

ECSA (ECS PTA) Annual General Meeting October 2020

Dear Parents, Carers, Teachers and Staff,

Thank you very much to everyone who attended the AGM last week. It was great to have a record number of parents attend and to see many new faces. Apologies for the length of the meeting but it was so useful to hear new ideas and new voices in these unprecedented times that are hampering our traditional fundraising.

We would like to take this opportunity to share the key points from the AGM:

1) The Committee 2020/2021 was voted in:

Secretary -Anne Lotte

-Lucy Lanigan

Treasurer -Jenni Baldwin

-Charlotte Ashton

Head of Class Representatives –Alison Mohamed

Head of Communication –Lucy Cudmore

Head of Sponsorship –VACANT

Chair Person -a committee member will take on this role on a rolling basis throughout the year

2) Finances:

- Fundraising was significantly reduced last year as expected by the Covid Pandemic. We did manage to have 2 fantastic events. The ever popular Christmas Bazaar and the Quiz which together raised £6272. Thank you so much to our volunteers for organising these events and for your dedication and hard work
- We have started the 2020/2021 year with £11,000 of uncommitted funds

3) Funding has been agreed for the following projects:

- **The Story Project** – the ECSA has agreed to fund about £420 for books which will be used in this project which aims to improve the emotional wellbeing and literacy skills of children throughout the school to live happy and healthy lives and achieve their best results academically.
- **Smart Board Replacements** – two were agreed in the last school year and a third has now been agreed at this year's AGM (£2,000 each). These are of huge importance in all years for teaching and at the moment imperative for allowing cross year bubble interactions and school assemblies.
- **Library Space** – The Eden Building will be re-developed into a vibrant, child-centred library holding up to 3,000 books. This exciting project will provide a much wanted space for children to have access to a wider selection of books, read in a lovely environment and grow as happy, confident readers. Miss Knothe (Y5) is leading this initiative and will soon provide more information about this great project! It is estimated that the library will cost £15,000-£20,000 plus books and for this, funding is

being sought from the ECSA. (Space will be retained in the Eden Building for music and clubs).

4) Current Fundraising Initiatives/Events:

- **The ECS P.E. Challenge** – a fun sponsored P.E. Challenge is taking place in the week commencing 9th November. Children across all years will choose a challenge to take on during their P.E. lesson and we ask that you and your family and friends support your child by sponsoring them (more details to follow after half term). Thank you to Lucy Cudmore and Carol Jenkinson for organising this.
- **Christmas Cards** – the children have all created their designs and order forms will be sent home in November for you to order your personalised Christmas cards. Thank you to Betsy Pearson for continuing to organise this.
- **Second Hand Uniform Sales** – there has been some early morning sales and there will be a bigger sale taking place after half term. Thank you Daisy Brummitt and Anna Carswell.
- **Christmas Quiz** – thank you to Gareth Hare for agreeing to produce this year's quiz sheet which will be available to buy in December to do over the festive period.

5) Other Fundraising Ideas:

- Auction of Promises
- Mufti Day with the option to pay to break a school rule!
- Smartie Challenge
- Christmas Disco/Movie/Kids Mall
- Readathon
- School Tea Towel

These are all being considered further, but any other fundraising ideas anyone has, please contact us as we would love to support more events

6) Current Vacancies and Help Required:

- ECSA Secretary (shared role)
- Sponsorship
- Advertising
- Social Media Support
- Website Manager
- Event Organisers/Helpers

7) Ways to Donate to the ECSA:

- Amazon Smile (www.smile.amazon.co.uk) – register at Amazon Smile to support ECS and every time you make a purchase via Amazon Smile, a contribution will be made by Amazon to ECSA.
- Scopay – ECSA Voluntary Donation
- Corporate Match Funding – many companies will support your fundraising efforts if you help with an ECSA event.
- Easyfundraising.org.uk (all monies paid direct to school, not ECSA) – please visit this website to see which companies will make a contribution to ECS when you spend money.

8) Ways to get in touch:

- Email yourecsa@gmail.com or ECSA.Finance@mail.com
- Chat to your class rep

We are confident that we can pull together as a community (albeit within Covid restrictions!) to continue to support our brilliant school and, this school year, build a library as soon as possible.

The ECSA Committee