Friends of St Bridget’s Newsletter Autumn 2018

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome back to a new school year, and a very warm welcome to all our new starters! As many of you already know the Friends of St Bridget’s are the PTA for school. We fundraise for the school and provide support when we are needed. Over the years we have organised discos, bingo nights, coffee afternoons and had stalls at the Summer Fairs.

A big thank you to everyone who donated and helped us out last year. Thanks to you we managed to make our biggest donation in a single year so far, £2000!! We were delighted.

This was split into two donations, £1000 in March to help restock the school library after the introduction of the new reading scheme and £1000 in August towards the fantastic new outside play area for our Reception class. As I’m sure everyone who’s seen it will agree it was money well spent!

The money raised was only possible thanks to the extremely generous Parents, Grandparents, Guardians, Family and Friends of our St Bridget’s children, so a huge heartfelt thank you from us!

For 2018/2019 the Friends, following consultation with Mrs Smith, have decided to fundraise towards creating a Sensory Room within the school. We have many pupils who would benefit greatly from this kind of space, as well as pupils who may need to use it as a chill out / relaxing area so it will benefit the whole school. We feel that it will be a fantastic addition to an already amazing school!

After the success of the 100 club in 2016 and 2018 we have decided to do it all again! This year will continue as last year and will run Jan – Dec. This will allow everyone plenty of time to get their applications and payment in before the first draw at the end of January. A form will be coming home soon with all the details, but the cost will remain the same at £12 for a full 12 months membership / 12 monthly draws. This works out at £1 per month per ticket. You can of course have as many tickets as you like and the 100 club is not limited to family, anyone is very welcome to join, the more members the bigger prize pot each month! As always, the total fees collected are split 50/50, half to the prize fund and half towards our fund-raising efforts, therefore the more tickets sold the bigger the prize and funds.

Alongside the 100 club we are continuing to run our very popular afterschool discos. We do however need help from parents to help supervise them; we cannot rely on staff to supervise after their working day. This is where you all come in! Any help will be much appreciated. We are running our next one on Friday 9th November to coincide with anti-bullying week.

We will also be running another bingo night, following on from the last which was extremely popular and raised a huge amount of money. This will be in April 2019, again at The Falcon Club. It will follow the same theme of ‘chocolate & wine’ with donations requested from parents and guardians for a non-uniform day in school. We will keep you posted with updates nearer the time. We also have plans for pamper & prosecco evenings, quiz nights, raffles and look out for our SMARTIES challenge next week!

As always, we welcome new members, we have lots of ideas but limited ‘manpower’. We are a small but friendly bunch and we’d love to see any new members at our next meeting. Pop along to see what we are about and what we do. Details of the next meeting will be on the weekly newsletter and sent via text.

Helen Young

Treasurer/Secretary - Friends of St Bridget’s.