

The FOCKSA Newsletter

Spring 2013

Summer Fair 2013

Ideas please!

We are currently looking for some new games stalls for this year's Summer Fair, as some of ours are quite old and a little tired. We are also in need of some interesting displays, shows or games to go into our arena.

If you have any ideas to pass on, **please let us know**. Thank you.

Volunteers wanted

FOCKSA runs a variety of events throughout the year to raise extra funds for your local school, and we rely on the hard work and support of parents, friends and local residents to make these events possible. So if you would like to help, we'd be delighted to hear from you – as the old saying goes, 'many hands make light work'!

Calendar

Make a note in your diary now, you won't want to miss these!

Curry & Quiz Night

Friday 22nd March

Tickets £10 per person.

Summer Fair

Saturday 29th June (tbc)

Bags2School bags sent home

Thursday 16th May (tbc)

Bags2School collection

Wednesday 5th June (9am) (tbc)

Bags2School bags sent home

Thursday 17th October (tbc)

Bags2School collection

Wednesday 8th November (9am) (tbc)

Preparation for September 2013

Yes, we have only just returned from the Christmas break and September seems a very long time away! However, it's time to start thinking about how you could help your school next year. Belinda and I will be standing down as Chairpersons of FOCKSA at the end of this year. Having collectively volunteered for ten years, and with both of us having sons going into Year Six, it's time for some new helpers with fresh ideas to come on board.

I will be truthful, it can be hard work, it does involve coming to some meetings, and does require some planning and organisation, usually with emails flying backwards and forwards! However, it is also good fun, very rewarding and a great way to meet people who you don't usually congregate with on the playground. (I also read in a newspaper recently that doing some volunteer work can actually help you to live longer!) All committee members bring with them their own different skills, and hopefully you will agree that, between us we manage to put on some really fun events!

The funds raised by FOCKSA are incredibly important for the school and children. For example, we are able to help with additional fun learning projects such as the 'Listen 2 Me' music project, which may otherwise have to stop. The money that we grant allows the school to use their own budget for more pressing things, such as increasing the amount of hours that Learning Support Staff are in the classrooms, which of course makes a huge difference everyone.

There is also the fun side as well though. FOCKSA organises lots of social events for parents and children. There are Discos, Quiz and Curry nights, Christmas and Summer Fairs, Balls, Pampering Evenings and more. A village school without any social events does not seem right somehow.

So have a think, and if you would like to come along to a meeting to see what happens, or get involved in any way, however big or small, please speak to a committee member or email me at clairebaker24@btinternet.com

Claire Baker, Joint Chairperson, FOCKSA

Friends of Charles Kingsley's School Association

raising funds on behalf of:

**Charles Kingsley's C.E. (Aided) Primary School,
Glaston Hill Road, Eversley, Hook, Hampshire RG27 0LX**

Tel: 01189 732 187, Fax: 01189 736 110

Web: www.charleskingsleys.hants.sch.uk/

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Annual Donations

In October 2012 we launched a new initiative asking parents for a direct annual donation of £52 to the FOCKSA charity. We'd like to thank everyone who has sent in a donation and supported us already. This is the first time we've made a direct request, having established that many other local schools already do a similar thing. Our primary motivation was that many parents tell us they would like to support FOCKSA, but due to other commitments, they are unable to help at or attend events. Donating directly gives everyone an alternative way to support the school.

We have also been asked why we still ask for volunteers to help with events, in addition to a donation request. It's simple, we believe that a village school has a special place within our community, outside of the classroom activities. School discos, quiz nights and the two fairs in particular, are a valued part of village life and enrich our community. These social events are fun for the whole school, our families, friends and those living locally. They are also a vital supplement to our fund raising efforts. But, these events don't run themselves! They require a huge amount of organisation and support, for which we will always need volunteers.

The annual donation is optional, and if you feel that you do plenty to support the school already, that's fine. It is up to you whether to donate or not. If you have been meaning to support us by making a donation but haven't yet found time, don't worry, it's not too late – the forms are in reception and your donation is always very welcome!

Once again, thank you all for your continued support,

The FOCKSA Committee

What we've raised....

FOCKSA events since September 2012 have so far raised:

Bags2School :	£470
Pamper Evening:	£320
Xmas Fair:	£2,100

In addition we have also received the following donations:

Parent Donations:	£2,000
Perforce Software Donation:	£500

Total (Sept-Dec 2012): £5,390

What we've done with it....

Since the start of the new school year, FOCKSA has donated money to pay for new playground cones, as well as all the extras needed for the Children's Christmas lunch and visit from Santa.

In the New Year, FOCKSA has also funded the annual visit of M & M Productions who put on a wonderful performance of Peter Pan which was an absolute hit with the children.

What we want to do next....

FOCKSA will also be contributing towards the following projects over the coming months:

The 'Listen to Me' project

To be introduced into Key Stage 1, in addition to funding already provided for Key Stage 2

Refreshments for Bastille Day

Croissants and drinks for the children

Continuing help towards school trip transport

In order to keep the cost of the trips lower for all families

Transport for professional cricket coaching classes at Eversley Cricket Club

Every Key Stage 2 student will have access to five weeks of professional coaching as part of the PE curriculum. FOCKSA will be helping with the funding of transport to and from these sessions.

Netbook collection fund

CKS would like a supply of netbooks, as many as possible! The ideal would be to have sets to share between every two classes.