



## Friends Meeting Minutes from 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023

### Present

Mrs Howard, Mrs Hudson, Lisa M, Saaiba A, Rhiannon C, Kim K, Claire S, Lou Ince, Jill

### Apologies

Dominique Stead, Danika, Gill

Welcome given by Lisa.

Nil outstanding from previous Minutes

### Treasurers Report

Raised a good amount of money from Summer Fair and Preloved.

Keeping £150 float in the school safe for upcoming events. Lots of difficulties with bank and Lisa and Rhiannon have only just got access to Friends bank account.

Expenditure:

Tree Survey, Yr 6 Leavers Gifts, Floats, Summer Fair Costs

Need to purchase large zip up bags for Preloved. Also lighting system for school discos.

Wish List from school:

Ipads. During covid got an offer for 32 ipads costing around £238 each. Older Ipads now unable to be updated. Only have enough for one between two for one class therefor only one class at a time can use the ipads.

Would be fantastic if Friends were able to purchase and gift a new set for school – enough for one between two. At present not enough funds, but with upcoming events then this should be possible in coming months. Mrs Howard advised to wait until all can be purchased together rather than donating money to school to purchase. Roughly looking at £4300.

School are looking at 'recycling' old ones to raise funds.

Mrs Howard will look at best value and offers available.

EYFS have asked if Friends could purchase more Mobilo. Friends will arrange this.

Wanted by Friends- Remains at toys/games for wet play.

Need to decide on whether we get a Sum Up machine for use at events. Machine itself costs around £30 and transactional charges very low. Rhiannon has researched this and Sum up seems best. Parent Kind also recommend Sum Up. Would need trialling and there may be signal issues.

### Upcoming Events

Welcome Disco- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September

5-5:45 EYFS

6-7:15 Yr 1-6

Is there a safety number of how many can be in the hall?

Older year groups may not require parents to stay- word of mouth to try and find out.

If weather dry benches at back of Holly class for parents to sit on

Lisa and Rhiannon sorting playlist out

There will be tuck shop, glitter and glow sticks.

Trial this time so will learn for next time- will all year groups 1-6 work?

May have games but will depend on space.

Mrs Howard advised Mr James is off next week- there will be a stand-in but what will we need? Just a couple of the older kitchen tables. Mrs Howard will arrange.

There have been more than enough volunteers which Friends are very grateful for.

FOREST DAY- Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October

Tree survey completed and forest is safe to be used by school!

Forest day sessions to be held with the help of Communitree Sophie. Sophie able to help with risk assessments and can do lots in the forest. More than what originally thought. Den building, tree climbing, willow wands, stickmen, bug hunts, smores on campfire.

There will be refreshments and a BBQ.

Sophie also able to provide training at a cost of £150 which Friends would pay for. May help with staff confidence in using the forest. What would work best for school weekday or weekend? Mrs Howard and Mrs Hudson are open to either would ideally prefer weekday but also happy to attend weekend session.

Sophie also has a toolkit for use in activities. Friends have requested a list of what is in it and will purchase same toolkit for school to keep.

There will be story telling on the day- Mrs Hudson suggested reading 'The Happiness Tree'.

It will be a ticketed event- suggestions of £5 per ticket – Friends to meet again and decide on what will be included etc. Suggestions of running two sessions morning and afternoon.

No safe numbers up to now- Sophie is coming to do a full walk around risk assessment and map. She will also make recommendations for areas that need clearing.

Christmas Fair- Proposed date of 8<sup>th</sup> December- Mrs Howard states no clashes in diary.

Virtual Balloon Race- Mrs Howard is going to look into how this was done and Lisa will enquire as to what the prize was. This will be in November.

### Preloved Uniform

This has really taken off and there have been so many donations. Very big task and so much donated – no space to sort it.

Lisa stated she was in the process of applying for the Tesco Blue token scheme- if Friends successful would spend the money on buying a shed and put rails in. Would school be able to locate an area to keep shed. Mrs Howard felt there would not be an issue with this and will speak to Mr James.

Also looking into Uniformly. Registered- online catalogue.

Saiba happy to take lead on Preloved but will need help with this. To message groups and ask for volunteers.

This will be in the newsletter this week.

### Any other Business?

Lisa looking at getting the 100 club up and running

Will there be a Christmas Grotto at the fair? Friends looking into this.

Non uniform days- for Elfridges and donations- one to be held early on. But likely two non uniforms for this event.

Sourcing donations. Saaiba has been quite successful.

Christmas cards- Cauliflower cards- will school be able to help with the artwork? Mrs Howard and Mrs Hudson were happy to help. Mrs Howard emailing Friends a list of Year Groups and change of class names.

Louise stated another idea for fundraising in better weather would be to hire the obstacle course each child donates £2 to use and they get to go on in year groups throughout the day. Works well at her school and then children can donate extra money if they wish to go on again after school.

Next Friends Meeting will be at 7pm Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November.