

FOSSA PTA News

Bringing parents, Students and teachers together

A Message from the Chair

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Welcome back to all of our returning families and welcome to all of our new families. We were able to welcome Hazel, Hayley and Chloe to our most recent FOSSA meeting – it was great to see new faces and we're keen to see more. All future FOSSA meetings, we propose to have on the first Thursday of the month, 7.30pm at the Apple Tree. These will always be confirmed closer to each meeting.

We have our AGM on **Thursday 3rd October** at school from 7pm til 7.45pm, with free tea/coffee and biscuits. Please do come along, even if it is just to get out of bedtime procedures and to grab a cuppa!

What happens at an AGM?

A PTA has an obligation to hold an AGM once a year, and all members of the association - parents, carers and staff at the school, should be invited to attend. Technically we need twice the number of attendees as committee members, so we could do with 8 of you coming along!

The AGM is the main way members of the PTA hold the committee to account for its running of the association. Typically there is a report made by the treasurer on the funds raised and how these have been spent. The chair usually highlights successes, thanking those who have been involved and indicate what is planned for the next year. It is *usual* for all members of the committee to stand down at the AGM but they can seek re-election. We are all seeking re-election! The committee of 2018-19:

Chair: Anna Holbrook [mother of Sophia in year 2]

Treasurer: Emma Rigsby [mother of Ellie in year 1]

Vice Chair: Camilla Buchanan [mother of Sofia in year 2]

Secretary: Ben Wilson [father of Scarlett in year 2]

Massive thanks to Sue Jones and Rachel Holland-Vince for being part of the committee last year. They are still active members of FOSSA and we appreciate all of the help they give us. We are required to give you due notice of the date of the AGM (this was done via Facebook on 25th Sept).

We will replace the FOSSA October meeting with the AGM, however, committee members will go to the Apple Tree for tea from 8pm on the Thursday 3rd to discuss fine details of upcoming events. Should you wish to join us – you are very welcome to, then please let us know – as we will need to give the Apple Tree our total numbers eating, in advance.

Anna

Review of End of term Events

Sports Day BBQ: This raised £155. This is amazing, but goes to show that you guys like a hot dog as much as us!

Strawberries and Cream and Tennis Ball Cakes: This raised £82. Okay – so you like cake and cream too! Again big thanks to the Wilson Family for the production of the cakes and to all other helpers on the day.

End of Term Disco (and no camp out) £569. **Mark and Emma Hazleton** (Poppy's mum and dad) were the stars of the show. Mark did the BBQ in the pouring rain and Emma took on the raffle challenge and between these two features, it is what raised most of the cash! The children really enjoyed the 'Jam Jar Tombola' -

always a massive hit. We are looking for someone who would like to take this on for us – as Helen Twemlow has now left and will no longer be doing it. Let me know if you're interested.

Big thanks also to Camilla for her glitter tattoos, very popular as was the face painting – thanks Mrs Hampton and Denise. The kitchen helpers and the cake sellers were equally busy with their roles – so thank you too.

Finally – the event definitely wouldn't run if you didn't turn up with your children – so thank you families and staff of Shoscombe School for coming to the events and for your generosity.

Up Coming Events

Friday 27th Sept: The Camp out has been postponed until the weather gets warmer! So look out for the date in the summer.

Early Oct – You children are given the opportunity to create their own Christmas card design, which is then processed into real Christmas Cards that you have the opportunity to buy. More information will follow in a leaflet.

Friday 25th October - End of Term Disco 'Pumpkin Party'. We're hoping to get the village Hall again for this event, an entry fee is £2 and this includes a packet of crisps and a drink. Times and exact details will be published closer to the event – so keep your eye on DoJo and Facebook.

Monday 25th November Santa Shop. Children are able to select and make a payment for a small gift for their parents/carers. FOSSA elves will then wrap the gifts, giving them to the children closer to the end of term.



Sunday 1st December – Shoscombe School Santa Dash and Dog walk – Last year we had two events where we encouraged our children to run 5km along the cycle track at Radstock. We would like to offer a 10km Santa Dash this time to adults and at the same time a 5km Dog walk. Both finishing at around 12pm at Shoscombe School for some lunch / hot chocolate / tea /coffee. The event is to bring together our running/walking/dog loving community as well as school community. This is very much in the ‘ideas’ stage and we need support from some of the you locals to help us with a route for the walk that is safe for children and animals.

As always we’re looking at how we can raise money as well as have fun. So we thought that the adults running the 10km could get sponsorship – to enter the race, minimum sponsorship is £5. As well as this we might hope to raise money from selling food and drink at the end of the dog walk and run.

Saturday 14th December Christmas Fair 10am – 12pm This event was a great success last year and so why change it if it’s not broken! So, we aim to have a raffle again – look out for tickets to sell, more great prizes (I won a session at the Trampoline Park in the last raffle and it was AMAZING!). We do need someone to help us with the Jam Jar Tombola, the Teddy Bear Tombola our children loved (parents were less amused!), the Choir sang last year and we’ll ask them to again, tea and cakes were supported by the Friends of Foxcote Church and hopefully they will join us for this again – as well as selling their crafts in the Chancel. We had the Village Hall provide us with a breath taking Santa’s Grotto and Father Christmas made his appearance with lots of presents. If there is something though that you felt was missing or would be good to have then please let us know.



Facebook – If you aren't a member of the FOSSA Facebook page, then please do join us. We put messages on there about what we are doing and it helps you stay informed, so that you don't miss out. It is a useful form of two way communications between you guys and the committee.



Grant Applications – Esther Thacker has finished her application form to apply for a grant for music equipment. Thank you so much for this! She is now looking at grants to help the gardening club buy a poly tunnel and other equipment. We hear in October as to whether we were successful in our bid for £3000 to help fund the OPAL play scheme. Fingers are still crossed. We'll let you know the outcome. I am about to apply for a £500 science grant. It would be great to get the Explorer Dome back into school – but with a Chemistry slant this time.

If you are interested in helping us apply for these grants please do get in touch. It is a really good way to help us raise money but without baking your own cake and then buying it back!

Parent Kind <https://www.parentkind.org.uk/>. This is an organisation that we subscribe to as a PTA. It is essential that we do, as they provide us with insurance for all of our events, from running to school fairs. It also offers lots of advice on how to run a PTA successfully, so it is useful to us. It may be of use to you, as parents, as it has all sorts of articles, some about engaging with your school and child's education, others are about Parent Surveys – to see how parents across the country are having to cope with the rising costs of sending children to school. I find it interesting – and thought you may do to! We have a log in to access certain further materials – if you wanted to dig a bit deeper then let me know.



Shoscombe Church School

FOSSA



Join our club!

Join
today
for only
£5
per month

Win cash prizes, whilst supporting FOSSA's fundraising.

You will have the chance to win cash prizes in our monthly draw. Half of the cash received will be paid out as prize money each month with the balance being retained by FOSSA*

- The bigger the club, the bigger the prizes and the more money FOSSA raises.
- The club is open to everyone so please tell your family and friends.
- Monthly payment of £5 by direct debit or alternatively pay £60 for the whole year either by annual direct debit or cheque.
- Winners will be notified via a monthly email.

To join please complete the application below and return to the school office.

FOSSA thank you in advance for your support.

FOSSA account details for setting up a direct debit:

Bank: Natwest / Account Name: FOSSA / Account No: 59272139 / Sort Code: 60-02-05
Reference: Please use your name
