



Ox Close Primary School, Ox Close, Spennymoor, Co Durham, DL16 6RU

www.ox-close-durham-sch.uk/communitylinks/25893

Registered Charity Number: 1152103

Ox Close Friends Newsletter

17 July 2015

Dear parents, carers and pupils

We would like to say a HUGE thank you to all of you who have contributed to our PTA fundraising activities and events this academic year. We would also like to thank all the 'helpers' who have given up their time to help out at our events. Since September we have raised a whopping **£2,498** for the children of Ox Close School! We are looking forward to doing it all again in the next academic year!

The aim of Ox Close Friends is to co-ordinate fundraising and social activities throughout the academic year to successfully raise funds to provide facilities and equipment which both support and benefit the children of the whole school community. We have regular events (Halloween Disco, Easter Disco and Clothes Recycling) but also meet once a term to discuss additional events, finances and fundraising ideas. As a parent/guardian/carer you are automatically a member of Ox Close Friends and are welcome at every meeting. We are always looking for new ideas and suggestions for fundraising. If you have any fundraising ideas or would like to attend our meetings please get in touch (oxclosefriends@gmail.com).

The fundraising activities we have ran, along with funds raised this academic year, including matched funding we have received are:

Halloween Disco	£517
Matched funding for Halloween Disco	£500
October Clothes Recycling	£117
Reindeer Dust/Snowman Soup	£266
Smarties Challenge	£665
Easter Fun Night	£350
March Clothes Recycling	£40
Sports Day Refreshments	£43

Working in collaboration with the School Council, Ox Close Friends asked pupils in each class to draw up a 'wish list' of facilities and equipment they felt would benefit the school. Ox Close Friends met with the school council and they had lots of interesting ideas from all the pupils. Below is a list of what Ox Close Friends have purchased for the children this academic year using funds raised in this and the last academic year:

10 x Laptops	£2,777
3 x Guinness Book of Records	£24
Party Bags at Christmas	£300
Pro-bots	£270
Cookery equipment	£62
Reception equipment	£197
School & reception equipment	£480
Basketball nets	£400
Football and football nets	awaiting invoice
Year 6 leavers hoodies	£473
Total	£4,938

We are now thinking about events for the coming academic year. If any events, activities or fundraising ideas are of interest to you and your children please email us on oxclosefriends@gmail.com and let us know, and we will consider your suggestions. Not only does the fundraising provide lots of fun, but the money we raise enhances the education and experience of all the children in our school. We can only continue to do this with your support.

We will be running our usual Halloween Disco and Easter Fun Night as well as the Smarties Challenge and Clothes Recycling. We will also be holding a Summer Fayre in 2016. Do you have any skills/talents/services you would be prepared to provide for free to Ox Close friends as either a raffle prize or as an attraction at the Summer Fayre , for example, face painting, hairdressing, beautician, gardening, baking, woodworking, craft hobbies, etc... Do you work for a company that might be able to support Ox Close Friends by donating a raffle prize or sponsoring a stall at our summer fayre? Do you work for a company that has a matched funding scheme for employees, such as bank or plc company? If so, please do get in touch.

Thank you all once again for your support and donations over the last year. Without your help and support our fundraising would not be possible.

With very best wishes, your PTA committee for 2014/15

Les Lynn Viki Donna Debbie Nathan

Lesley Thompson, Lynn Gibson, Viki Clarke, Donna Gowland, Debbie Hockridge and Nathan Cox