

September 2008

We hope you had a wonderful summer holiday – despite the rubbish weather! We would like to extend a warm welcome to those new parents who have joined the school and a hello to all the familiar faces! We are the fundraising PTA of the school and we have spent the holiday planning lots of new ways to raise money for the school much to the dismay of our husbands and children!

The team have chosen to raise money for a Story Throne and benches for outside story telling this year. It will cost £3000 and we'll be keeping a totaliser on the website (<http://www.cts.milton-keynes.sch.uk>) as well as printing it on future newsletters so you can see how your generosity is adding up!



The first fundraising idea is Organised Mum (<http://www.organised-mum.co.uk>). They sell calendars and diaries based on the academic year. These are not only really well made but with lots of clever extras even keep the most disorganised amongst us organised! Bev has used them for four years and would be lost without it! For every order we receive a massive 40% back so a huge thank you to those who have already ordered and if anyone else would like to order please can you get your order in by Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September.

We are also collecting for the Bag 2 School scheme again this term. You will receive the bags shortly and a polite reminder to please leave the full bags by the bin store by the staff car park gates - please do not leave them at school before the date we publicise as we have had instances of bags being stolen. This is not only a worthy cause but it also raises a massive £300 per tonne collected! Please feel free to have a good clearout of all those summer clothes that no longer fit (and any winter ones too!) More bags will be available from reception.



This might be a frightening thought but Christmas is only three months away! We have organised for a print company Cauliflower Cards (<http://www.cauliflowercards.co.uk>) to print packs of cards featuring your child's design. Your child will be bringing a sheet home on which to design their masterpiece and it will need to be bought back to school (along with any order and money) by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. You can purchase as many packs of 12 cards as you like – you can even buy matching gift cards! The first pack costs £5.50 and subsequent packs cost £4.00. We are also able to offer sheets for siblings (or children you child mind, friends and family) so please feel free to ask for extra sheets!

The AGM is on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October – it will be a family quiz night so please put it in your diary – tickets will be on sale 29<sup>th</sup> September. We promise to keep the AGM part to a minimum! We will be serving pizzas and hot dogs so we'll even be able to give you tea! This will be a night for the whole family so we hope to see you all there! Start thinking up a team name!

We would really like a Christmas Event and would welcome ideas from you – after all we'd like it to be something that you'd like to come to! We have thought about all sorts of things from another quiz, bingo night, or even a combination of them all in a Christmas Extravaganza! We are also open to ideas for other events so please have a think and let us know if you have any ideas – no matter how wacky! We'd really like your ideas and if you could let one of the committee know or drop a note in the Friends Together post box in reception we'd be really grateful.

As part of the Christmas Event we will be running a raffle – we have already been offered a really fabulous first prize from Autorama Hyundai – but if you have anything you would be willing to donate to the raffle we would be pleased to have it. If you work for a company that would be willing to donate a prize we would be really thrilled. Please let us know if you are able to help!

As you can imagine it takes a lot to arrange these events and we are always keen to invite new people into the team – whether you would like to help on the committee or are prepared to make squash at the discos all help is gratefully received – let us know!!! The next meeting is 29<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm at school – if you would like to come along you would be most welcome!



We will let you know who the new committee members are after the AGM and keep you updated with more news and we will send out a 'timetable' of events soon – but, in the meantime we would be really grateful for any ideas or offers of help in raising money for the school.

Friends Together