**FRIENDS OF ALVANLEY PTA**

**AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2017**

Welcome to a new and exciting year at Alvanley Primary School! Thanks to those who came to the PTA meeting last week. For those that didn’t I thought I would share our plans for the coming term.

Over the page are 3 “easy” ways you can get involved in our fundraising – if you do nothing else please do these! I would especially like to push **The 100 Club** – This is a really important part of our fundraising and I would encourage everyone to join. Don’t worry if you have lost the letter just put £12 ( number) in an envelope marked 100 club and your name, and return to the school office (any cheques to “Friends of Alvanley” please) or e-mail: lynnhumphrey15@gmail.com for bank details to transfer money. You have a great chance of winning!



**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY (Letters will follow with details for each event)**

**HALLOWEEN DISCO:** Word is out and the kids (and some parents!) are excited! We are holding our spooky Halloween Disco on **THURSDAY 26th OCTOBER 4.45 – 6.15pm.**



**FILM NIGHT:** We have a film night scheduled for **FRIDAY 10th NOVEMBER.**

**We need volunteers to help at the disco and film night please!!**

Our fabulous **CHRISTMAS FAIR** will be held on **MONDAY 4th DECEMBER 5.30 to 7.30pm.** We need loads of help with this and have a **PLANNING MEETING** at 7**pm on** **THURSDAY 9th NOVEMBER** in the **WHITE LION** to get this moving. We also need ideas & volunteers for stalls, shopping, help decorating and setting up, people to bake and BBQ, help clearing up and much more! If you can’t come to the meeting please let me know what you can do to help.

The Christmas Fair and Raffle are our biggest fundraiser – last year raising ~ £1500. I’m afraid it only works by asking for donations of items to sell and raffle and we will once again be asking for donations over the next couple of months. Please start to collect together any unwanted toys and books, unwanted new or nearly new gift items (big or small) and items that could make raffle prizes or auction lots. Please publicise the fair date early with family and friends – bring them all along! If anyone has contacts with companies / local businesses who may be willing to donate raffle or auction prizes please ask – if you can share on our parents facebook who you have asked and any prizes you have managed to get that would help them not to asked several times by different people.

Also in preparation for the Christmas Fair we will be holding three **NON-UNIFORM DAYS** where the children are invited to come to school in their own clothes and donate an item for the fair. These are:

**Friday 13th October** – “Bring a Bottle” (donations for bottle tombola etc)

**Friday 17th November** – “Chocoholics” (donations of chocolate or sweets for the chocolate tombola)

**Friday 24th November** – “Christmas Colours” (colour coded donations for Raffle Hampers)

More information will follow for these.

**FACEBOOK** – Please join our **Alvanley Primary School Parents** Facebook page. This is a private group with access only by invite and to parents only. It’s a great way to keep up with what’s going on, share those last minute costume ideas and be reminded of what you need to bring. E-mail if you are struggling to find it.

We will at some point also try and make some more progress with the front garden and we will need help. In the meantime, if anyone has any spare time and would like to spend an hour weeding / tidying the garden please let me know.

Many thanks, I look forward to working with you all over the coming months.

Karen Chalmers

Tel: 07759 128272 e-mail: colchalmers@talktalk.net

**3 easy-peasy ways you can help your school!**

(There’s no excuse not to!)

**1. 100 Club**

If you haven’t done so already, join our 100 club. You pay just £1 / month, if your number is drawn out of the bag in the monthly draw you win! Last year this raised £360 for school and paid out £30 to winners each month. Feel free to ‘buy’ more than one number or get grandparents, neighbours and friends to buy one too. See Lynn Humphreys or Karen Chalmers or fill in the reply slip on the 100 club letter and return to the office asap.

**2. Clothes Recycling**

Please use our clothes bank in the playground for your old clothes, shoes (paired), textiles, linen, handbags, ties, belts, blankets, towels and soft toys. Please make sure items are clean and tied up in sturdy plastic bags (the bin is not water tight and we have in the past had to take home and wash several sacks worth of clothes that had been put in without bags). The bin cannot accept un-wearable items, duvets or pillows, wet or dirty clothes. We get paid per kg of recycling we collect and this generally makes us a couple of hundred pounds each year! Easy money!

Please Note: The clothes bank cannot take old uniform. BUT happily we collect old school uniform and shoes for orphans and street children in Kenya. Again these must be wearable (no holes or bad stains) and clean. Please pass these to Karen Chalmers after school or ring 07759 128272. These are sent via a charity called The Karibuni Trust, see website for more details: www.karibuni.org.uk.

**3. The Giving Machine**

If you ever shop on the internet this is a must – it is essentially free money for the school! Take just a few minutes the next time you are on the internet to register, then every time you shop on line access the stores website through The Giving Machine (just a couple of extra clicks). Once you are in it is just the same as shopping directly on the store except that the school receive a donation of 1 to 5% of everything you spend. It doesn’t cost you a penny, there are hundreds of stores registered and with Christmas coming up there is huge potential to make the school a tidy sum.

Please cut off and attach to your notice board or fridge for quick and easy reminder!

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**FRIENDS OF ALVANLEY PTA**

**Diary Dates**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **EVENT**  | **BRING** |
|  |  |  |
| Fri 13th Oct | Non-uniform day in school | Bottles for tombola at Xmas fair. |
|  |  |  |
| Thurs 26th Oct 4.45 – 6.15pm | Halloween Disco (There will be a child care option after school for those not at football) | Spooky costumes. Money for sweets Your dancing shoes |
|  |  |  |
| Thurs 9th Oct 7pm | Xmas Fair Planning meeting in the White Lion  | Ideas & enthusiasm! |
|  |  |  |
| Fri 10th Nov4-6pm | Film night (There will be a child care option after school) | Money for sweets |
|  |  |  |
| Fri 17th Nov | Non-uniform day in school | Choc / sweets for tombola at Xmas fair. |
|  |  |  |
| Fri 24th Nov | Non-uniform day in school | Colour coded items for Xmas fair hampers. |
|  |  |  |
| Mon 4th Dec5.30 – 7.30pm | Christmas Fair, Raffle & Auction | Lots of friends & family! (& cash to spend) |