



Friends of the Mead Meeting

18th November 2020

Attendees:

Emma Kent (EK), Alice Patience (AP), Tamasin Absolon (TA), Matt Grogan (MG), Claire Southern (CS), Tammy Mackintosh (TM), Rachel West, Simone Mowling, Rachel Truman (RT),

1. Introductions & Objectives

The Executive Committee introduced themselves EK – Chair, AP – Vice Chair, TA – Secretary and MG – Treasurer. CS also as Marketing Manager and the liaison between FoM and the school.

FoM's mission is to bring the Mead community together outside of the classroom for fun events that raise funds for FoM. FoM use these funds to enhance our childrens education over and above what the school provide.

EK listed a few past projects and events FoM have funded and organised. The current climate is making many of our usual events impossible or tricky to hold but we are working hard to make the best of the situation.

2. Current fundraising

- Christmas cards

We have received a good amount of orders and definitely up on the previous year. Figures are still being finalised but we are looking at a potential profit of c£500-550 – up from c£400 last year. The Exec Committee believe this could partly be due to increased support of FoM (thank you) and partly due to the collections being held outside school on consecutive drop off and pick up days.

Late Orders – we have had one request to submit a late order. If there are any other parents who would like to place a late order please do so by contacting EK no later than cob Friday 20th November. **Action: Class Reps** too communicate. There is an £8 charge for this.

- Christmas Hampers

Collections for these hugely sought after and profitable hampers are currently underway. The themes have been distributed and finished hampers should be brought into Reception no later than Wednesday 2nd November. **Action: EK** to remind class reps.

Raffle tickets for these will go on sale on Friday 4th December and FoM will held collection boxes outside the school at drop off and pick up times (both gates) on Monday 7th and

Tuesday 8th December. There will also be an opportunity to purchase extra tickets at those times.

As usual, envelopes should be returned with the named and phone numbered raffle stubs and the exact money only, no change will be given.

The draw will be held on Thursday 10th December ready for collection on Friday 11th. **Action: CS** to confirm AW availability to draw and call winners. Also **CS** to prepare list of hampers to note winners.

Hampers usually generate around £1,000 for FoM and are a firm favourite with Mead families.

- **FoM Festive Fun Morning**

Last year FoM replaced the annual Christmas Fayre with a Christmas Morning held solely for the children's enjoyment. Whilst we would have liked to have done the same this year Covid restrictions mean that no FoM representatives can enter the school to man any stalls. Instead FoM will be providing a morning of FoM Festive Fun - from a distance.

To take part in this event there will be an online charge of £5 per child (plus a very small booking fee to cover our website costs). For this fee, children can come to school in their own clothes and will enjoy a morning of festive fun in their class bubbles with their teachers. They will each receive a gift bag from FoM containing a small present, a festive craft to make in class and a festive puzzle.

FoM would like to offer the opportunity for year 6 pupil/s/family to make a film of "Santa" from his "grotto" (it does not need to be complicated; own house/shed/garden with a Christmas tree in the background will be perfect) to launch the Christmas morning via video to be shown in each classroom. EK will provide the script. **Action: CS** to find and provide the school Santa suit to the lucky volunteer. **Action: TM** to communicate this opportunity to year 6 families.

Jolly Jam Jars are another firm favourite amongst Mead families and children are invited to create theirs and swap within their bubbles during the FoM Festive Fun Morning. Jolly Jam Jars are emptied jars filled with festive treats (this can mean chocolate, stickers, rubbers – anything goes) and decorated in a fun and festive way. These will be displayed in classrooms, judged by Elizabeth as usual.

The deadline for bringing in the JJ's is Wednesday 14th December. **Action: Class reps** to communicate to parents.

Finally, included in the £5, will be a copy of the FoM Christmas single, being filmed in school on Monday 23rd. **Action: Class reps** to remind parents to send in Christmas jumpers/hats/boppers etc to wear over their uniforms for the filming on 23/11.

The world premier of the Christmas single – Mariah Carey's "All I Want For Christmas" - will be shown to children in class during the FoM Festive Fun Morning and will be emailed to those who have purchased that afternoon.

The video will NOT be used on the school's social media.

The online tickets will go on sale from Monday 30th November until close of play on Monday 14th December on the FoM website. New joiners will need to register before being able to proceed with their purchase. **Action: EK** to communicate link. **Action: CS** to ensure a link from the school's website to the FoM website is added at the next review.

All funds will go to FoM and be used to enhance our children's education over and above what the school provide.

3. Christmas Flier

This is a joint venture with Mead community owned businesses and will be distributed to Mead families as soon as possible to capitalise on online Christmas shopping opportunities. Many of the businesses advertising therein are offering discounts and/or kickback to FoM on each purchase. **Actions: CS** to distribute via ParentMail.

4. EasyFundraising

EK recently sent a communication out via ParentMail about this easy fundraising opportunity and again would like to reiterate its benefit to FoM. It is easy to set up, free and simple to use and automatically generates funds – at no extra cost to the purchaser – for FoM. As much of our shopping is and will be online this is a great opportunity to sign up.

5. Library update

Last year FoM ploughed around £1,000 into modernising the book collection in the school library and making the space more accessible to pupils. Covid halted the work in March and AC has confirmed that she and Nicky Roche will be resuming this work after lockdown 2.0 with the assistance of Mrs Wilson.

6. Second Hand Uniform

Rachel Truman is taking over the administration of the second hand uniform and a link to contact her can be found on the FoM website.

7. Future Projects

FoM will provide a greater update in the new year regarding its main project which will be held jointly with the school.

FoM has approved a request for Year 6 to fund the Year 6 "Passport". This is a year 6 initiative which seeks to promote the children's independence and assist in their transmission from primary to secondary school. The children have come up with a list of 50 things they would like to achieve during the school year. Each child will receive a paper passport with the challenges and a stamp each time they complete one.

This will be an ongoing commitment of £300. FoM are in liaison with Pocket Memories – a Mead community business – regarding the production of these.

8. AOB

There is an online card being created for our dear friend Anita Morgan. Action: Class reps to circulate via WhatsApp so that all who wish can sign.

Our heartfelt best wishes for a speedy recovery for Anita who is at the very heart of our school community.