

‘FRIENDS OF’ LODGE LANE

Registered Charity number 1186022

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our Spring term newsletter. We had a committee meeting recently and we are busy planning some exciting events for the coming months, which we know the children will enjoy.

Thank you for all your support for the events we ran during the Autumn term, especially all the Christmas events and the Winter Fair. You may have seen on Facebook that we raised the following amounts from these events, after deducting costs and we really appreciate all the support you gave us:



Upcoming Events

Leap Year Day

On Thursday 29th February 2024 we will be holding a non-uniform day to celebrate the leap year. We are suggesting a theme of frogs (because they leap) which could be green clothes or anything else your child fancies, which is appropriate for school.

We are asking for a donation of £1 and the children will get a frog themed treat from us at the end of the day (a dairy-free alternative will also be available).

Mother's Day Shop

We will be running a shop for Mother's Day (or a special person) on Friday 1st March 2024 during school hours.

Payments can be made via Scopay, we are asking for a £2 donation. Each class will then take turns to come along to our shop and choose a gift, which they can then wrap and write a tag. We have a few of our committee helping with this. In previous years this has been a lovely activity for them to enjoy and choose a gift themselves. We have some great gifts available. You can buy multiple gifts if you would like but, if you do, on the day it would be helpful to let your child know who they are buying for (e.g. Aunties, Grandparents etc.) **The closing date for Scopay donations is Monday 26th February 2024.**

Easter Egg Hunt

This will take place in the back playground on **27th March 2024** at the end of the school day. The children will have to find some Easter related items around the field/playground to then exchange along with a fee (TBC nearer time) for an Easter egg. We are waiting to see what the cost of eggs are this year before determining the price we charge but will confirm this as soon as possible after half term. Siblings are also able to take part.

If there are any allergies please email us on llisfriendsof@gmail.com and we can arrange for dairy free/vegan/alternative eggs for those children.

Summer term events

We are also already planning events for the summer and can confirm our Summer Fair is taking place on Friday 28th June 2024 from 5pm - 8pm.

Stay and Play

Every Wednesday during term time the committee runs the Stay and Play group in the main hall from 8.50am - 10.20am. We have crafts, songs, tea, coffee and biscuits. The cost is £1.50 per family.

Clothing Bin

The clothing bin is in the school car park. Please donate any clothes, shoes, belts or handbags. These need to be in carrier bags and please no soiled items. We raise funds based on the weight of the items, which are taken away periodically.

Ink Cartridge Recycling

We also have an ink cartridge recycling bin at school. This is outside Mrs Dewing's office so please give any donations to the school office. Friends will receive a commission for the amounts recycled so please save your used ink cartridges and bring them to school for recycling.

PROJECTS WE ARE SUPPORTING

Playgrounds

We are fundraising this year to help improve the outdoor areas in front of the Year One classrooms and also the main playground behind the school. Equipment has started to arrive in the Year One playground and more will arrive in the coming weeks.

Library books

We have agreed to fund an update to the books which are in the school library, particularly in relation to non-fiction books, which are out of date and some fiction books by new authors. These are in the process of being ordered and will hopefully be in school soon.

Other areas

We support the children in other ways throughout the year as well, with books from Santa and providing refreshments for the class Christmas parties. We also provided the equipment for the Christmas decorations, which the all children made in December. We subsidise each child on their school trips and provide funds to enable the chicks, ducks and butterflies to be in the school in the summer term.

We have funded the purchase of some sports equipment and picnic rugs for PE trips and also some storage equipment for the reception playground area to ensure their outdoor toys are able to be stored safely and kept dry.

Safer Parking

We are supporting the school to try and ensure that people who are parking near school do so in a safe manner and have provided funds for the banners which are on display on the school fence. We were pleased to see the impact that the visiting police officer has had but we would like to see this replicated without the need for their presence. If you need to bring your car on the school run please do so considerately and don't park on the pavements or opposite the yellow zig zag lines as this makes it unsafe for people crossing the road. Nobody should be using the staff car park without prior authorisation from Mrs Dewing.

And finally.....

Thank you to all parents, families and carers who support the Friends of Lodge Lane; we have a great community around Old Catton. As a committee we work hard to organise all the activities and we work with the school so that the fundraising benefits all of the children. We currently have 15 members on our committee as well as Mrs Dewing. A big thank you to all the members for their ideas and hard work.

SUMMARY OF DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

See below for the dates covered in this newsletter.

EVENT	DATE
Leap Year Non-Uniform Day	Thursday 29th February
Mother's Day Shop	Friday 1st March (Scopay cut off Monday 26th February)
Easter Egg Hunt	Wednesday 27th March 3pm
Summer Fair	Friday 28th June 5pm - 8pm

WAYS TO SUPPORT US

Match Funding & Volunteering Days

Do you work for a company, which offers matched funding? Some companies offer donations to charities where their employees help to raise money. For example if you worked for one of these companies and volunteered at one of our events we may be able to claim additional monies from your employer to match the amount you helped to raise.

Some companies also offer a volunteering day for their employees to enable them to give their time to charitable causes. If this is something your employer offers and you would like to help us then please let us know.

Amazon Wish List

We have created a wish list on Amazon which the teachers have added to which you may wish to look at if you are buying anything from the company at any point. We will share the link to this list on the year group WhatsApp groups. If you would like your donation to go to a specific class please email or message us to let us know the items and relevant class.

Useful Links

- <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/lodge-lane-infant-school>
- <https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Lodge-Lane-Infant-School>
- For other online shopping check out easy fundraising, you can raise money for your school without even having to put your hand in your pocket.
<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/lodgelaneinfants/donation/>
- We have a partnership with Stamptastic whereby any sales via the link below generates money for the school PTA <https://stamptastic.co.uk/> 'PTA' code is the NR67HL

Other Ways

A reminder of the other ways you can help support our fundraising efforts.




We have the clothing recycling bin in the car park and also the ink cartridge bin in school. We get commission for amounts recycled.



Support our fundraising events whenever you can... buying raffle tickets, ice-creams, donating prizes etc



A weekly lottery where you can earn the school money and be in a chance of winning prizes yourself



Use the PTA code NR67HL when making purchases at stampastic and we get commission



How you can help Friends of Lodge Lane



Buy pre-loved school uniform from the boxes in the school reception (& donate any good quality items you no longer need)



Visit the easy fundraising website or app before making purchases online to see if the retailer offers any % donations



Our larger events usually require more help than the committee alone can give so we ask for some of your time



Your School Lottery

The below gives some more information about the school lottery and how you can support it. This is a weekly draw and as well as the main national prize one of our supporters wins a smaller amount each week.






SUPPORT OUR LOTTERY

It's A WIN-WIN Situation!

★ **BOOST School Funds**
★ **WIN up to £25,000**



To start supporting, visit:
YourSchoolLottery.co.uk/play
and search for: Lodge Lane Infant

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older

TICKETS
£1 EACH