

# Friends of St.Merryn

## Meeting 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019

Present – Alison Brook, Donna Richards, Rachel Burnham, Maria Bavin, Clair Clark, Chantal McCall, Hannah Cowan

### Agenda

Look at events for the forthcoming year

Money currently held by FOSMS

Christmas

Any other business

### Events

General overview of events talked about. We decided to scale down the events this year, keeping it simple with maximum money being raised.

Alison suggested a scavenger hunt which we agreed would be great for the spring term.

Alison also suggested having a wreath making evening in the run up to Christmas. She will speak to Rachel Berrington and Janet about volunteering to help with this.

This year we have decided that Community event and Arts night can be done in separate months making it easier for the organisation and better all round. We plan to follow the idea of Prideaux place party in the park, with possible picnic and bring your own gazebo. We can discuss nearer the time. Date set for Community night of **10<sup>th</sup> July 2020**.

Alison would like to hold a health and wellbeing week in the spring term so FOSMS could organise something to fit in with this theme.

### Money

We have currently approx. £2,000 in the bank – with impending costs of the panto which will be around £1,000.

### Christmas

We agreed that this year the Christmas event will be kept small and simple due to previous years the event being a huge effort with little return. We have decided that there will not be a grotto this year. Maria suggested moving the date of the Christmas Fair into December – a date of **Tuesday December 17<sup>th</sup>** was agreed. We will hold a Christmas Fair where the

children's artwork will be on sale. We will have biscuits, mulled wine, raffle and a chocolate tombola.

Rachel will speak to Barnecutts about the biscuit.

Hannah, Maria and Clair will organise the raffle.

Donna will do the licence for the Christmas Fair.

Alison will mention in the newsletter about parents bringing in chocolate for the chocolate tombola. The chocolate will be used in the school play as props and she will ask Rickie to make Wonka wrappers for the bars. We can then re-use the donated chocolate for the chocolate tombola.

The school will sell mulled wine during the school plays – Chantal will look at the licencing for this as it can be tricky with the event running over so many days.

Bedruthan Steps wanted £15 per child for the grotto this year, which we have decided is too expensive. We suggested asking Well Parc for a price for their grotto for the nursery children instead. Donna will mention to Kerry.

Donna will source the wooden decorations for the children this year to decorate the school tree – we will need 170. Alison will ask Mole Valley again for a Christmas Tree.

## **Other business**

### **Lotto**

The 50/50 lotto needs pushing this year as only 35 participants for the first month. We need to have a week in the playground of selling numbers.

### **Christmas Panto**

The M & M travelling panto will be visiting again this year. We decided it was unnecessary to provide sweets this year as last year they didn't receive them on the day and instead had them on party day. Panto will be on 27<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Tabletop sale**

Danielle Watson-Smyth suggested a tabletop sale in the run up to Christmas. We agreed this would be a good idea and would make some money for FOSMS. Donna will speak to Danielle to see if she is happy to lead this fundraiser and organise the event. It was agreed that it would be better to hold it in the village hall rather than the school hall due to room.

### **Next meeting TBC**

**You do not have to commit a huge amount of time or effort!**

We are looking for more parents to join us, so we have input from more people, access to more ideas and a network where we can ask for specific help if we need it. FOSMS is a group of parents and teachers who work together to raise money to fund the "extras" provided to the pupils. Without more people getting involved then fundraisers such as the community event, school discos and Christmas Fairs will not go ahead. We will not be able to fund the school panto or grotto trip (which collectively costs us around £1200 each year!). Please try and come to a meeting if you can.