

# Winter 2011 Newsletter

Hello and welcome to our Winter FOSMAS newsletter. This newsletter covers you right up till we break up for Christmas, and a little bit beyond into the first half of next term.

Our fundraising target this year is £25,000. Minimum. And so far we have only raised just over £1,000 – so there is quite a way to go! You can track our progress on our website <http://fosmas.info>.

What will this all go on? Literacy supplies, art supplies, IT equipment. PSHE Life Mobile classes. Ink for the photocopiers. Replacement equipment, be it a scanner/cooker/chess set, headphones for the music room or away fixture athletics kit. Science Week, Art Week, Book week, Maths week. Black History Month workshops, Dance and theatre workshop. School trips. The children's Christmas party, Christmas decorations. Year 6 leavers party. And much, much else besides. If we don't raise it, these things won't happen.

(You might suppose some of these would come from the school's delegated budget. Indeed some of it used to! But increasingly, less and less will and Fosmas will have to plug the gaps.)

So the pressure is on, like never before! Every penny you raise goes towards your children's education. And all this is before we've even mentioned the budget for refurbishing the playgrounds...

Many thanks, The FOSMAS TEAM

PS Just a thought: If every family in the school set up a direct debit to give £5 a month to FOSMAS, and giftaided it, we would raise almost £10,000. Just like that. If every family gave £10 a month - £2.50 a week, less than 50p a day - we'd have everything we need for the whole year, all in one go. And then we could really make a difference to the playgrounds!

Have a think about it - it would make the whole task so much easier than raising small incremental amounts here and there. And we wouldn't have to badger you all so much! You can give monthly with gift aid through our Justgiving page: <http://justgiving.com/fosmas...>



## Dates for your Diary

**2 Dec – FOSMAS Christmas Fair**

**15 Dec – FOSMAS Christmas parties**

**19 Jan - Quiz Night**

**25 Jan - FOSMAS AGM date**

**9 Feb - Blue Bag Collection day**

**7 Mar – Mystery Event – Save the Date!**

**Cake & 2<sup>nd</sup> hand uniform sales:**

**January 27<sup>th</sup>: Year 2, year 3**

**February 24<sup>th</sup>: Year 4, 5, and 6**

**23<sup>rd</sup> March: Reception, Year 1**



## SITUATION VACANT

Tif Loehnis, our Secretary, is stepping down in March 2012 because of a new full time job. Is there someone out there who has a bit of time to spare? We'll need to elect a new Secretary in next term's AGM, so please have a think about whether you can throw your hat in the ring for this. This role is about being good with paperwork and admin – there's an easy template set up for what to do.

FOSMAS has a regularly updated website

<http://fosmas.info> with full calendar of forthcoming events PLUS, PLUS, PLUS. Check it out.

FOSMAS is on Twitter @FOSMASTWEETS. You can follow us – and receive reminder tweets texts on mobile phone <http://twitter.com/fosmastweets>



FOSMAS are registered with [JUST GIVING](http://www.justgiving.com) for one off and regular donations, and making fundraising pages benefitting FOSMAS.

## Playground News

As we told you last term, now the computer suite has been updated the next big project for FOSMAS is the redesign and refurbishment of the playgrounds. We don't yet have the exact costings but we've started discussions with the playgrounds designer who has transformed Fox's Primary School playgrounds. He has come up with some fantastic plans for a designated area to contain football with a raised wall to stop the ball getting out of touch, raised flower beds with a watering system around the playground, additional water fountains, playground markings revamped, new flooring around specific areas, designated quiet areas with curved seating for those pupils who do not wish to play football. Transforming! We'll let you know more as soon as we have it.



## Internet Shoppers? FOSMAS could gain every time you shop – at no extra cost to you!

FOSMAS has an amazing new internet shopping portal. It has hundreds of retailers on it, all of whom will give FOSMAS commission: all you have to do is get to their sites via our web portal. We've raised over £120 in the few short weeks this has been set up – free money! There are over 1,000 retailers – Amazon, Marks & Spencer, Boden, John Lewis, Sainsbury's, HMV, Play.com, Lovefilm, Expedia, British Airways – to name but a tiny few. **Our target for this is £500.**



To help you remember: **CUT OUT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE AND STICK IT TO THE TOP OF YOUR PC / MAC SCREEN or just make it your homepage?** <http://spendandraise.com/fosmas>

## New Uniform / Second Hand Uniform

New - We've heard back from YourSchoolUniform, the firm that sell new uniform to us. They were apologetic about the problems but assure us everything is all sorted out. Please keep us posted.

Second Hand - Last term we had a fantastic kickoff sale, in which we raised £200 and will continue with regular second-hand uniform sales. If you have uniform you'd like to donate please put it in a labelled bag and hand to the school office. The uniform can then be sorted and laundered by a couple of our kind parents so when it is sold, it looks as good as new.

We are offering these for sale alongside cakes on the last Friday of every month.

## About FOSMAS



The current FOSMAS Committee of Trustees are:  
Claire Slinn and Melinda Dodd - Co-chair,  
Tony Maxwell – Treasurer, Tif Loehnis – Secretary  
Caroline Harding, Marta Rodkina.

Emails can be sent to [secretary@fosmas.info](mailto:secretary@fosmas.info)

## Blue Bag Collection



This was a great success – we raised £620. We will be having another collection on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February. Please get digging through all the piles you meant to deal with last time...

## SORRY TO BANG ON, BUT...



If you HAVEN'T yet filled in your Gift Aid form - could you? It means a lot of our fundraising goes 25% further. We currently have about 50% of parents signed up. And it's just a question of you filling out a form... Gift Aid forms are available at the school office, or the website or by emailing [treasurer@fosmas.info](mailto:treasurer@fosmas.info)

## CONFUSED ABOUT GOVERNOR'S FUND vs FOSMAS?

Very broadly: The Governor's Fund is for the building; Fosmas helps with what goes on in the building!

FOSMAS is a UK registered charity no 1030955



**REMEMBER! INTERNET SHOPPING? LOOK FOR THE RETAILER FIRST THROUGH**  
<http://spendandraise.com/fosmas>

