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**FROGS MEETING**
**FRIDAY 19 JANUARY 2024** – **9AM SCHOOL**

Attendees: Neela (head), Magnus (treasurer), Lea (chair), Nicola S. (year4/committee member), Caroline (secretary)

In green are all the projects that we need help with, please get in touch if you can help!

**1. FINANCIAL UPDATE**

> **Cooking supplies** list from Barley from Ikea £830. Barley has found a place to store this (a cupboard in the staff classroom) and is planning to order soon. Approved spend.

> **5-11 February Children’s mental health week** £320 approved spend. Nat and Debbie organising.

> **5+ litter pickers** Ordered and delivered to the school.

> **Reserves policy**. Charity Commission guidance requires us to have a reserves policy setting out how much money we will hold in reserve at any one time and why. – agreed on £ 3,000 as a minimum at the time. Can go under or over if needed on an ad hoc basis.

> **Google Enterprise** **account** (Magnus & Rob) – to set up in time for next school year if possible

> **School to send invoices for the following, see financials**: Funded team; Cake sale class treats; Nursery Reception Refurb; Flipcharts; blinds for kitchen & art room (using remainder of fan fundraiser); play bark. Neela and Léa will take pictures of nursery refurb and flipcharts.

> **Cost Panto trips** funding tickets for those who can’t afford them if needed – we can release our £400 reserve as parents have paid additional for the ones who couldn’t afford it.

> **Hardship fund** school to confirm how much is left if anything. Plan is not to do hardship fund again but to focus on food bank and help for specific trips/clubs etc – tba

**2. OUR THREE MAIN PROJECTS THIS YEAR**

> **Hall transformation – to be completed by the end of this school year**- Curtains: hiding the storage area & installing divider curtain so hall can be used by after-school club and enrichment clubs at the same time for example (Léa). Final quote: The Curtain and Blind Company Limited: both curtains £3,500 (plus VAT). Is it ok to order this? – agreed to do this.

- Hall mural: (Toby Marsh/Jenny) – they will send some ideas next week; should only need to pay for paint, parents help will be needed
- AV System: FROGS to buy new AV system for the school hall, which is a big item on the technology fundraiser wish list and will benefit the entire school. (David S to advise). – Speakers are ok, need new sound system, screen and projector and system, have the school IT person that can connect devices – budget tba – screen and projector seems to be min £2,000.

> **Woodland Play Area Project – Phase 1 to be completed by the end of this school year**

We can plan this in several stages starting with Phase 1 with a budget of around £10,000, using some of our reserves and the £2,300 already raised. Once we have a clear plan with items and costs we can update the fundraiser page and see if we can get more donations in. We are meeting next week to discuss options and priorities for this year and how to best use the space and green it up.

**> Reading room project £1,500-£2,000 –** **to complete for World Book Day in March?**

Quiet space on first floor just above library. Needs decorating to make it cosy; new cushions for Ikea armchairs. Plus filing system for Read Write Inc resources. We could also add a nice feature wall with wallpaper (20% discount; David H to install it for us). