



Friends of Crockerne

Newsletter Spring/Summer 2022

Message from the Chair

I can't quite believe we are in our last term already and with life seemingly returning to our new normal there are lots of exciting events and major changes ahead. This last term is always hectic and incredibly emotional as we bid our year 6's on their way and prepare for a new arrival of inquisitive children. We have immensely enjoyed the easing of the social restrictions and it's been so wonderful to see the school open up again. This became more apparent recently celebrating the Queens Jubilee where parents and carers joined us for Tea and Cake in the playground. We have all missed this human connection so much and it's been joyous to get back to enjoying conversation at the gate. Long may that continue.



Charlotte

(Chair of Friends and Mother of Freya in Year 3)

Smartie Challenge

This was received so brilliantly by all the children carrying out chores and earning coins to go into their tubes. Our sincere thanks go to Sainsburys Winterstoke rd, Tesco in Clevedon and Liberty and the team at the Top Coop for all their donations. Thanks to you, our parents and carers for engaging with this fundraiser and encouraging the children to get involved. We hope you were able to enjoy a nice cuppa in return. Total raised £660.33.

Outdoor Project

We are thrilled to say that our initial outdoor project is now complete. In KS2 an exciting new 10 Metre Climbing wall was installed for our budding explorers. A new creative theatre arts stage area produced by fantastic local Artist Damien Jeffrey and a new coat of paint on the benches has really brightened up the playground. The Crockerne Allotment is now in full swing with four new raised beds erected and Mr Brogan has already engaged the children in planting some seeds and will be guiding them through on how to look after their veg. The biggest transformation comes from the re-turfed seated area in the KS2 playground, giving some lush green grass that the children are loving. In KS1 the Monkey bars have had a new safe flooring installed and a revamp of the paint work. The Nursery has had a new (leak free) storage shed, a sun/shade canopy over the mud kitchen and a sensory digging area built in the playground for the children to really get stuck in. Huge thanks to all the volunteers and the amazing Elmtree Garden contractors who worked tirelessly with us to achieve the desired outcome, we are so very grateful for your input into this project.



Circus

THIS IS IT! Sunday 3rd July 2022 sees us host our very first Circus. Gates will open from 11am on the Chestnut Field (opposite Lodway Cricket Club). There are three showings (12:30, 2:30, 4:30) and plenty of refreshments available. We have joining us Caz's Bay (Caribbean food), North South Eat Best (Hot food van), Bristol 20 (Coffee Box), Ice Cream van, sweet stall and a licensed bar selling alcoholic and soft drinks. We may even have a visit from our fantastic Fire Station crew. We have never attempted anything like this before, so please join us with your full support to make this a huge success for the children. Tickets available on our website <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/crockerne>

Preloved school uniform

If you have any preloved uniform that is still wearable (No holes, marks etc) you wish to donate, please drop it into the box in reception (Laundered and ready to wear if possible). We will be selling school uniform at £2 an item in the playground throughout July.

Goodbye Year 6's

As we count down the final weeks of term our fabulous Year 6's are getting ready to say their good-byes to the Crockerne community. We are thrilled that this year our yr 6's will get to enjoy those pivotal moments to end their Crockerne journey that the last two years have so sorely missed. With camp and the end of year production now in full preparation mode, 'Friends' are also thrilled to be giving them the send-off they deserve in the form of their yr 6 leavers party. I am sure you will all join me in wishing these fantastic children the very best for their onward adventure. We will not only be losing these inspiring children but their parents too, some of which have been vital in fundraising for the Friends of Crockerne over the years. Our sincerest thanks to you all for your hard work and dedication. A new chapter for you all so we wish you, health, happiness and a bright secondary school future.

Goodbye to our Head Teachers

At the end of last term we heard the news that our dedicated and long standing head teachers, Lara Furmidge and Geeta Verrell are both leaving Crockerne. A collective 30-year headship between them guiding this fantastic village school has seen immense challenges and changes through the years for them and I am sure you will join me in thanking them for their years of service to Crockerne, to our Children and to our village. I took on the Chair role in the middle of the pandemic, surrounded by restrictions, barriers and red tape with events seizing instantly and I cannot thank both Lara & Geeta enough for their continued support to me. From our brilliant team at Friends of Crockerne, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks for giving us guided free rein and allowing us to use our fundraising funds in such immeasurable ways. We wish you every inch of success and happiness.

How to contact the PTA

We would love some new members, if you would like to get involved, whether to help at an event, share your ideas, talents or contacts, please get in touch:

Email us: PTA@Crockerne.co.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PTA-Friends-of-Crockerne-256730481033396/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/PTACrockerne>

Our next meeting will be held in The Kings Arms on Tues 12th July at 19:30pm. This will be our final meeting of this academic year. Our AGM will be held in September (Date TBC) at 17:00pm at Crockerne School. A brief summary of the year takes place and new ideas for the year ahead will be discussed. It would be great to see as many of your there as possible, drop us a message if you would like to come along.

PLEASE KEEP ME ON YOUR FRIDGE!

How can you help?

Do you ever shop online?



Did you know with most purchases you make online you could be making money for your child's school? Follow these 4 simple steps to get started:

1. Join www.easyfundraising.org.uk Joining is totally free and it takes 2 minutes.
2. Choose a cause to support – Type in 'Friends of Crockerne' and select 'Support this cause'.
3. Start shopping. There are over 4200 retailers that will donate money to our charity e.g TUI holidays, Tesco, Aviva car ins, John Lewis to name a small few.
4. Once you make your purchase, the retailer will make a small donation to 'Friends of Crockerne'. <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/retailers> go to this link to see, the list is vast and you'll be surprised. By online shopping through this channel you can earn the school valuable funds.



Do you ever shop online with Amazon? Did you know Amazon Smile donates a percentage of all the orders you place with them to your chosen Charity? Its really simple. Instead of ordering through the usual Amazon website you order through Amazon Smile. Follow these simple steps:

1. Visit smile.amazon.co.uk
2. Sign in with your Amazon.com credentials
3. Choose a charity to receive donations – **The Friends of Crockerne C of E Primary School**
4. Select our charity.
5. Start shopping and earning funds for your child's school.

Could you donate goods or services?

Consider whether you or your company could donate goods or services – for instance old iPads or computers, prizes for raffles etc.

Do you work for a company that provides match funding?

Find out whether your company provides 'Match funding' – Some companies (e.g. Banks, Supermarkets, Insurance companies, Utility providers, Phone companies, Car manufacturers etc.) will match the funds raised at an event that their employee attends for a charity of their choice (e.g. Friends of Crockerne as we are a registered charity).

For more info log into <https://www.pta.co.uk/funding/faqs-match-funding>



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