

# Friends Newsletter

**AUTUMN TERM 2023**

We have had an incredible start to the 2023/2024 academic year raising over **£750** before the main event of this term - **the Winter Fest!** Thank you to all those who have supported our various initiatives, from bake sales to the Halloween Disco, we wouldn't be able to do any of this without you.

We would like to recognise the efforts of Richard Gilliagan who stood down as Chair of the Friends this term after three years of service. Richard has given so much to the Friends over the years, putting in place many of the structures that enable the Friends to function and helping to raise thousands of pounds for the school despite the challenges of COVID. Richard you will be sorely missed.

*Samantha Woods - Friends Vice-Chair*



## THE KEY STAGE ONE REVAMP

The amazing fundraising last year enabled the Friends to support school initiatives that went beyond our regular coach, bookbag, year book commitments. The Friends donated £3,664 to help towards a revamp of KS1 inside and outside areas.

"Friends Funding helped make the classrooms more inviting and well organised with new shelving for all the Early Years and KS1 classes, enabling the children to have easier access to the equipment and resources they need, increasing their independence and ownership of their learning. The KS1 outside areas, between reception and Year One and behind Year Two have also received Friends funding for resources like tuff spots, water trays, mud kitchen, building equipment and outside storage for resources, transforming these areas into outside learning spaces".

*Ms Langley. - KS1 Coordinator*



## CREEPY CRAWLIE FUN FOR SUMMER FAIR HAMPER WINNERS

Year One rose to the challenge and won last year's hamper competition, (when they were Wrens). The Friends gave the school £250 to spend on an activity or opportunity for the class to enjoy. "On Friday 5th January, Mini Beasts are coming to Wicklewood Primary School - which is very exciting! Year 1 children have been learning about different parts of the body: animals, bugs and humans and in Spring Term they will be learning about habitats and climates. We thought a visit from the Mini Beasts will inspire and motivate the children to be curious, ask questions and deepen their learning."

*Mrs Burr-Wilby. - Deputy Head*



## CAKES 4 COACHES

This term has seen Robin, Swift, Greenfinch, Kestrel and Lapwing host their bake sales and to date we have raised **£578.50!** A BIG thank you to all those who baked, bought or ate cake.

The proceeds of the bake sale, along with the summer ice cream sales goes towards our coach commitments, with the Friends pledging to provide one coach trip per year group, which cost over £2000 last year.



## WINTER FEST - FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER

This year, Winter Fest will be held at the school and we plan to have more games, food stalls and activities than ever before. To achieve this however, we need your help!

We are looking for a band of volunteers to help Emma Henry with face painting, overseeing the Year Six who are running our games stalls and on the various Friends stalls. If you can help, please could you contact Katy: 07983125632



We will be collecting donations for the Christmas Toy Tombola all this week. Please drop them into the School Office.

All books, cuddly toys, cars, trains, planes, building blocks, DVDs, board games, dolls, skipping ropes, balls, fancy dress and anything else you can think of is welcome.

Anything that is not chosen by our Tombola winners will be donated to a charity shop.



## DATES FOR JANUARY:

- THURSDAY 4TH JANUARY - WELCOME BACK
- FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY - WREN CLASS CAKE SALE
- FRIDAY 26TH JANUARY - KINGFISHER CLASS CAKE SALE