

FOCKSA In The Loop

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November 2013



Welcome Back....

Welcome back to another eventful half term. Already FOCKSA is busy preparing for lots of Christmas activities including our main event, the Christmas Fair on the 7th December from 1.30pm until 4pm. We have lots of games for the children and the 'big children'. Stalls where you can do a bit of shopping, buy a few cakes and cards. The kitchen will be open selling light refreshments and to get you into the festive mood mulled wine. Not forgetting the FOCKSA raffle which includes really fantastic prizes.

Maria Jefferies Photography will be at the fair this year, offering 15minute slots at £10 for family portraits, this will include a 5*7 print of your choice. Please remember these need to be pre-booked at maria@mariajefferies.co.uk. Book early to avoid disappointment.

Most importantly – Santa will be taking time out from his busy schedule to visit us at CKS, making sure he gets to hear everyone's wish list for Christmas.



Please remember we are still collecting donations of prizes, toys, books, games, cakes etc and always looking for willing helpers?

New Event for the summer 5 a-side football

Parents and friends are being invited to swap their suits for trainers to take part in the FOCKSA 5 a-side football league.

Depending on interest and number of teams taking part, we would be looking to run the tournament over a number of weeks in the Spring term. There will be a nominal charge per team-per game and all money raised will go towards school projects.

FOCKSA chairperson, Shannon Swaffer is hoping that this will encourage more dads to get involved and what better way than to organise a fun sporting tournament.

And of course post tournament/game discussions and presentation of the FOCKSA Championship shield will take place in one of the local pubs.

If interested and for more information please get in touch at focksaeversley@gmail.com



Upcoming FOCKSA events

Bring a bottle non-uniform day	29 th November
Christmas Fair	7 th December
Christmas Lunch VIP guest with gifts	19 th December
School Disco	7 th February
Quiz and Curry Night	14 th March
Summer Fair	5 th July

Where is the money we all help to raise being spent?

Last year FOCKSA raised £11,282 through a number of well established events. At the beginning of the 2012 autumn term Mrs Charlton asked FOCKSA to help fund the purchase of 32 laptops. We have the pleasure in showing you what these laptops have brought to the learning environment this term so far, what the children are using them for, what the staff and more importantly what the children think of them.

This term Lowry class have been practising their keyboard skills in Microsoft Word. They have been using their clicking and dragging skills to design an alien. They have also been using their digital painting skills to paint their own aliens.



Students from Gauguin class

Mrs Neil (ICT Assistant/librarian) says “it has been a joy to see a whole class of children using the new laptops in their classroom environment. They can collaborate around a desk or work individually on their own projects. The laptops can also be used in the ICT suite, library and other areas of the school.”

A few comments from Year 5's (Van Gogh) on the new laptops;

“I prefer them to the desktops as they are more efficient, have a larger touchpad, which makes them easier to use. It's good to have a computer each and they work more quickly than the desktops”



Students from Gauguin class

“They're easier to transport around so we can use them in the classroom, not just in the ICT suite.”

“I prefer them to the desktops because now we don't all have to squeeze together, we can work in our own space and because we have one each we can do what we want rather than what someone else wants to do, It's our own ideas, not the ideas of someone else”

“I really didn't like the desktops; they were bulky and a bit old and scruffy. When we got the laptops it made the ICT suite glow a bit. They're so much better”

Our target for 2013-2014!

This year we need a bigger push to raise more money. The funding from local government is being cut and this is putting greater pressure on our school's resources. Mrs Charlton has, this year, asked FOCKSA to fund money for new interactive white boards. Currently only two of the classrooms have interactive whiteboards that are working correctly and it is of great importance that the remaining classrooms and library are upgraded. The total money needed for this invaluable teaching resource is £7,000. But not only do we need to raise this, we need to raise money for other events that FOCKSA fund within the school.

We need to keep raising funds for other items and events within the school and we really appreciate all your support to enable our children to have the best resources at their disposal.

Contact

If you want to learn more about FOCKSA and our role, or to suggest fund raising ideas or even to offer support at one of the events, we would very much like to hear from you.

You can get in touch by

- email: focksaeversley@gmail.com
- a letter or note drop into the FOCKSA letter box located in the school reception
- join our facebook page www.facebook.com/focksaeversley
- or by grabbing one of us in the playground before or at the end of school, there are a few of us about.

Match Funding

Calling all parents/carers who work for companies/banks that offer charity match funding. FOCKSA would be very interested if you could consider match funding any of our events. The extra income can make a huge difference to our fundraising. This year our aim is to raise at least £7,000 which will go towards interactive whiteboards for the classrooms. Please let us know if you are able to help on any of the contacts above

Parent Body

We are planning, within the school, to put together a list detailing the careers and skills that parents/guardians can offer. Whether it's IT skills, art and design skills or just coming into the school to give a talk to the children on your chosen career we would be very interested to hear from you.

If you are interested in being included on the parent body list, please contact FOCKSA either by email or via the FOCKSA post box in reception.

Start fund raising at home

Spend and Raise! Do you shop online? Did you know that every time you buy something you could be raising money for FOCKSA?

It's true – 1000's of well known retailers including Amazon, M&S, Boden, Waitrose, House of Fraser and many more, will donate a percentage of what you spend to FOCKSA when you shop with them, via fundraising website www.spendandraise.com/focksa

So instead of going directly to a retailer's website, go to www.spendandraise.com/focksa first and choose the retailer you want to shop with – then everything you spend with that retailer earns a free donation for FOCKSA.

Its free to use and your shopping won't cost you a penny more than if you went direct to that retailer. On average, each retailer will donate 5% of the cost of your shopping – and the donations soon mount up.

Starlight Carols and Sing-A-Long
13th December, 4.30pm
@ Charles Kingsley's School.



Join in with the children and parents for a festive 'Sing-a-long' and Christmas Nativity with a difference! Come and see the Miller's Ark animals as they add an authentic feel to the event and enjoy a glass of mulled wine. Tickets on sale at the Christmas Fair.