



Friends of
DOWNVIEW
PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

WELCOME BACK

This first half term has flown by so it seems a bit late to be saying welcome, but we hope everyone has settled into school well, especially our new families.

For those who don't know, the Friends of Downview is a charity run by volunteer parents (with a lot of help from the school!) We organise events for the children and raise money to support the school (a bit like a PTA).

We're excited to start this newsletter by announcing that our fundraising total for the last academic year was an incredible £11,038.50!! Thank you all for your help in achieving this! Our full accounts will be shared at the AGM in May.



A big chunk of the money raised last year was donated towards the new library (more info about this is coming soon) and the book vending machine. This is an exciting reward for any child who achieves 100 reads at home!

Since September, we've also been able to donate £300 to each year group towards trips and visits for the children, and £500 for new playground equipment.



FOLLOW 'FRIENDS OF DOWNVIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA' ON FACEBOOK

2023/24 SO FAR...

We've already been busy this year and would like to thank everyone who helped with the fundraisin' challenge, Krispy Kreme sale and Monster Mash parties! Here's what we've raised -



WHAT NEXT?

There are lots of exciting plans for after the half term break! Keep an eye out for details about our Woodland Trust trees, your children's Christmas card designs, our first ever Christmas shop, and even a visit from the big man himself!

BUT FIRST



The School Council have signed up for a toy recycling/rehoming initiative called Recycle to Read, in partnership with Tesco. As you may have seen from the information sent out via ParentMail, we'll be helping the School Council arrange a Toy Swap Shop on Thursday 9th November.

This is your chance to part with any good quality toys you've finished with! The whole initiative is a competition between local schools with the chance to win book vouchers.

[Downview are currently at the top of the leaderboard so let's help to keep us there!!](#) Click this link for the leaderboard.

NEW RECRUITS

You may have noticed some wonderful new faces have joined the Friends of Downview team! The existing committee (Katherine, Jo, Kirsty, Lyz, Claire and Amanda) are really pleased to welcome our newbies Hannah, Sharna, Sophie, Hayley and Linda!



CAN YOU HELP?

There is so much you can do to help fundraise...

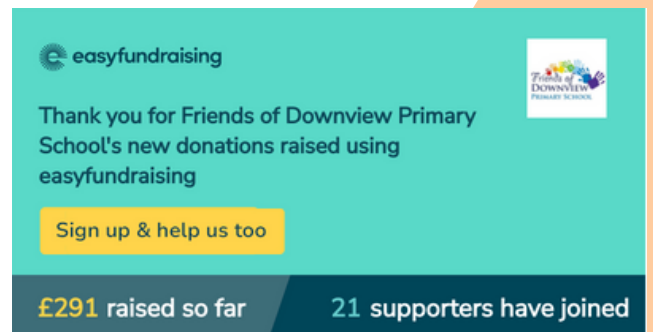


TESCO BLUE TOKENS

We're delighted to have been selected for the Tesco Stronger Starts scheme, which will help us raise extra money to extend our new library project even further! The scheme will run in all local Tesco stores until mid-January 2024 and we could win up to £1,500 depending on how many votes we get! So please be sure to pick up a blue token (or a handful!) and vote for us whenever you're in store.

DO YOU DO YOUR WEEKLY SHOPPING ONLINE?

If so, you could raise money for Friends of Downview without spending anything extra yourself! Sign up to Easyfundraising, choose Friends of Downview as your chosen charity and follow the link from the app to your usual supermarket. It really is easy!



[Click here to sign up for Easyfundraising!](#)



As well as the School Council's Toy Swap Shop, we can keep Downview at the top of the leaderboard by recycling our broken plastic toys in the boxes at Tesco.

[Register here to collect planet points for re-homing and recycling toys.](#)

PRELOVED UNIFORM

Remember our uniform rail is in the foyer outside the school office.

We've had loads of donations recently, so thank you very much! That means we're able to offer uniform that's in tip-top condition only. Please bare this in mind if you have uniform to donate.

The uniform rail works on an honesty box system where you pay what you can afford for the item. If that's nothing then that's absolutely fine. If you don't have cash (like us!) then you can also donate online through Just Giving. The minimum donation online is £2 and watch out for the platform fee!



[CLICK HERE FOR JUST GIVING](#)

JOIN IN

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING

If you'd like to make your very own Christmas wreath, you can join us and the Flower Hut Florist at school on Friday 1st December 2023, 6-8pm.

Drop us an email to book at fod@downviewprimary.co.uk.

Tickets are £45.



TEA AND CAKE



You can also join us for tea, cake and a chat at our next meet up. This will be either just after drop off or just before pick up one day in November. Keep an eye on our social media for details.

If you, or any of your family members, can volunteer some time, even just a little bit, join our Whatsapp list to find out how.

Contact us at fod@downviewprimary.co.uk

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