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## **FoSS Annual General Meeting - Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021**

### **Event overview – January 2020 to January 2021**

FoSS started the New Year with a fantastic Wine tasting evening hosted by the Helen Savage. We raised a brilliant £355 at this event! FoSS also hosted a successful Pop-up Fashion event in February, before the school closed. We managed to raise £298 for the school and it was a super event to encourage recycling and reusing at the same time!

After this event, due to the pandemic all FoSS events had to be cancelled. During these unprecedented times, FoSS have been unable to organise and host the larger events we would normally like to host for the children and to raise important funds for the school. We had planned to host a family sponsored walk in June 2020 as a large group. However, due to ongoing restrictions we asked families to do the Sponsored walk during the summer holidays, in their family households. We were thrilled that we managed to raise a brilliant total of £795 (plus £132.50 in Gift Aid – overall total £927.50) for the school.

In response to the need to be cashless, FoSS set up a JustGiving site for fundraising to make it easier to donate (<https://justgiving.com/fo-slaleyfirstsch>). This allowed FoSS to set up specific fundraising sites for different events. This has worked well, and for some events, e.g. the sponsored walk, we have been able to receive Gift Aid also.

With the continuing pandemic, fundraising and planning events for Autumn/ Winter 2020 was difficult! We were pleased to host a very successful Halloween Pumpkin Carving competition and socially distanced pumpkin parade around the school grounds! We raised a grand total of £255 for the school. We also organised a Bags2School collection of second-hand clothing. We collected 360kg and raised £108 for the school which is fantastic!

FoSS hosted some great virtual festive events. The Virtual Christmas Wreath event was a huge success, and we raised an incredible £804.40! Charlotte Douglas put together fantastic wreath making boxes and gave a brilliant live demonstration on Zoom. We sold an incredible 48 adult wreath boxes and 14 children's ones. We were also very pleased to continue our annual tradition of the Christmas hampers. We combined this with a fun festive activity for the children. Trees Please donated 50 beautiful Christmas trees for the children, and they enjoyed painting pots and planting these trees. We hope to have a Christmas tree parade in the future and see how the children's trees have grown! The combined events made £396.91 for the school!

Despite all the restrictions and the challenges caused by the pandemic, it is has been wonderful to be able to continue to fundraise and at the same time organise fun events for parents and children even during these difficult times. We are very grateful for the time and efforts of volunteers and for the continued teacher and parent support of FoSS events. We very much hope 2021 will bring more freedom to host more face-to-face events.

Many thanks,

Andrea Foster - Chairperson

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