



# Friends of Busbridge Church of England Junior School

Spring Newsletter - February 2020.

Hello and welcome to the Friends Spring newsletter for 2020. We are well into the new term and we hope you are beginning to look forward to the lighter nights and (hopefully) brighter days!

## Fundraising update

Last year we raised a fantastic £13,123, received donations of £550 and have made the following recent donations to the school

- Technology licences and subscriptions - £3,070
- Books - £1,200
- Hardship fund - £570

## This year's fundraising so far:

- Fireworks event - £2,100
- Christmas Fayre - £4,066 – Record breaking profit!
- Christmas Cards – £354
- Easyfundraising - £119
- Stikins Labels - £109
- 2nd Hand uniform - £93

## New purchases for the school

**New Books** - The school have started spending this year's **£1200** (agreed annual PTA donation of £50 per class, per term) and have bought a large number of recommended books. For each class we have purchased a [poetry set](#), a [page turner set](#) and a [classic reads set](#) that are recommended by an author called Pie Corbett.

Pie Corbett is an English educational trainer, writer, poet and author who has written more than two hundred books. He is now best known for creating the Talk for Writing approach to learning, which is widely used within primary schools, including ours!







Due to the large number of books ordered in one go, a large saving was made and also earned £428 of reward points. The school will be using this money with the remaining money from the £1200 (£413) to buy books for the boxes in the Year 4 corridor (accessed primarily by year 3 and 4 as well as some older children).



### **30 new Chromebooks - £6,500**

Thanks to the amazing funds raised at the Fireworks event and Christmas Fayre the school will be buying 30 portable Chromebooks so the children can do ICT learning in the class.

The 30 new Chromebooks will make a huge difference to the teaching and learning in Computing at BJS. Currently the vast majority of the Computing learning takes place in the ICT Suite.

However, as we all know, we now live in a world in which ICT capability follows us around wherever we go. We currently do not have this portable IT capability, however the Chromebooks will enable the children to fully embrace the opportunities that ICT can offer. Examples include: (i) stop-start animation projects, (ii) focussed internet research in the classroom, (iii) the input of data and observations during science investigations in situ, (iv) the recording of role play and drama to capture the rich language used during Talk For Writing activities, (v) art / photography projects around the school. The Chromebooks will certainly plug a gap in our provision and enable the children to apply ICT to many areas of school life and learning.

**Garden** - It was suggested by a parent that we could improve the garden area in school as between 20-30 children enjoy helping Mrs Toulson with the garden every week in gardening club. We have bought and planted daffodil seeds and plan to purchase some gardening gloves for the children.

### **The wish list:**

We hope with our fundraising events we will be able to look at providing the school with the following items:

- PC Upgrades for the ICT suite - £7,600
- Replace the old raised beds in garden area as the existing ones are breaking and rotting.
- Some parents have expressed an interest on more art-based activities in school so we are looking into possible workshops
- Long term project - The school are in the process of gathering information and will be speaking to parents about possibly changing a large part of the field with a multi-use games area (MUGA). It is likely to cost a significant amount so much consideration and investigation will be taken in advance of any decision made.

If you have any suggestions on what our fundraising efforts should also go towards then please do email [bjschair@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:bjschair@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk), we would love to hear from you.





### Dates for your diaries

- Thursday 13th February – Smarties challenge starts
- Wednesday 25th March – Children's Disco – Year3/4 – 5.30 - 6.45pm  
Year5/6 – 7.00 - 8.15pm
- Thursday 2nd April – Mufti in exchange for an Easter Egg
- Friday 3rd April – Easter egg raffle bring a £1
- May – Quiz night (date will be communicated asap)
- Friday 10th July – Summer BBQ 6-8pm
- Saturday 5th December – Christmas Fair 12-2pm

### Smarties Challenge – starts Thursday 13th February

Before February half term we will be launching the Smarties challenge which is a new fundraising event and we're looking to use this event to kick start our funding for the PC upgrades in the ICT suite. The Smarties challenge has proved very popular in schools and we think it would be a fun challenge for the children to take part in.

Those children that take part will be provided with a tube of Smarties (or dairy free alternative) which they can eat but they would need to keep the tube. We would then like your child to do small jobs around the house to earn 20ps and collect their money in the tube. Please return to the school by **Friday 6th March**. Other coins should also fit in the tube – it doesn't have to be 20p. Look out for more details coming soon!

### Children's Disco – Wednesday 25th March

We are holding a disco for the children in the hall on Wednesday 25th March. Flyer to follow but make sure you send back your slips ASAP to reserve a place and also let us know if you can help on the day!

### Easter Egg Raffle on Friday 3rd April / Mufti day on Thursday 2nd April

A lovely Year 5 mum has volunteered to run an Easter Egg raffle for us which is something we've never done before. Each child will bring in an Easter egg on the Mufti day on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Then on the last day of term Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, the children can pay £1 to choose a raffle ticket from a pot and get an Easter Egg from the raffle.

### Quiz night - May

Start to sharpen up your general knowledge skills for a fantastic quiz night. More details to follow shortly but it promises to be a fun night for all!

### Next Friends meeting

All welcome in the school learning lab on **Tuesday 21st April from 7.00pm**. The main focus of the meeting will be events coming up in the spring term. Do come along – your input is always welcome.





## The following are additional ways you can help us:

### Easy Fundraising

Just a reminder that whenever you buy anything online you could be collecting free donations for the Friends of Busbridge Junior School via Easy Fundraising. It doesn't cost a penny extra and there is no catch – it's free money for the school.

It includes a number of well-known retailers like John Lewis, Tesco, Sainsburys, M&S, Ticketmaster, Tui, Ebay, Curry's, Boden etc...there isn't much not on there.

#### Here's how it works:

1. Visit <https://new.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/busbridgept/> and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever. Easy!

It's a ridiculously easy way to raise funds for the school so please take a few minutes and sign up.

### AmazonSmile

If you shop online via Amazon, visit [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) for the exact same shopping experience but with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Busbridge Junior School PTA each time you shop.

#### Simply:

Go to [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) on your computer or mobile device

On your first visit you need to select Busbridge Junior School PTA as your chosen charitable organisation to receive donations.

Go to Your Account > Your Amazon Smile > Change your Charity

Visiting [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) via Easyfundraising will also gain additional donations at no extra cost to you!

### Stikins Name Labels

We have teamed up with [www.stikins.co.uk](https://www.stikins.co.uk) to offer parents the opportunity to purchase labels for your children's school uniform, whilst earning the school **30% commission!** These labels are a great idea, they simply stick onto the clothing wash label. These labels are so easy and permanent. They can even be used in shoes!

#### How it works:

Place an order quoting the school reference number (3307). If you use the link on our school website's Home Page/For Parents/Uniform to order your labels online, the number is filled in automatically for you!

### The Book People

The Book people are running the Big Book Boost. Every time you place an order over £10 they will donate £1 to our school.

#### How it works:

Visit <https://www.thebookpeople.co.uk> Spend over £10, pay for your books and then you can select which school to donate to. Please don't forget to press the Donate button.





## Committee Members:

Co-Chair: Sarah Speirs/Jackie Ahrens  
Vice-Chair: Lorraine Collins  
Treasurer: Steve Muir  
Secretary: Katherine Carter  
Uniform: Beckie

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THANK YOU FOR READING!