



Message from FOSM

With the current weather as it is, it is hard to believe that we are almost at the end of another school year and we are sure that you are ready for that much needed summer break. We thought that now would be the time to give you an update on what we have been doing over the past few months, what events we have coming up before school shuts down for summer and to share with you how we propose to spend our funds to improve the educational environment for our children.

Nowadays fundraising is a challenge and although there are lots of events that we would like to do, upfront and hidden costs often make such events financially unviable. In addition, spending our funds efficiently is just as important as ensuring we achieve a financial return from the fundraising events in the first place. One of our initiatives is to look at building what we can ourselves rather than buying more expensive off-the-shelf solutions but to achieve this means we are reliant on us having the appropriate skills available. We understand that life can often be hectic but if anyone has any skills that they feel we could utilise and are willing to donate a few hours of their time, please do get in touch with us so that we can take this into account when we plan future projects.

We have recently been speaking to the children to establish how they would like to see our funds spent. As you could imagine, they had lots of ideas but we have found that involving the children more closely with FOSM has proven to be a real success and it is lovely to see them wanting to get involved. As always, we welcome new fundraising and spending ideas as well as new volunteers so please feel free to email us at - friendsofswantonmorleyschool@gmail.com.

We love doing what we do and there is nothing more rewarding than seeing the children build fond memories during their time at our school. We could not do this without the help and support we receive from the parents and school staff. Many of the events we do are a real team effort from everyone involved and we have a lot of fun along the way. This is something we should all be very proud of. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your help and support during this school year.

We hope you all have a relaxing summer break and we look forward to seeing and working with you all on fundraising events in the new school year.

Kind Regards, FOSM

How much have we raised from recent events?

Dereham Round Table Santa Sleigh Donation	£333.00
Easter Fayre	£437.00
Maths Bingo	£125.65
Easter Disco	£415.15
Tesco Book Stall plus other book sales	£786.32
Village Yard Sale	£479.50
TOTAL RAISED	£2576.62

How have we recently spent our funds?

Christmas Pantomime 2024	£2019.50
Full School Maths Event	£750.00

Spending Ideas

Outdoor Play Equipment

The playground situated to the left of the reception is used by KS1 but fails to provide much for the children to play with. We are aiming to create an outdoor space in this area consisting of play equipment for the children that will further evolve as funding becomes available.

Outdoor play equipment can be expensive (£5k plus) and we are currently in the process of obtaining quotes. We are also looking to see whether there are any grants that we can apply for to help finance this project as well as building some of the play equipment ourselves.

Outdoor Covered Seating Area

As a result of speaking to the children, we are aware that there is a lack of outdoor seating areas that provide shade so we are looking to create a covered area with picnic benches where the children are able to socialise at lunchtime. This area could also be transformed into an outdoor teaching area when required. Outside teaching areas have proven to be very successful in schools around the UK and can be beneficial to children's wellbeing. With the gardening club becoming more and more popular with the children, this would be an ideal space to accommodate this event. We are also aware that when it rains at drop-off and pick-up time, we can all end up getting a little bit soggy so we also propose to use this area as a much needed shelter for parents.

Dates for your diary

Sponsored Walk	12 th June 2024
Summer Disco	12 th July 2024