

FOSMAS Spring 2019 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the spring edition of the Friends of St Mary Abbots School newsletter from the new FOSMAS Committee. FOSMAS is your **Parent Teacher Association**, dedicated to raising funds to spend on the school for our children. All parents, teachers, governors and pupils are members of FOSMAS.

We started off fundraising in the spring term with our annual **Quiz Night** in January. Thanks to **Becky Barrow** and **Tom Lyster** who were brilliant quizmasters. There were eight tables of parents and teachers. Food on the night was kindly provided by **Maroush** and was delicious as usual. Well done to the winning table - the teachers' table! We raised over £1,000 for FOSMAS. The **Read-a-Thon** started on March 25th and runs throughout April, a brand-new initiative for FOSMAS. It is a fantastic way to encourage our children to read (see the next page). In order to revitalise fundraising for the school, FOSMAS held an Extraordinary General

Meeting (EGM) in February, which allowed us to restructure the entire FOSMAS Committee (see details on the next page). We owe a **big thank-you** to everyone on the outgoing Committee, and to **Ioana Bozan** who stepped down as Chair but will remain in the Committee to look after Matched Fundraising. Looking forward to events in the Summer term we have:

- The **Fun Run** which will be in Holland Park on 18th May. Please note the new time - from 12 noon to 3pm!
- **Drinks** on 20th June, where parents will say a fond farewell to Mrs Doyle.
- The **Summer Fair** on 6th July, our main event of the year. **Will Summer 2019 be as warm as last year? Maybe!**

SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 4

Easter Coffee
8:30am (in Church)

MAY 17

Cake Sale
3:30pm (school)

MAY 18

Fun Run
12:00pm
(Holland Park)

JUNE TBC

Movie Night
(KS2 only)

JUNE 20

Summer Drinks
(Vicarage Garden)

JUNE 28

Cake Sale
3:30pm (school)

JULY 6

Summer Fair
(Vicarage Garden)

FOSMAS' Spring 2019 NEWSLETTER

Meet the NEW FOSMAS Committee



Our brand-new **FOSMAS Committee** was voted in at the Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) on February 26th. A host of parents from **older and younger classes** bring in new energy and continuity to the good work of FOSMAS. **Laura Sylvester** (Class 5 mum) is the new Chair, and **Marina Lussich** (Class 1 and Reception mum) is co-Chair. **Tom Wegelius** (Class 1 dad) is the new Treasurer with **Nicholas Kyprios** (Reception class dad) as co-Treasurer. New Committee members include: **Sandra Vásquez** (Reception class mum) as the

new Secretary, **Thea Lenborg** (Class 5, 4 and Reception mum), **Chloe Wainwright** (Reception class mum) and **Andrés Espinosa** (Class 1 and Reception dad). **Ioana Bozan** (Class 1 mum) and **Guy Regis** (Class 3 dad) continue as Committee members from the previous team. We are delighted to be working together for FOSMAS and expect to hear more from us in the coming weeks! To **get in touch** with us with your ideas and questions, please email: committee@fosmas.info

Read-a-Thon and Book Day Parade



Giving page for sponsorship, with family and friends chipping in from all corners of the world. If you haven't already, you can set it up in a few steps just by clicking on: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/sma-readathon2019>. Remember to share with your family and friends on **email** and **social media**! All proceeds will go towards playground equipment, school trips and other FOSMAS funded initiatives.

The **Read-a-Thon** started last week and runs until April 23rd. Children are encouraged to read books, listen to audio books and stories, and be **sponsored** by family and friends. As an incentive, all the children participating will enter a draw to win amazing **book vouchers**. Many families have already set up their Just

As part of the **Read-a-Thon** we also had the traditional **Book Day Parade** on Friday, Mar 29th where the children dressed up as their favourite book characters. This was followed by an amazing **Cake and Uniform sale** in the afternoon, organised by Class 1 and Reception parents. It was a beautiful Spring day and the kids had loads of fun!

More information on FOSMAS events and campaigns will come to you via **email** and will also be always available **online** on our website: <http://www.fosmas.info>

Friends of St Mary Abbots School (FOSMAS) is a **registered charity** no: 1030955

Follow us on Twitter: [@ofabbots](https://twitter.com/ofabbots) | School official account: [@smaheadquarters](https://twitter.com/smaheadquarters)

PARENTS AT WORK

This year parents have come to assembly on Mondays to talk to the children about their work. The children have asked lots of questions and really loved to get to know about all the wonderful things they can choose to do or be when they grow up. From running their own business, to music production, car making, building the UK's fibre network, or editing a leading newspaper; the variety of roles and industries is impressive. We need names for the Summer and for the next school year, so please email: committee@fosmas.info if you'd like to come and speak.

