

KSF SUMMER NEWSLETTER

CHAIR - LEANNE WOODWARD (GROSE)

Well this is only my second newsletter of the school year, but unfortunately due to Covid-19 so many of our usual fund raising activities throughout the year have been cancelled and social distancing has made holding meetings difficult. I'm sure that the children and their families have missed some of our much loved usual events. However, I would like to say a really big thank you to all the parents, extended family and friends that have supported the events we have managed to run during 2020/21 as your support has been phenomenal. In this newsletter I have outlined our events to date and how much we have raised, some items that we have supported in school and detail about the events we are holding before the end of term.

We have been able to support some really great things for the children at school this year including:

- Books for all the children for Father Christmas to hand out
- Class Christmas Trees and supported Christmas lunches and class parties
- Twinkl, Timetable Rockstars and Whizz Pop subscriptions, which helped so much during lockdown
- Leavers hoodies for year 6
- Virtual author day enjoyed by all year groups
- Maths Magician online extravaganza
- Classroom chair backs to support covid restrictions
- Maintenance of the defib machine

We are devastated to announce that we have taken the hard decision to confirm now that we will not be holding a Summer Fayre this year. We really do hope that with restrictions continuing to lift that when we return to school in September we will be able to begin holding some more of our favourite events such as school discos, the Christmas Fayre and our popular Tuck Shops!

Thank you for all your continued support, it really does make a difference to all the children within the school.

Leanne, Chair of Kea School Friends

KSF wanted to share with you a breakdown of the funds we've been able to raise since September, and to thank everyone for the wonderful support you have shown KSF and Kea School.

Personalised Christmas Cards and Gifts

All of the pictures for the personalised Christmas cards were really fantastic and made some really lovely Christmas cards for your family and friends. We raised £325.72 for Kea School Friends. We hope to run this event again in 2021.

Christmas Wrapping Room

Well we had such amazing support for this event—it was such a shame children were not able to come into the classrooms to select the gifts for their families themselves, but with 163 gift bags purchased we raised an amazing £203.31 profit.

Christmas Raffle

We were blown away with the donations we received, giving us 35 prize hampers to be won! We made £603 profit from sales which will be well spent supporting the school.

Easter Raffle

We had over 200 items donated which were made up into 35 hampers. This event raised £656 which we were absolutely delighted with and a massive thank you to everyone who bought tickets.

Pre Loved Uniform Sales

This has been a great asset to parents and made KSF £575 since September 2020—read more about our pre-loved uniform on page 2.

Still to come ...

Father's Day Chocolate Gifts—orders will be coming home with children the week commencing 14 June.

Our Bags 2 School event is taking place on Thursday 17 June, more details have come via the school office.

Finally, we have one last raffle! The children will be invited to a non uniform day in return for items to fill our "summer treats" hampers which will be run in July, this is likely to be our last event this year.

School Second Hand Uniform

This continues to be a great asset to KSF, raising well needed funds, and providing parents with a really useful, cost effective way to purchase school uniform. If you haven't yet done so, give our Uniform Bunny a follow on FaceBook "Kea School Friends Uniform Bunny". Uniform items sell from just £1 per item and we stock logo'd T-shirts, jumpers, cardigans, school winter coats, we also have a supply of PE kit, summer dresses and some grey shorts, pinafores and trousers.

If you have, or know someone who has, a child starting Kea in September we are able to put together "starter packs" for parents to try on with their children at home, so please do contact us.

If you are having a sort out at the end of term and your child has grown out of any school uniform we always welcome donations of any items listed above that are in good, re-sellable condition. All you need to do is pop them in a labelled bag to Kea School Friends and leave it in the box under the shelter or in reception. If you are sorting out during the holidays just send us a FB message or post on our page and we have a number of KSF members who live locally that you can drop uniform to.

A huge thank you to Jules Hodgson, our "Uniform Bunny", who has worked tirelessly to create and maintain our second hand uniform service for parents. Her hours spent washing, sorting, collating orders and answering queries is very much appreciated by myself and all parents who have benefited from great value uniform whilst also raising much needed funds!

We need your help, and it's not going to cost you a penny!

With everything going on at the moment we need your support more than ever. A really simple way to raise money for Kea School Friends without doing any work is by using Amazon Smile and Easyfundraising. Both work by donating a percentage of what you have spent when you shop online, to Kea School Friends.

Easyfundraising is an app you can download and it's FREE! Just search for "easyfundraising" in the App Store on IOS or the Google Play Store on Android. Once you have the App, simply open it and search for Kea School Friends as your chosen cause. When you shop, find the retailer you want to shop with, then shop as normal. When you check out, the retailer give us a free donation—at no extra cost to you! You can also use the App to keep track of how much you have raised.

Amazon Smile is very similar in that every time you shop through Amazon by the App, on a computer or laptop they donate a percentage to Kea School Friends. To set this up just go onto the main menu on your Amazon account and under the settings will be a sub header of Amazon Smile. Simply follow the instructions and search for Kea School Friends to set up donations. If you need any help just let us know!

How KSF works

How do you decide what to spend the money on? The school put requests to the committee and we vote on what to spend our money on. We usually vote online and sometimes during our meetings— it depends when we get the request through. The school complete a form, which details what they want and some quotes, these go via Mrs Hunkin. When the committee are deciding whether to support a request we are told how much money we have in the bank, we also have a list of items we expect to be asked for in order to support the school throughout the year. We have also agreed to support all requests for transports costs, this supports all the children with school trips and other activities.