

## **Welcome to the first official Friends of Capenhurst newsletter.**

The Friends of Capenhurst are a (currently) small group of parent volunteers who work hard alongside Mrs Green and the rest of the teaching staff to organise events that both raise money for the school and bring us together as a community. We are always on the look out for parents to join our number but, whether you are involved in this way or not, our work would be wasted without you as a parent and your children turning out to support and enjoy the events we organise. With everyone being such an important and valuable asset to our cause we would like to share our news with you at least once a term.

**Meet the Team:** Currently Friends of Capenhurst consists of Mrs Green, Jackie Henson, Nicky Oakley, Lezley Sutherland, Emma Broomfield, Jenny Downes, Tina Lowe and Mary Osborne. We are all very friendly, passionate for the cause and not at all scary so please do feel free to approach any one of us on the play ground if you have any questions or ideas!

**Why are we here?** Friends of Capenhurst (FoC) exists because the funding the school receives from the government only covers the very basic needs of the school. We are not alone. Every other school has this shortfall met by the work of volunteers and parents. Past contributions from the Friends of Capenhurst include the climbing wall, school laptops and the interactive white boards. We regularly subsidise and occasionally completely pay for coach transport to and from school trips most notably the coach to the pantomime each year (£360 worth). We have also freed up the funding to allow all of the Class 3 children to have clarinet lessons this year. Every year FoC also contributes to the Year 6 leavers' ball including presents for the children. We also subsidise the present buying for Secret Santa each year and help the children to choose and wrap the presents for their chosen recipients.

This year Mrs Green and the governors are in the process of applying for a new music project. This application would not be possible without the funds supplied by FoC. If successful Capenhurst will be the first school in Cheshire to benefit from the project and as a result will also stand to benefit when subsequent schools join.

Our school is very fortunate to have a dedicated and passionate teaching team that has the development and welfare of our children at the forefront of everything they do. Without the support of FoC, however, they would be unable to provide so many of the opportunities our children enjoy and which are often taken for granted. These opportunities would either cease to exist or only be available at a direct cost to us the parents.

## **Upcoming Events**

8th November- Starlight Clothing collection

17th November- Family Bingo

**The Capenhurst and Ledsham Community Group:** This group consists of the school, the church, the chapel and the village hall. Events are jointly run and the proceeds split four ways between the groups. As a school we not only benefit directly from their work but are also heavy users of both the church and the village hall therefore they are well worth supporting and we work closely with them. There are events coming up in their calendar as well as ours:

28th October- Halloween Party, £4 per child including a drink and a snack, lots of fun and games and prizes for the best dress and best pumpkin.

**Thank you:** Thank you for taking the time to read this and also for your support of our work. As always any fundraising ideas; ideas about where the money should go and offers of help, big or small, will be gratefully received. You are always very welcome to attend any of our meetings (it doesn't mean you need to attend them all and there is a crèche provided). To help us further please return the questionnaire overleaf. Let's make this year the best yet!

Parents name:

Child's name (s)

Child's Class (s)

1. Would you like to keep up to date with minutes of the FOC meetings? (Please provide an email address)

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2. Would you like to be involved in running fundraising events? (Manning stalls, serving coffee etc)

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3. Do you know any small or large business owners who would be happy to donate raffle prizes or sponsor an event? (please give details)

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4. What time would you prefer fundraising events to be held? (e.g straight after school, later in the evening, at the weekend)

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5. Would you prefer events that are for adults only as social events or events that children can also attend?

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6. Do you have any fundraising ideas? (please give details)

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7. How much are you willing to pay for entrance to a party/quiz/meal held by us assuming this would include food and/or drink? \_\_\_\_\_

8. What type of fundraising event would you like to see more of? (cake sales at sharing assembly/ quiz night/ bingo night/ fayres or fetes/ children's parties/ raffles/ in house competitions in the classroom/ sponsored events etc)

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9. Do you have any general comments/ questions about our work?

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