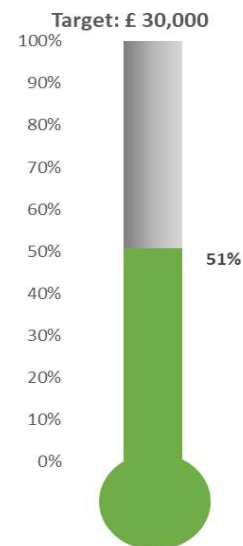
Teachers' Wish List 2018/19 and more...

Every year **FOSMAS** fund raises towards much needed equipment and school activities including the Teachers' Wish List. This school year (2018/19) the wish list included:

Standard annual items (on the list every year)	
Life education mobile (Town Hall visit in September)	£ 1,200
Science resources	£ 1,400
British values month (workshops/visitors/resources)	£ 1,000
Mathletics IT & Big Maths subscriptions	£ 4,000
Additional items	
New books for the studium and reading scheme	£ 4,000
Curriculum resources (RE and Foundation subjects)	£ 1,400
Individual class budgets (7 classes @ £100 p.a.)	£ 700
Classroom visualizers	£ 1,400
Possible expenditure	
Footballs	£ 150
Music teaching resources	£ 750
Photocopier support	£ 1,000
Twinkl interactive teaching resource access	£ 1,000
TOTAL	£ 18,000

The above only accounts for the Teachers' Wish List! **FOSMAS** supports the school financially in many other ways:

- **Events and school trips** - coaches for school trips, end-school year disco (Year 6 leavers), KS2 movie night, etc.
- **Small school upgrades** - last year **FOSMAS** paid for the KS1 cloakroom refurb and replaced the projector for the school hall (worth £8,500).
- **Specific requests** - Parents can make donations via **FOSMAS** for specific items: last year it was ukeleles for the music room!
- **Long term projects** - Coming up will be the refurbishment of the three playgrounds and new laptops/ipads. More information to come soon. If you'd like to make a one-off contribution to the Playground Fund please email committee@fosmas.info (you can Gift Aid it if you are a UK taxpayer).



Please sign up for regular giving

Every year **FOSMAS** set an annual fundraising target to cover for the Teachers Wish List, small upgrades and other activities (e.g. school trips and events). **This target does not include big projects mentioned before.**

All funds are invested in events and facilities our children love, enriching the curriculum and school life on a day-to-day basis. So far this school year we have raised £15.2K and have given the school £17.9k towards the Teachers' Wish List. This means that, so far this year, we have spent more than what we have raised. Please consider setting up a monthly donation to **FOSMAS**. Currently only a few parents give to **FOSMAS** on a monthly basis. You can donate via the link on the **FOSMAS** website, www.fosmas.info. Simply click on the **"make a monthly donation"** button. If you are a UK tax payer, make sure to click the **Gift Aid** button so we can maximise your donation (Gift Aid adds 25% extra to your donation, which comes from taxes). You can also use the link to make a one-off payment.

PLEASE NOTE: FOSMAS IS NOT the Governors' Fund (collected via School Comms). The money **FOSMAS** collect goes to an entirely **different** fund from the Governors' Fund.

HELP WANTED!

Football tournament: we haven't had one last year and would love to start again. Please email us at committee@fosmas.info to volunteer.

Summer fair (6th July): We will enlist one or two volunteers from each Class to help us organise this. Please drop us a note at committee@fosmas.info with your class nominees.

School open day: new parents with children starting Reception in **September** will come to see the school in **June**. We would love to have a few friendly faces on the day to greet them, answer questions, and make them feel at home. We will be giving a copy of ParentKind magazine **"Be School Ready"**. Please email us if you'd like to help on the day: committee@fosmas.info.

FOSMAS would like to thank...

Tom and Becky Lister for running the splendid **Quiz Night** on January 30th, which helped us raise £1,000.

Our outgoing **FOSMAS** Committee members **Simone Bridgen, Lorena De la Torre, Catherine Bedford, Gabriella Mitchell and Sylvana Armstrong** for all their hard work in the past years. We hope to keep up the good work they started, thank you!



Breakfast at Maroush If you organise class coffee mornings after drop-off, why not try out the new **Randa Maroush** breakfast menu? All St Mary Abbots School parents get **20% off** when booking, just mention the School. Thank you to Rana and **Maroush** for this offer (available from 8am until 11am until end of April). **Enjoy!**