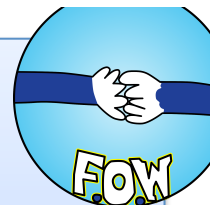




News from the Friends of Whitefield PTFA Spring 2019



Hello and welcome to our spring term Friends of Whitefield newsletter – there's lots happening including new events coming up, what the PTFA have been up to and the results of our recent logo competition.

A big thanks to Whitefield parent, Vicky of Victoria Rodgers Creates, for putting together the template for our newsletter.

Matched funding – a big thankyou to Barclays

Over the last few years we've been incredibly lucky to have the support of Barclays, Preston. Whitefield parent, Shirley Murrell, works for Barclays and has used their matched funding scheme to boost our fundraising efforts.



There are lots of companies that offer employees the chance to 'match' any money we raise – it's usually a very simple process that involves filling in a form. It's an easy way for the PTFA to raise more money through parents and carer's employers.

Barclays (and Shirley!) have contributed several thousand pounds over the last few years. This has made an incredible difference to what we can fund in school and we're very thankful for their continued support. Please do check with your employer if they offer matched funding schemes, as this would allow us to move ahead with bigger projects such as a running track on the field.

Bingo - Tuesday 12th March. 6.30-8pm.

Very limited tickets left!

You're invited to Whitefield's first ever Bingo evening - £3 per person or 4 people for £10. Free hotdog with every ticket bought, soft drinks available to buy on the night. Hot dogs served at 6.30, eyes down 7pm. Bring the whole family along for a night of fun, plus the chance to win some amazing PRIZES!

Get your tickets online before they sell out.
www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofwhitefield

Upcoming FoW events & dates – get them in your diary!

Mar Friday 8 th	WWYW for Bingo
Mar Tues 12 th	Bingo
Mar Tues 26 th	Disco
April Tues 30 th	FoW meeting
May -TBC	New starters evening
May Fri/Sat 17/18 th	Penwortham Live
June Fri 28 th	WWYW for summer fair
July Fri 12 th	Summer fair

Call Nic Simpson (Chair): 07823 880832 Email: fow@whitefield-pri.lancs.sch.uk
Come and give us a like on Facebook: www.facebook.com/friendsofwhitefield



NEW Outdoor Classroom!

If you look on the field behind the Key Stage 2 playground you can now see the finished outdoor classroom, fully funded by the Friends of Whitefield.

This is a fantastic space for all the children to learn in the fresh air and expand on what they are doing in the classroom. We'll be having an official opening ceremony very soon (celebrity appearance yet to be confirmed!).

Christmas 2018 Round up

Christmas tree festival – we won!

Hurrah we won the St Leonards Christmas tree festival! A massive thankyou to Miss Batey, Jessica Haslem-Bantoft and Year 4 for making a brilliant, prize-winning tree. And a big thankyou to everyone who went down and voted. We're already thinking of creative ideas for next year that can involve the whole school.

Secret Santa room

Thank you to everyone who supported our festive fundraising efforts, we sold an amazing 582 gifts! And a huge thanks to all our gift-wrapping elves and the amazing team on the day.

Class Christmas presents and a visit from Santa

This year the Friends of Whitefield donated £100 to each year group so they could buy class presents. We got their wish lists and just before the Christmas break we took Santa along to every class. He handed out their chosen presents, including beanbags for reading corners, building and technology toys, a stage and even a fish!

It's an absolute joy to be able to give back to school in this way. And this is because of the fundraising you do all year. When you pay for a disco, buy a raffle ticket at the summer fair or support the cinema you're positively impacting your child's experience in school.



I offered to volunteer but no one contacted me...

Sometimes people offer to help at FoW events and then don't hear from us. Understandably they get a bit annoyed and don't bother offering again. This doesn't happen on purpose – we really do need lots of helpers (although for some events we have too many and some events not enough!).

There are a few reasons we might not have got back to you...

