

Newsletter

As we come close to the end of both the term and the year, the SOS committee would like to update you on everything which has been achieved this year, and to say a huge thank you to everybody who has supported us and also volunteered their time to help us with our fundraising activities.

Summary of Money Raised

In the 2008 / 2009 school year, SOS managed to raise a fabulous £3414.00 of profit - this was over £300.00 up on the previous year. A wide range of fundraising activities were co-ordinated by SOS, including:

* Raffles - Christmas, Easter & Summer
* Yellow Moon & Initiatives catalogues
* School Disco * Biscuit Sales * Fashion Show * Bags to School * School Lottery
* Book Sale * Traders Booklet * PTA Planet

£5200.00 in total was donated to the school which an achievement which we should all be proud of!!

This has been spent on many things within school including:

- The School Garden
- Playground Equipment (balls, balls and more balls!!)
- The Christmas Entertainers
- Playground Furniture
- Reading Books

- The provision of ice-creams for all the FS & KS1 on Seaside day
- The Pebble Art Tree in the Don Yard which all the school were involved in
- Provision of exotic fruit as part of the healthy eating programme

And many others.....

In 2009 / 2010 we have already donated £1080.00 towards the signs which have made a great improvement to the school grounds. We have also pledged a further £850.00 to school which is going towards paying for entertainers at the Christmas parties for the KS1 - Y4 children, and towards travel costs of the Y5/6 who will be taken out of school, the lottery prizes up to August 2010 and the school garden.

This year we have already been busy raising funds via the Family Orienteering Event, Biscuit Sales, Halloween Quiz, EasyFundraising, Bags to School, Yellow Moon catalogues, Christmas Pudding orders, "Guess How Many Sweets" competition and the Christmas Raffle (tickets will go on sale at the beginning of December).

We have also received a donation of £75.00 from the Oughtibridge Gala and £50 from the Wesleyan Chapel for using the school. A further £500.00 is expected shortly from HSBC as part of their "£ 4 £" scheme, which has been applied for by Tracy Harby - see **FREE Money** for further details.

The SOS Committee

We have just held our AGM which saw the re-election of the following Committee Members:

Chair: Catherine Askham - Ben Askham

Secretary: Joanne Eyre and Tracy Harby (shared role) - Jessica Eyre and Grace and Joseph Harby **Treasurer: Perri Calderbank** - Lisa Calderbank

The committee is also made up of a small group of dedicated parents who give their time and support by attending the meetings and practical support to ensure that our fundraising events and activities are a success. As ever, if there are any further parents out there who feel that they could offer their support, it will be gratefully received.

FREE Money

Yes, it's not often that you can get anything for free, but SOS are pleased to inform you of two ways which you could help support our fundraising projects. Tracy Harby, (a HSBC employee), has been able to "claim back" from HSBC for the time she has committed to SOS through their **£ 4 £ scheme**. WE have been informed that other organisations run a similar scheme to this - whereby anyone can claim up to a maximum of £500.00 for time which they commit to a charitable organisation. This does not mean running

an event or fundraising activity, it can be as simple as attending the meeting or putting raffle tickets in envelopes!! Any way which you are able to assist SOS could count towards your claim. We would urge other parents out there to check whether or not their employer operates a similar scheme, and if they do, please consider donating some of your time to SOS activities. If you would like any more information about this, please contact Tracy Harby, or any other member of the SOS Committee.

Secondly, with Christmas shopping in full swing, please remember to use EasyFundraising - the shopping directory listing some of your favourite online stores, including Argos, Next, Amazon, Debenhams, John Lewis, and Toys R Us. Whenever you shop with any one of them using the links provided on the EasyFundraising site, you'll generate a free donation for us of up to 15% of the purchase price every time! It really is that simple!

It's completely FREE to register and you won't pay a penny more for your shopping when you use the EasyFundraising site.

All you need to do is register for free at www.easyfundraising.org.uk/sosheffield and use EasyFundraising every time you shop online.

On a final note, the SOS committee would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year!!

The SOS Committee

