

## **Friends of the Mead Meeting**

**17/10/18**

### **In attendance:**

Emma Kent, Ruth Campbell, Poonan Magdani, Bukky Obidairo, Claire Chattenton, Pete Davey, Victoria Craddock, Claire Curran, Lucy Renton, Jacqueline Hicks, Anna Paine, Claire Henry, Kate Glover, Alice Patience, Emma Howarth, Sarah Morley, Ayme Flay, Tamasin Absolon, Marion Borrageiro.

**Apologies:** Tammy McIntosh, Katie Lovell, Alicia Faith, Katie Balcombe, Sian Haines, Nicole Morton.

### **Feedback on Movie Night/Parents' Drinks (5<sup>th</sup> October 2018)**

- We discussed the possibility of a separate room next year for older children, particularly Year 6 as the film choice was perhaps too young for them (no year 6 children attended). Another option is to look at running another event that caters to the older children's taste.

### **Profits**

Film tickets - £601

Parents' drinks - £264

- We discussed the fact that many parents dropped their children and then left the premises. We talked about ideas to make parent drinks more appealing. Ideas included live music, cocktails, displaying the children's

work, offering a free drink with each ticket sold (we would need to increase the ticket price if we go down this route).

FoM felt the number of tickets on sale worked, and the event ran smoothly without the pizza on offer. The committee received one complaint about children being asked to bring a packed tea.

### **Own Clothes Day, Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2018** – funds raised: £323.60

A huge thanks to all for supporting the day.

### **Winter Fayre - to be held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

- New stalls have been added to cater to older children. These are a slime station (kids to make their own slime, gloves will be on offer for those parents who would like their children to use them), bauble making and a photobooth room, and cupcake decorating.
- FoM will provide most of the class reps with box containing all the components they need to run their stall (few exceptions such as face paints and Santa's grotto).
- Claire Curran kindly offered to lend cupcake decorating materials and equipment.
- All prizes will be purchased and distributed by FoM to each stall.
- We discussed various options for the photo-booth room including hiring a booth and printing our own photos. Year 5 reps to come up with a plan to run the stall and feedback to committee after half term for approval.

- **Hampers** - there are two booze hampers, which we discussed theming – ie, gin hamper, bubbles hamper etc. Suggestion for next year - offering a smaller number of higher ticket hampers instead of lots of smaller ones. There was a suggestion that we sell raffle tickets online, committee to investigate and see if we have enough time to action that for this year's fayre.
- **Food** – Fullers have kindly donated 150 sausages free of charge. The decision was made not to provide burgers this year, but include a vegetarian option. Brie and cranberry baps were suggested.
- Volunteers to arrive at 10am for setup. Class reps to make sure they have enough helpers to clear up – which includes sweeping/mopping, moving furniture back to correct place and returning items to the shed.
- FoM have decided to put on a competition for best decorated classroom. Decorations are to be brought in from home – not purchased. The winner (to be decided by Mr Webster) will win a prize.
- A suggestion was made to invite a Christmas tree supplier to come in to take pre-orders which will be delivered. FoM will receive a cut of each sale. This is still under negotiation.
- Secret Santa – last year we struggled for presents for male relatives, emphasise this on the donations mail that is sent out to parents.
- One parent suggested running a go kart track on the playground, by using an outside company who give a % of the profits to the FoM. Committee to investigate.

- Father Christmas volunteers for Santa's Grotto are needed, please contact Ruth in the office if you are able to help
- A Parentmail will be sent out detailing all donations (bottles, cakes, toys, Secret Santa gifts) that will be gratefully received.

### **Other business**

A parent present asked how FoM fosters relations between parents and teachers as per the FoM mission statement, suggesting that the meeting so far had focused more on fundraising than forging relationships in this area. The question of how fundraising projects are decided and communicated was also raised.

The committee responded that teachers are involved in supporting all FoM events, the FoM class reps organise end of year drinks for parents and teachers along with gifts. Staff often attend FoM meetings where time permits and suggest fundraising projects and items for purchase they feel will best benefit the pupils.

The current committee sees its role as running fun events that bring families and teachers together outside of the classroom to raise money for FoM (as discussed at our first meeting). The Committee pointed out that the focus of this meeting had very much been on organising the Winter Fayre due to time constraints.

In response to the fundraising projects query the committee stated that this is decided and voted upon by all those who attend meetings, although parents are always free to offer any suggestions via Ruth in the office or directly to the committee. Fundraising decisions are communicated to the parent body via the minutes which are distributed via parentmail and available on the school website FoM page. FoM also regularly update parents with news via the school newsletter.

As usual, any suggestions are very gratefully received.

**Christmas Cards** - Parents will be able to start ordering after half-term.

**Own clothes day** - It was suggested that we have an own clothes day each term, one could be fancy dress or themed.

### **Fundraising projects**

Ideas under discussion - Seating for the Astro turf, 3D printer for STEAM, vaulting box and springboard for the gym, PA speaker system for sports day, visitors and workshops to enrich the kids' education. Bike/scooter shed. It was agreed that the speaker system and the bike shed should come under school's remit. We also need to get clarity from Mr Webster on the gymnastics equipment. What are school funding and what are we funding over and above that?

It was suggested that a display should be put up during the Christmas Fayre to show parents what FOM are raising money for.

**Future events.** These will be discussed at the next meeting. Everyone, as always, is welcome to attend.

**Next FoM meeting: 14<sup>th</sup> November, 8.30am, dining room.**