- People scribble numbers on a response sheet, when we try and contact you we can't decipher the number or the message doesn't go through.
- It's not always one person sorting the volunteers and everyone has a different way of handling how they get helpers.
- We sometimes miss Facebook messages, or someone offers to help on the playground and we forget in the rush of getting our own kids into school.

We're always trying to improve things – we're now making our volunteer coordinators work in the same way and contact everyone who offered to help. And we now have the online system so we can easily track helpers and contact them.

On the night of events it can be a bit chaotic (which is why we ask you to turn up early) but we're always grateful for the help. Our events depend on parent volunteers so if you can spare time please do help.

Disco – Tuesday 26th March

BIGGER AND BETTER FOR ONLY £2! We've listened to your feedback and we're making some changes to the disco. Each disco will now be longer – a full hour!

- Reception to year 2 6-7pm
- Years 3-6 7.15-8.15pm

You can buy tickets on the online system (less queues on the door as you'll just have to tick a list, no need to print tickets and no more permission slips!). We'll also have glow sticks, pre-bagged sweets, crisps, chocolate and drinks to buy on the night.

www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofwhitefield

We're also looking at ways to reduce our environmental impact, specifically getting rid of single use plastic, and we'll keep you up to date on any further changes. Please sign up on the online system if you can help on the night.

Get involved & share your views

Every 2 months we hold a FoW meeting to organise events through the year, it's a great way to share your ideas too – all our meetings are child friendly.

**NEXT MEETING – TUES 30TH
MARCH 6.30PM AT THE
BROWN HARE, PENWORTHAM**

You can find the minutes of all our meetings on the school website www.whitefield-pri.lancs.sch.uk

Cinema – Incredibles 2

162 kids came along and enjoyed popcorn, sweets and Incredibles 2.

Lots of ooohs, ahhs and laughs. Thankyou to everyone who supported the cinema. It's an event the kids really enjoy and one we hope to keep going in the future.



New Friends of Whitefield logo competition winners

Last term we launched a competition with all the children in school to come up with a brand new logo for Friends of Whitefield.

We wanted something really eye catching that represents our school values of 'healthy hearts, healthy bodies and healthy minds'.

We had over 80 stunningly creative entries, shortlisted and judged by a crack team of Friends of Whitefield and school staff. And our winners are...

- 1st place: Jessica Brunton 3SK
- 2nd place: Eden Forshaw 5CG
- 3rd place: Daniel Horton 6LN

We'll be having a special award ceremony (with prizes!) in assembly in the next couple of weeks. And over the next few weeks you'll see the new logo appearing on our Facebook page and in other places!

Penwortham Live 2019



We're very excited to announce the Friends of Whitefield are bringing Penwortham Live to school. We've been chosen as a venue! We're in the early stages of organising things but we're planning two evenings (17/18th May 7-11pm) packed with family friendly live music, food, drinks and some other fun activities!

Wristbands will be on sale through school in a couple of weeks £5 per adult (kids free); they'll get you into every Penwortham Live venue. For every wristband sold we'll get a percentage of the money.

Keep the date free in your diary!

New online ticket system – PTA events

We've listened to your feedback about events and we want to try and make things better. So to simplify ticketing for FoW events (such as the disco, cinema), reduce confusion & paperwork and make life easier for the school office we're using a new online system called PTA events. Just go to: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofwhitefield>

- Register for an account (takes 5 minutes and you only have to do this once)
- Buy a ticket for events we are running
- Pay online using their secure payment system
- Let us know here if your child has any dietary requirements
- You can also sign up to volunteer

This is a secure system and ensures we have all the information we need to run events smoothly. The Friends of Whitefield are completely separate from school so we don't have access to school information such as phone numbers and allergies. Unless you are really struggling with the system **please** don't pay through the school office.

Advertising opportunities

We're now opening up advertising slots in the FoW newsletter and on our new online ticketing system. The newsletter goes out once a term to all parents and we also promote the newsletter across social media. If you're interested in advertising to Whitefield parents email fow@whitefield-pri.lancs.sch.uk

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Come and give us a like on Facebook: www.facebook.com/friendsofwhitefield