



**Friends of The
Winchcombe
School**

NEWSLETTER

December 2022

Issue 7

Registered Charity No 1197925

We have had a busy half term of fundraising - we hope you and your children have enjoyed our events as much as we have!

Here's what we've been up to this half term:

Halloween Disco: Our first school disco for over 5 years, so the first for most of the children and we hope it was memorable! Over 300 children attended they looked fantastic in their costumes and were incredibly well behaved - a great time was had by all! We raised an amazing £1,020.

Bag2School: Thank you for your donations, our collection on Thursday 10th November raised £107.60. We have another collection scheduled for February 2023.

Xmas4Schools: We loved seeing the children's beautiful Christmas designs, and we raised £164 from sales - thanks to everyone who purchased gifts.

The Big PTA Cash Draw: Thank you to everyone who bought tickets, which has raised us £102 - we hope you were lucky winners!

Christmas Fayre: Our Christmas Fayre was on 9th December and we hope you all had fun! We had delicious food, lots of fabulous gifts to purchase thanks to the local businesses who joined us, we had tombolas, games, a beautifully serene crafts room and a magical Santa's Grotto. A huge thank you to everyone who donated or helped out to make it such a huge success - we raised a staggering £2,123!

We had a number of wrapped chocolate selection boxes left over after. We intended to donate some to charity, but we also needed to recoup some of the money we had spent, as events like this can incur high costs. A very generous parent offered to buy our remaining 100 boxes if we could donate them to the food bank. We would like to say a massive thank you for your generosity and we know that West Berks Food Bank were grateful too - we delivered them to the Food Bank last week and are thrilled that they will go to local families in need of some Christmas cheer.

MATCHED FUNDING - We need you!!

We can maximise our fundraising potential! We know local companies such as Vodafone, Bayer and Micro Focus offer Matched Funding schemes; if you work for one of these companies, or one who offers something similar, please get in touch. If you're not sure if your employer runs a scheme - please ask! Applying is easy, but can make a huge difference - we try to make our events as affordable as possible, so match funding is a great way to cover our costs and raise money whilst keeping the cost to parents as low as possible.

HAVE YOU SEEN...

School Uniform: Don't forget you can browse our pre-loved uniform in Reception. If you would like to leave a donation and can afford to do so please leave it in the honesty box, otherwise please take what you need. We have a lot of uniform and we restock as it goes so if we don't have what you're looking for, check back later.

School Lottery: Draws take place weekly, you can take part any time and for as long as you like. Click [here](#) to register, choose your lucky numbers and decide whether to play weekly by direct debit or choose 'one off payment' for a block of 1, 3, 6 or 12 months.

There is at least 1 winner per school per week, plus the chance of winning the £25,000 jackpot. It's open to all so please share with family and friends to maximise sales - it's a great way to support FoWS and you could be a winner!

Easy Fundraising: If you shop online this is the easiest thing you can do to raise money for FoWS. It is free to join, just click [here](#) and raise money while you shop online at no extra cost - including your weekly grocery shop. Refer a friend and earn £5 bonus donations.

AmazonSmile: We are now registered with Amazon Smile so you can donate as you shop at Amazon at no extra charge - click [here](#) and search for Friends of Winchcombe School

WHERE WILL YOUR DONATIONS GO....?

We hope the children enjoyed the Pantomime this Christmas which we were happy to subsidise. We have now raised enough for new playground markings, which the school hope to have installed in 2023, and are now concentrating all of our fundraising efforts on replacing the school minibus which is in a poorly state!

Please contact us if you would like to get involved, if you have any fund-raising ideas or suggestions of how to spend the money raised.

DID YOU KNOW...?

... We have a [page on the school website](#) - find us under the 'Parents' tab

... Email us on winchcombefriends@gmail.com

... You can follow us on www.facebook.com/FriendsofWinchcombe or join our group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/friendsofthewinchcombeschool>

... We welcome all suggestions for fundraising and other activities.

Thank you for all of your support in 2022, have a very Merry Christmas and we will see you in the New Year!