

FUNDRAISING UPDATE FOR OUR GYM TRAIL AND OUTDOOR AREA

Details of what we are fundraising for and why.

As you know we hope to install a fabulous outdoor gym trail and outdoor area to be used as a classroom, and our fundraising has commenced.

Here are a few more details of what we hope to create.

It is hoped to install a gym trail underlain with an impact surface and build a wooden gazebo especially for outdoor learning. The gym trail would extend the current grass play area and woodland trail at the school, and consist of climbing areas, tyre challenges, stepping stones and horizontal ladders.

As well as providing a great play area, this gym trail will also be used to teach gymnastics and promote healthy activity. The design has been professionally commissioned with advice from Premier Sports and the Manager for Physical Education at Suffolk County Council.

The gazebo provides a sheltered area with integral furniture where children can learn outside in all weathers. The opportunity to learn outside enhances part of the curriculum and allows children to experience different conditions and experiences.

These facilities will provide a tremendous resource at the school, which is being extended for use by the wider community.

Unfortunately the school currently has no usable climbing or outdoor gym equipment which is suitable for the wider age range group who will now be using the school grounds.

Over the next 3 years there is going to be significant developments to our site:

1. A new baby and toddler group 'Seedlings', is being established catering for 10 children of pre-school age,
2. The local village Youth Club is moving to the new Community School Hall adjacent to the site. The Youth Club has a membership in excess of 50.
3. Due to the School Organisation Review (SOR) taking place in this part of Suffolk, from 2012/13 academic year our school will take children up to the age of 11, as opposed to 9, which is at present.

With these changes the school wishes to maximise the use of the entire school grounds and provide a stimulating gym trail and outdoor learning facility for the wider age range of children.

Our school is a Healthy School, has an Activemark and has met all of the criteria required by the PE, School sport and Young People Survey. We are passionate about giving our children access to a wide range of physical and healthy lifestyle opportunities.

By opening up the site to a wider age range of children allows more people to benefit.

We are part of the Get Set Olympic network for schools and we are actively using the Olympics to improve learning. By focusing on the 7 Olympic values within our school all the children use these values in every topic of the curriculum.

By creating an outdoor learning space and a new and challenging gym trail where they can develop new skills we will be providing the pupils at the school, the Baby and Toddler Group and the Youth Club as well as the wider community a facility for use well into the future.

In the school reception you will see a chart which maps how we are doing so far. We have had such generous support, from both local business and local council as well as our neighbouring village. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE. As you can image we still have a way to go. The PTFA have pledged to raise £1,000 (in addition to their usual fundraising) so watch this space for news of lots of fun, fundraising activities in the next few months.

The Pupil Council have pledged to raise £100 (please see minutes from their last meeting below) so I hope that they are continuing to work hard whilst at home, completing chores for their parents/grandparents/friends/neighbours etc.

Awards for all Application

We have submitted an Awards for All (Lottery) application. Keep your fingers crossed!

Our application for lottery funding has been submitted for **£9895.00**.

We have taken the opportunity to apply for a grant towards the new gym trail AND an outdoor classroom. Pledges and sponsorship have started to come in and see the new poster in the school's entrance.

We will hear if we have been successful in 30 days!

Pupil Council Minutes (including their fundraising ideas)

Pupil Council Meeting - 16th January 2012

Present: Alex Peacock (Chairman), Oliver Townsend

(Vice- Chairman), Grace Baxter (Treasurer), Erin Barbrook,

Ella Smith, Annabel Ball, Rachel Chinery and Mrs Coster (Secretary).

1. Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting on 24th November 2011 were read and it was agreed that this was what had happened. The Chairman signed a copy of them.

2. Matters arising:

- Rachel had made a card for Mr Poole.
- Erin had thanked her Granny and they had made more gift labels for the Christmas Fair.
- The Pupil Council stall at the Fair had made £18.20. Miss Boxall ran the Guess the Number of Reindeer Droppings and Caroline's daughter from Corncraft had won the Find Rudolph Competition.
- So far we have not done anything about the countries we agreed to support in the Olympics. Mrs Coster and Miss Johnson will think about this and start planning.

3. Climbing Frame:

When the Inspector came to check that our PE equipment was safe to use he decided that the climbing frame was no longer in a safe condition.

The pupils agreed that they would still like climbing and play equipment.

4. Fundraising ideas:

- Erin suggested we hold a Fun Day on a Saturday on the field and children pay to come and play on the bouncy castle and play games. We could ask Mr Lambert if he would be a goalkeeper for Beat the Goalie.
Everyone thought it was a good idea for the summer term.
- Mrs Coster suggested that we give all the pupils a tube of Smarties which they can eat and then ask them to fill the tube with coins.
Past pupils would be invited to join in with this too.
Everyone thought this was a good idea too.
Grace and Alex offered to write the letter to go home with the tubes and Mrs Coster agreed to buy the tubes of Smarties.
- Rebecca had suggested to Rachel that we sell the spare fruit on a Friday to raise money. Mrs Coster agreed to talk to the parents about this at the PTFA meeting on Wednesday.
- We could hold a cake stall to raise money.

The meeting finished at 3:15 p.m. because it was time to go home.