

**Friends of
St Norbert's**

FRIENDS FUNDRAISING

Meet Norbert, our fundraising mascot. Look out for him on our events publicity!

Hello & Welcome...

Welcome from The Friends of St Norbert's, and a warm welcome to all new reception children and families. Through our newsletter we wish to tell you what we're about, share with you our highlights from last year and what to look forward to in 2017/18.

We The Friends of St Norbert's are a registered charity run by a group of volunteering parents. We meet once a term to plan and organise fundraising events that take place throughout the school year, to raise as much money as we can for the children of St Norbert's.

We are looking forward to fun and exciting events we have planned for this year. Fundraising will include the old favourites which are always popular with the children, but this year we are also going to try some fresh & exciting new ideas....watch this space! We hope there will be something for everyone to join in with so that we can raise lots of money.

Thank You...

We wish to say a huge **THANK YOU** to all pupils, parents, families and friends that helped volunteer, donate or support events in any way last year.....we raised over an amazing £5,500! Our July Summer Fair was a great success, raising over £2,300 with live music, candy floss, children's performances, raffles and games, it really was a fantastic afternoon for all.

Spend, Spend, Spend...

Children have already experienced the fantastic outdoor gym equipment that was purchased with the funds raised from last year, as well as a generous contribution from the School Governors. Children have returned to school to enjoy 5 new pieces of gym equipment installed in the playground for use during break times and PE sessions.

Your donations over the years have also helped to fund the fantastic Outdoor Classroom. The school were granted lottery funding for the build, but the shopping list was pretty extensive to create a usable nature area for the children and local community to enjoy. Outdoor learning has given children the opportunity to acquire a range of vital skills – from learning how to interact with a group, to taking responsibility for living creatures. The children's confidence and self-awareness grows and they develop a sense of purpose for caring for the outdoor environment and the nature around them. Purchases of mini beast - hedgehog habitats, bamboo plants, bird hides, circular tree seat, wind and chain chimes, drums, mounted outdoor music panels, bark chips, storage, fencing and pathways have helped to bring this wonderful area to life.

The Friends also funded school buses for last years trips, and the Travelling Pantomime that performed to the school in December.

Shopping List...

For 2017/18, we once again hope to raise money to continue to transform the outdoor learning area, supporting the purchase of more benches and a story telling area. Also wet weather clothing and wellies to ensure the outdoor area is accessible all year round.

We also wish to support two new projects: a music system that projects music through the entrance hall, corridors and playground, and a tuck shop shed to install in the playground so pupils can run the popular break time tuck shop in a purpose built unit.

The Friends again would like to fund the buses for school trips, which allows the cost of trips to be offered to parents at a subsidised rate.



Diary Dates...

Here is a taster of what we have planned for this term:

Cake Sale 29th Sept
Pumpkin Decorating & Candy Floss Sale: 13th Oct
Bags2School Clothing Collection: 2nd Nov
Tea Party: 3rd Nov
Disco: 17th Nov
Designer Christmas Cards: December
Movie Night: 8th Dec
Santa's Grotto: 14th/15th Dec

And some exciting ideas for 2018 include :

Family bike ride
Eco fashion show
Mother & Fathers Day gift service
Sports event
Annual Summer Fair: Sat 23rd June.

Please look out for flyers in book bags, to promote these events nearer the time.

How you can help...

We are always looking for volunteers to help at our events, if you can spare any time then please leave your name at the office. Thank You

Remember, it's your support that allow these events to take place.