

# Spring

## 2020 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the spring edition of the Friends of St Mary Abbots School newsletter. FOSMAS is your **Parent Teacher Association**, dedicated to raising funds to spend on the school for our children.


We closed the autumn term with our Christmas Fair. The children had a great time and it was an amazing fundraising event. As always, thank you to the teachers, Class Reps and parents who helped and put a lot of time and effort into making this happen. We look forward to continue building positive, productive relationships between parents, staff and other friends of the school to further support the education and experience of our children.


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 quiz-masters. There were eight tables of parents and teachers. Well done to the winning table - Year 6! We raised over £XXX

for **FOSMAS** which was match funded by Barclays. We have a number of events lined up for following terms: the **Movie Night** is back for KS2, the famous **Read-a-Thon** will be back starting on March XX<sup>th</sup> and running throughout April, and a **Children's Quiz Night** (following popular demand). The **Multi-Sports Day**, a brand new **FOSMAS** initiative, will focus on promoting fun and active family time. We're also very excited to host our first **Gala Dinner** on XXX. Finally, we'll close this school year with our **Summer Fair** on July 4<sup>th</sup>, our main event of the year. In this edition, we will also update you on **FOSMAS'** finances and the **School's Wish List**.



### SAVE THE DATE

**MAR 6**   
Movie Night (KS2 only)

**MAR 27**   
Cake Sale 3:30pm (school)

**MAY 2**   
Multi-Sports Day 12:00pm (Holland Park)

**MAY TBC**   
Children's Quiz

**JUN TBC**   
Gala Dinner (St Mary Abbots Centre)

**JUN TBC**   
Cake Sale 3:30pm (school)

**JUL 4**   
Summer Fair (Vicarage Garden)

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)

## Christmas Fair



The annual FOSMAS Christmas Fair was held on November 29 and all the children (and adults) had a Merry time. There was lots of jolly and good cheer as the children went around the school to the different stalls enjoying games, drinks, food, prizes, the silent auction and, of course, the raffle. We were even treated to a special visit from Santa Claus! The fair raised nearly **£3,000** on the day and **£1,400** from the silent auction. A HUGE thank you to everyone

who helped decorate the school (especially Mr. Reeves), donated prizes, set up the stalls, manned the stalls and cleaned up. It was an amazing team effort and could not be put together without the help of parents, teachers/school staff, and of course the children. Our beloved FOSMAS army! A special thank you to Elie Hanna (XL Catlin/AXA Group) and Elena Lindmark (Credit Suisse) who raised matchfunding of £800 and £400, respectively.

## FOSMAS QUIZ! Night



The annual **Quiz Night** in January was a fabulous evening. **Becky Barrow** and **Tom Lyster** have been great quiz masters over the past XX years. We can't thank them enough for all they're help, dedication and constant support to FOSMAS and our School. As usual, the questions were fun and challenging, Year 6 triumphed and the Reception team came a creditable second place in what was a very competitive night. Congratulations! The evening raised over £1,152 which was match-funded by Barclays with £1000 (thanks **Ioana!**), so a total of over **£2,100**. We all had an incredibly fun evening and learned a thing or two.





## Teacher's Wish List 2020

Every year **FOSMAS** fundraises towards much needed equipment and school activities including the Teachers' Wish List. This year's Wish List reflects the very exciting and ambitious changes our beloved school will undergo.

| Item   | Budget   | Group Total   |
|--|----------|---|
| KS1 phonics program Read Write Inc phonics (training and resources)            | £ 3,848  | Changes in Maths & Reading Curriculum<br><b>£ 13,848</b>    |
| Maths new curriculum: Singapore Maths (training, workbooks and resources)      | £ 10,000 |   |
| Set of core texts for teaching reading   | £ 895    | Improving Reading Material for KS1 & KS2<br><b>£ 12,260</b> |
| In school books for KS2, Book Band Kids  | £ 525    |   |
| Cracking codes comprehension   | £ 840    |   |
| Banded Reading Books to use across the school                                  | £ 10,000 |   |
| SEND resources   | £ 500    | Additional Resources<br><b>£ 2,500</b>                      |
| Reception resources  | £ 2,000  |   |
| Subscriptions (Mathletics, Big Maths, Twinkl, Life education mobile classroom) | £6,200   | Subscriptions<br><b>£ 6,200</b>                             |
| School council's playground gear   | £ 1,482  | School Council<br><b>£ 1,482</b>                            |
| Upgrade/update IT resources  |          | IT Improvements<br><b>£ 15,000 TBC</b>                      |
| Enrichment activities  |          | Other items not prioritised in the budget                   |
| Flipcharts for each class  |          |   |
| Art & DT resources   |          |   |
| Science equipment/ resources   |          |   |
| Topic box rental   |          |   |
| Book corner resources/display resources  |          |   |
|  |          | <b>£ 51,290</b>   |

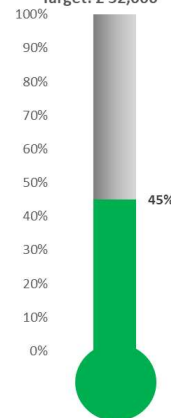
**FOSMAS** has already contributed £ 8,090 towards the Wish List (see next section), but there's still so much more that needs to be done.

The good news is that your PTA has been saving money for "big projects", but we also need to double our efforts to fundraise towards these initiatives.



So we're organizing our very first **Gala Dinner** with an explicit fundraising target of £10,000 to contribute with the Math and Phonics curriculum changes. We hope that, with your help, we can smash this target!

Target: £ 52,000



### Back Page Story Headline

This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your organization is a good way to give your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees.

If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast meeting for vendors every third Tuesday of the month, or a biannual charity auction.



### HELP WANTED



**Multi-sports day:** it's the first time we're organising this event and we think it will be lots of fun. Please email us at [committee@fosmas.info](mailto:committee@fosmas.info) to volunteer.

**Movie Night KS2 (Mar 6):** we need help from parents to take chaperone the children. Please email the committee or let you Class Rep know.

**Children Quiz (May):** Any volunteers please drop us a note at [committee@fosmas.info](mailto:committee@fosmas.info) or talk to your Class Rep.

### 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 year we have set a higher target given the ambitious changes our school faces,

**All funds** are invested in educational resources, events and facilities our children love, enriching the curriculum and school life on a day-to-day basis.

Please consider setting up

a monthly donation to **FOSMAS**. You can donate via the link on the **FOSMAS** website, [www.fosmas.info](http://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.

### Matchfunding

Many companies throughout the UK offer employees the chance to boost their fundraising efforts by 'matching' the money they raise. Please reach out to your employer, and your PTA could double the amount of cash it raises! Let the Committee know at [committee@fosmas.info](mailto:committee@fosmas.info). Our matchfunding officer, Ioana Bozan, will happily help you organise this.