



'FRIENDS OF' LODGE LANE

Registered Charity number 1186022

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our first newsletter for the new school year. We are pleased to welcome 10 new members to the committee and looking forward to working together on future events. We would like to thank the members who have left us this term as their children have moved on to junior school.

As a committee our main aim is to raise as much as we can but also spend these funds on the children who attend the school whilst also making the fundraising fun for the children. We had a committee meeting recently and we are busy planning lots of fun things for the coming months which we know the children will enjoy.

If you haven't already, please follow our Friends of Lodge Lane Facebook page as we put lots of information and reminders on there about our events.

Thank you to everyone who bought crumbles at the start of this term and to our Chair Gemma for being our Crumble Queen....we raised just over £270 from this.

SUMMARY OF DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES (MORE DETAIL FOLLOWS IN THIS LETTER)

EVENT	DATE
Friends of Lodge Lane AGM	Friday 18th October 9am
Topsy-Turvy Thursday	Thursday 24th October
Colouring Competition	Over October half term (deadline for entries Thursday 7th November)
Tombola Non-Uniform Day	Friday 8th November 2024
Winter Fair	Friday 29th November 2024
Christmas Shop	Friday 6th December (Scopay cut off Monday 2nd December)
Christmas Parties and Parent Creche	Wednesday 11th December 2024 (Y2) Thursday 12th December 2024 (Y1 & YR) (Scopay cut off Tuesday 10th December 9am)

Upcoming Events

Topsy-Turvy Thursday - Thursday 24th October

We will be holding a non-uniform day on the last day of the half term. The theme is Topsy Turvy Thursday (inspired by our 'Friends' at White Woman Lane's Wacky Wednesday). The idea is that children come to school in their craziest clothes - pyjamas, odd socks, odd shoes or could even be a footballer on one half and a princess on the other.

We are asking for a minimum £1 donation to be paid to the class teachers on the day in cash. Please note children still need to be comfortable and wear clothing suitable for outdoors.

Christmas Card Project

We have once again organised the Christmas cards project. Your child has done a drawing at school and you will then be able to place an order to be delivered nearer to Christmas. There are various options of mugs, cards, etc. Thank you to the teachers and EPAs/EPLs for helping to sort this out for us. The children will soon bring home a proof of their design with details on how to order the items.

The deadline for online orders via the online shop is 30 October 2024. The items purchased will then be delivered to school in the middle of November and we will send them home with the children.

Colouring Competition

We will be sending out a colouring competition for the children to enjoy doing at home over half term, these can be returned to your class teacher or to the office, we ask for a £1 donation to be taped to the picture. Mrs Dewing will choose a winner from each class and we have some great prizes for these which will be given out in assembly. The first one this year will be Fireworks themed.

Winter Fair

We would also like to remind everyone that the Winter Fair is coming up on Friday 29th November after school from 3pm - 5pm and we look forward to seeing everyone. There will be cakes and crafts, refreshments, games, tombola/raffle etc. The raffle will be drawn towards the end of the event.

Raffle and tombola prizes

If you own a business or know anyone who is able to help us by donating a raffle prize, we would be really grateful. If you are able to help with this, please email us on lifriends@gmail.com

There is also a non-uniform day on 8th November, we are asking, if possible for raffle and tombola prizes to be donated. We are holding an adult and child tombola, so crafts, gift sets, wine etc. This would all be greatly appreciated. Please hand these over to your class teacher that morning.

Cakes

On the morning of 29th November, if any parents or relatives would like to donate any cakes or savoury items for the Winter Fair, please bring these along at drop off. We will be selling these along with refreshments at the event. **Donations must be nut free, have ingredients listed, in a named container so we can return these to you afterwards please.**

Raffle tickets

We will send out raffle tickets before the event in the children's book bag. We ask that these are returned to school by Tuesday 26th November. If you don't wish to purchase the tickets, please could these be returned to the school office to enable us to sell onto someone else. If you wish to buy additional tickets these will be available at the fair or in advance from the school office.

Lucky bag envelopes

We will be sending out envelopes for our lucky bags in November, if your child would like to decorate and fill these with a few small items and return to school we will then sell these at the winter fair. These can include sweets, small toys or anything you think a child would enjoy opening as a surprise. More details on this will follow when we send them out to you.

Christmas Shop

We will again run a Christmas shop in a similar way to the Mother's Day and Father's Day shops. Each gift will be £2 and you are welcome to purchase as many as you like for example if you want a gift for both parents, siblings or even grandparents. The children will visit the shop on Friday 6th December 2024 to choose the gift they want and will wrap this with us.

We hope this will help parents and carers get a surprise, which their child has picked for them at Christmas. To help us with purchasing stock there will be three categories of gift on Scopay to choose - adult female, adult male or child. **The Scopay deadline for this is Monday 2nd December.**

Christmas Parties

The children really enjoyed the parties we ran in the summer so we will be holding Christmas parties in a similar way on Wednesday 11th December (Y2) and Thursday 12th December (Y1 and YR). Due to the number of Rainbows and Beavers we have in the Y2 group we chose to move the party to a time that will not clash.

The party will have music, party games, a snack and a drink. Just to reassure parents this won't be a really loud disco as we are aware not all children enjoy that.

Times will be as follows....

Wednesday 11th December

Y2 - 4.30-5.30pm

Thursday 12th December

YR straight after school (no pick up needed) 3.15-4.15 pm (please bring best party outfits to school that morning)

Y1 4.30-5.30 pm

The disco will cost £2 per child and this is payable via Scopay. **The Scopay deadline for payment is Tuesday 10th December at 9am.**

If your child goes to Cheeky Monkeys after school, they will still be able to attend the party but please liaise with them regarding this.

Parent creche for Christmas Parties

We will be holding a parent creche at the same time as the Christmas Parties to save parents having to head home if they don't want to. There will be nibbles (including mince pies) and hot drinks available. Entrance to the creche will be £2 payable in cash on each night.

2025 events

We are already planning events for the new year and are hoping to hold a donut sale. We can also give you early notice of our Summer Fair which will be held on Friday 27th June 2025.

Stay and Play

Every Wednesday during term time the committee runs stay and play 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

We have a clothing bin 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 now at school. This is outside Mrs Dewings 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.

Donation requests

If anyone has any spare wrapping paper, which we would be able to use, we can use this when we have our Christmas shop we would be really grateful.

We would also appreciate any wine gift bags to use on one of our stalls at the Winter Fair.

If you are able to help with any of these donation requests please could you take the items to the school office and we will sort them from there.

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. More information will follow on this in due course.

We will also be funding new equipment which will be installed onto the main field where all children play.

Library

We are also part way through funding improvements to the books in this library and this will continue this year.

Other areas

We also support the children in other ways throughout the year with books at Christmas and providing refreshments for the last day of autumn term. We also 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.

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 are also working with the teachers to arrange putting money towards some learning opportunities for the children.

We currently have 23 members on our committee as well as Mrs Dewing who attends our meetings.

A big thank you to all the members for their ideas and hard work.

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

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT US

WAYS TO SUPPORT US

A reminder of the other ways which 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



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



How you can help Friends of Lodge Lane



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



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



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.

Lodge Lane Infant School
Everyone Learning Together.

YOUR SCHOOL LOTTERY

WIN

WIN

SUPPORT OUR LOTTERY

It's A WIN-WIN Situation!

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

TICKETS £1 EACH

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

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older.