determined to makes dreams come true for deprived and challenged children. Anyone with a lungful of air should consider themselves welcome to participate so watch this space for details of next Christmas' event!!

Fundraising benefits

Since last perusing the pages of this epistle you have helped to raise over a thousand pounds for the FOWG PTA school fund and a local Leicester charity. This is a great achievement and best of all a lot of people had a lot of fun

at the same time! The school uses the PTA fundraising to resource materials and items vital to the education of the students. Recently the PTA has helped fund sportswear and audio-visual equipment. It's great to benefit from the hard work and superb results of Woodland Grange school and all the more rewarding to contribute to its success. Don't forget to participate whenever you can and as ever, keep the ideas coming in!



FOWG is always looking to make the most of the money it raises. For example the PTA now uses a special charity bank account that benefits from the combined savings of a number of similar charities to get a better interest rate. The Friends are also looking into the Gift Aid scheme, whereby income tax is claimed back from the Inland Revenue from money donated to the charity. This can't easily be done on money taken at events and is more useful to increase the value of direct contributions. If you are interested in making a contribution to the Friends please get in touch.

Thank You!!



Reception children's 2004 Calendar

Thank you to Lucy Boyer for organising the Christmas Calendar for the Reception classes. This was a great success, providing a lovely seasonal gift for the family and raising £50 for the FOWG.

FOWG Meeting

The FOWG committee hold regular meetings at the school. These meetings are short and concise and usually occur on a Tuesday or Thursday evening. Everybody is welcome to attend. You might wish to come along to the next meeting on **THURSDAY 22 APRIL 2004 at 7.00pm**. Here you will be able to meet the committee and other interested parents, put forward your views on events and activities, offer to help and get an update on upcoming events.

Remember, the FOWG PTA is primarily the parents and staff of Woodland Grange. The committee really just meets to help steer and organise, you constitute the main body of the organisation. Every step you take to contribute and participate is encouraged and greatly appreciated!

Sponsored Cycle

Don't forget to let Peter Elliott know if you are interested in taking part in a sponsored cycle for the FOWG. This will probably happen in late Spring when the wind dies down...



The FOWG Committee

Feel free to contact your committee at any time for any reason on fowg@woodlandwideweb.org.uk or by leaving a note with the school office.

Don't forget, everybody is welcome to help organise and contribute to events and activities. Your committee just serves to oversee the PTA and cannot exist without your day to day contributions of time and effort.

Why not join the committee? Have a think now, in time for the next elections. It's very much a team effort and every member has the support of the whole committee.

GOOD BYE for now and have a very Happy Easter!

