



FBSA Newsletter 10 – March 2018

Welcome to our latest FBSA Newsletter. Whilst the above picture may be a little bit of wishful thinking on my part and spring hasn't been quite as sunny, I am pleased to be able to bring you an update on our much brighter fundraising totals over our first term for this academic year. Next term sees the return of the Great Flax Bake-Off so do read on to find out more!

Fundraising update

I'm pleased to share with you some of our fundraising highlights so far:

Our Fireworks event raised a fantastic £2535.57 and our Christmas Fayre brought in an amazing £1009.02. Adding this to our other events in the autumn term (Quiz Night, Film Night, Christmas Cards & Gifts, Nativity DVDs and Toy Sale), we have raised an incredible £4,419. This has just been further boosted by £500 match-funding from Lloyds, along with our recent spring film night, meaning so far this year we have raised a tremendous **£5,045!**

THANK YOU for all your help and support across all our fundraising activities so far!

As well as our usual FBSA expenditure (e.g. money for individual classes to buy things on their wish lists; contribution to school trips; supporting workshops and other activities; leavers gifts etc) and our whole school music focus this year (please see the October newsletter for further details), we have also recently supported KS1 and KS2 storytelling sessions that ran recently to coincide with World Book Day events and we hope all the children enjoyed their Easter hunt and Easter treats this week!

We are now reviewing our funds and working with school on other priority areas/requests for the remainder of this year.

Gardening project update

We received our £5k grant from the Stanscombe Quarry Fund at the end of the year and have been able to purchase lots of lovely new furniture and garden tools for the children to use. Although the weather hasn't been perfect for gardening (!), I'm pleased to say that Maple and Beech worked together using some of the new equipment this week to dig over the beds and plant seeds to start their growing projects for the summer. Our wooden arches will be erected over the Easter hols and will soon be planted with climbing plants and then our Garden Project will be finalised! It has taken a real effort behind the scenes to reach this stage so a huge thank you to everyone who has been involved.



Easyfundraising update



Thanks to everyone who are now using easyfundraising when shopping. We have raised a total of £744 through this which is great news, thank you! To date we have 49 people registered to donate through easyfundraising and it would be great if we can increase this number as it's such a simple way you can raise funds without having to put any effort in. If you haven't yet started using easyfundraising here is a quick reminder...

Every time you shop on-line you can raise money for the FBSA, at no extra cost to you. Simply register at <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/flaxbourtonprimaryschool> and download the "Find and Remind" feature <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/raise-more/find-and-remind/>. Every time you shop you will be prompted to tick a box that means we will automatically receive a donation, often 2-5% direct from the retailer.

It's not just general shopping though. You can now switch utility, insurance, phone providers etc using easyfundraising and raise money for our school. Likewise if your thoughts are turning to booking summer holidays, do sign up as lots of travel companies are also easyfundraising partners!

Upcoming events

*The Great Flax Bake Off! Sat 21st April – We're delighted to inform you about our next fundraising event – The Great Flax Bake Off! This popular event is returning again this year and will take place at school between 2-4pm and as well as the 'Bake Off' element, we'll have stalls, teas and coffees, tombolas etc and the opportunity for children to make some craft items. Entry to the event will be £1 per person.



The 'Bake Off' is split into adult and child categories and then further split down as follows:

ADULT categories (parents and teachers)

1. *Best bread – savoury or sweet*
2. *Best scones – savoury and / or sweet (4 to be exhibited)*
3. *Best decorated cake – any theme*

CHILD categories – split into 2 Age Groups: Reception/KS1 and KS2

1. *Best chocolate bake (can be traybake e.g. brownies, cup cake, whole sponge – anything that is easy to make and chocolate based!)*
2. *Best decorated biscuits – any flavour – 4 biscuits need to be exhibited*
3. *Best decorated cake – a cake fit for a Queen! (to celebrate the Queen's birthday on the day)*

Cost to enter is £1 per entry across all the categories. You need to be able to bring your entry to the school hall between 12p.m. and 12.30p.m. We will then be closed for anonymous judging before the event starts at 2p.m. and you can come and find out the results! You will need to complete an entry form and bring it with you on the day (entry forms will be available from the school reception from week commencing 9th April). This will give your entry a unique number so judges don't know who has entered and can judge entries anonymously. There will also be a special "best in show" prize announced at the end of the event. For those of you happy to allow this, we will then sell off the cakes during the afternoon to further fundraise for the school (you can indicate on your entry form if you would prefer to take your creations home). We hope you will all join in the fun and *Bake for Flax!!*

To support us with this event we will be holding a non-uniform day on **Friday 20th April** in return for **chocolate donations (KS1)** for our chocolate tombola and **Jolly Jar donations (KS2)** for our new Jolly Jar stall!

For those new to Jolly Jars here's a bit more info:

How to make a Jolly Jar in 4 easy steps

1. Collect some empty glass jars with lids.
2. Decorate the lid and/or jar. Have fun and be as creative as you like with paint, glitter, stickers, ribbon, tissue paper, buttons etc.
3. Fill each jar with lots of goodies i.e. things you might get in a party bag. For example bouncy balls, dice, stickers, balloons, party poppers, small pens or pencils, sweets, lollypops, small toys, lego, cars, craft items.
4. Bring them into school on April 20th!



Cake Sales

Finally don't forget our regular cake sales too (see table for dates) – these are "instant " class fundraisers – all the money made is handed straight to the class teacher to spend directly on that class (for example last year, Maple used their cake sale profit to pay for transport for their Tyntesfield trip meaning parents didn't have to contribute) – all your donations and purchases make a huge difference. Thank You!

Reminder dates for your DIARY!

Tuesday 10 th April	FBSA Meeting – 8pm, The Jubilee – all welcome!
Friday 20 th April	Dress Down Day in school – <i>Chocolate donations (KS1); Jolly Jars (KS2)</i>
Saturday 21 st April	The Great Flax Bake Off! – 2-4pm, Flax School Hall
Friday 27 th April	Maple Cake Sale
Friday 15 th June	Chestnut Cake Sale

I hope everyone has a very happy and restful Easter and we look forward to seeing your baking skills in action next term!

Lisa & the FBSA team!

