



Friends Of Whitley School Newsletter

JANUARY 2010

REGISTERED CHARITY
No. 1119258

OUR COMMUNITY, OUR SCHOOL, OUR CHILDREN, OUR FUTURE...

FOWS' January OGM was outstanding - a wonderful turnout with everyone positive and plenty of contribution and debate. Many thanks to all those who attended!

The bank account funds currently run at an amazing sum of just over £4000! A full report is available to all.

Some of this is allocated for projects already underway or reserved to potentially be used for others currently under investigation such as the printing of school T-Shirts and reflective safety vests for group outings and also to create a 'comfy area' for children and Whitley WI members who are keen to come into school and listen to our children read.

We also need to replenish the adventure area bark chippings and FOWS funds are paying for this. John and Karen Hood have sourced and priced this for the school and when the weather is slightly better will be collecting and bringing the huge load to school. There will be plenty of warning as we want to make this a fun day where we ask you ALL to come along with a barrow and shovel, enjoy a butty and brew and get stuck in! Young 'helpers' and their minders will also be welcomed.

PLEASE join us at the next meeting on February 24th. Your support and ideas are always valued and appreciated.

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FOWS

Meetings Calendar

- ◆ **February 24th 7.30pm**
OGM, Chetwode Arms
 - ◆ **April 21st 7.30pm**
OGM, Chetwode Arms
 - ◆ **June 16th 7.30pm**
OGM, Chetwode Arms
 - ◆ **November 9th 7.30pm**
AGM - School Hall
- Everyone is very welcome

Dates For Your Diary

- ◆ **February 10th** - In Touch Meeting - School Hall
- ◆ **February 24th** - Clothing Sale in School Hall
- ◆ **April 18th** - Whitley 10K & Fun Run
- ◆ **April 27th** - Bags to School 9.00am - School Gates
- ◆ **June 12th** - Whitley Village Rose Queen
- ◆ **October 2nd** - FOWS Social Night - Village Hall

OUR COMMUNITY, OUR SCHOOL, OUR CHILDREN, OUR FUTURE...

Whitley Village School's new motto beautifully sums up the message being sent to all parents - existing and prospective, its staff and the wider community.

As you will be aware the Governors now plan to regularly hold 'In Touch' meetings to which everybody is invited. These are vital to providing a greater insight of what is happening within the school, understanding the governing body's priorities and keeping the school successful by ensuring the team spirit is maintained to its full potential.

Many members of the governing body regularly attend FOWS meetings and at the last one on January 20th it was very exciting to hear about the new information folder and prospectus which will shortly be produced.

This is being funded by FOWS and is currently under design. Once completed it will be distributed to maximize knowledge of our school and its fantastic achievements to date.

**The next In Touch meeting is on
February 10th**

FOWS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAIR - Geoff Barker (geoff.barker@btinternet.com)
SECRETARY- Kate Turnbull
TREASURER - Gill Alcock (Temporary)
PUBLICITY/INFORMATION - Sue & Pete McMullen
(suetmc03@yahoo.co.uk)

THANK YOU...

To Paula Helm for all her past hard work for FOWS!
and also...

To Gill Alcock for taking on the role of Treasurer in the short term.

Gill already makes huge contributions to the school and FOWS so the role of Treasurer now needs to be filled long-term.

Thanks to the hard work of Paula and Jill Monaghan before her, the accounts are now very low maintenance. If this is something you can do please talk to any FOWS committee member.

CLOTHING SALE

We are holding another sale of any children's' outgrown or unwanted uniform, outdoor clothes, shoes, boots, rucksacks etc...

As before it is to coincide with Yrs 2 - 6 residential trip.

Please bring items to school in the week before half term.

The sale is Wednesday 24th February in the school hall at 3.15pm.

Anything unsold and not reclaimed will go to Bags to School.

BAGS TO SCHOOL

An amazingly easy way for us all to raise funds for our school!

On April 27th bag up and bring your unwanted clothes, fabrics and soft toys to school - they're worth their weight in MONEY and the last collection raised an amazing £336!

So far over £2000 has been raised in total from just six collections.

Collect from friends, family and neighbours and speak to Kate Turnbull or Sue McMullen for help with collection if necessary.

More details will follow closer to the day.

SEED TO SAUCEPAN

The school's NCPTA award winning project will continue in 2010 and Mrs Lear is currently liaising with FOWS and other interested parties to arrange dates for future meetings and events.

The first meeting is on Thursday 4th February at 3.15pm, in Mrs Lear's classroom.

There will be some time allocated in the very near future for general tidying of pots and beds so get your spades and trowels ready!