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FOBS Newsletter

September 2020

Welcome!

Welcome back to those of you returning for another year and welcome to the new families joining our wonderful school! We hope that the past few months have been as kind to you as they could be and that your child/children have settled back in to school!

Fundraising went completely out of the window at the beginning of March. The cake raffle stopped, we missed out on the summer fete, last day of term ice creams and the 'carty party' we had arranged for the children and we had to stop the recycling schemes.

We're keen to get things going again, so please watch this space for news about the cake raffle starting up next week and see right for an update on the recycling schemes.

We'll have the FOBS AGM in the coming weeks where we'll review what we did manage to do last year, get our charity status application submitted and appoint a new committee. We'd love to have you join us at our virtual /social distanced meetings. It's a great way to make friends and get involved in helping the school to provide the extra bits and bobs that normal funding can't cover.



In the mean time there's still **Easyfundraising** as a way to raise money for the school. There's no cost to you. You earn donations from the shops you do your online shopping with. Visit easyfundraising.co.uk and search for "Friends of Bradfield School, Manningtree" to join our cause. Then, download the toolbar app or the mobile app and visit all your usual shopping sites through the apps to activate the donation. Last year we raised about £50 – every penny helps!

For those new to the school... let me tell you a bit about our recycling schemes...

We have linked up with a company called Terracycle to recycle hard to plastic packaging. Family and friends of the school collect certain types of packing (see list below) and, before lockdown, brought it to school and put it in our recycling bins located in the car park. Our merry band of volunteers sorted and flattened the packaging, crammed it in to boxes and sent it off to Terracycle who then paid us in return. We also recycle old clothes, shoes, belts and bags.

As we had to stop the Terracycle scheme at the start of lockdown we have a huge backlog to try and clear. This will take hours of volunteer time. To help us get through it all, and start earning money for FOBS again please sort and flatten your recycling into the different streams.

As crisp packaging is the bulk of the recycling we invited you to bring this in on today, **Friday 11th of September**. From now the recycling bin will be back in the car park. Please ensure that your recycling is pre-sorted into the different streams, and packed individually to save us time.

On **Friday 18th of September** we'll have a clothing, shoes and belts etc amnesty – letting you bring your bags of old clothes in to school for us to store for you before our next collection.

Thank you for your support! We'll be back in touch soon!

Recycling



Here's a reminder of the schemes that we have joined that we can earn money from:

- **Crisp packets** - any size, any brand, and including the multipack outer wrapper
- **Pringles tubes and lids** - any size, but only Pringles
- **Nuts and snacks** - popcorn, lentil crisps, peanuts, foil backed plastic nut packaging, rice cakes (any size, including the multipack outer wrapper)
- **Biscuit and cake bar wrappers** - the plastic wrappers from any brand of biscuit, cracker or cake bars, and the multipack cakes and biscuits (incl. cheddars packaging)
- **Personal Care and Beauty packaging** – e.g. packaging from face cleaning wipes, liquid soap pumps, moisturisers, tubes of cleanser
- **Oral hygiene** – tooth brushes (but not ones with batteries in them), heads from electric toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, cardboard cartons from tooth paste tubes
- **Chocolate and sweets wrappers** (any size, any brand)
- **Pet food packaging** – plastic, foil backed packaging such as dry food bags or wet food sachets
- **Ella's kitchen baby food / yogurt pouches** (with plastic lids).
- **Home hygiene** - outer flexible plastic packaging of dishwasher tablets/floor wipes, trigger sprays
- **Print cartridge** any type of home print cartridge

Please sort recycling into the different types (as per the list), flattening packaging where possible

Use bread bags, or multipack bags to separate the different types

Wash out wet pet food / baby food and yogurt packaging

NO glass or hard plastic packaging such as meat trays can be recycled

We'll be sorting recycling on Wednesday and/or Friday mornings after drop off. If you could spare 30 minutes every so often please let us know. We'll post in the Bradfield Mums WhatsApp group when we're sorting each week. Full training given!

We need **cardboard boxes** with the dimensions 60 cm x 60cm x 50cm – the recycling company wont accept anything bigger. If you have any, bring them along to the cake raffle shelter.

Help!

Here's a reminder of some of the things we were trying to get build last year... if you think you could help, or know someone who could help, please let us know!



So, here are some photos of the kinds of things we'd like to build

Two years ago the children put in an amazing amount of effort at the FOBS Sponsored Obstacle Race to raise money for outdoor play equipment.

We raised nearly £1000 and used some of the money to pay for a shed to be built to store the things that the kids use at play time – hoola hoops and balls. The rest we'd like to spend on some larger pieces of outside play equipment.

Time has not been kind to us, and we find ourselves, 2 years on with the money in the bank and some brilliant ideas for **equipment** (see photos on the left). We feel that we might be able to build for much less if we could find some handy folk that might be able to help.

One of our FOBS grandparents has offered to help – but we've got quite a lot we want to build.

Please ask around to see if anyone you know might be able to help with:

- Getting the materials at the best possible prices
- Building the equipment
- Installing the equipment

We also still need to put **shelves** up in the shed – perhaps you could help us with that?

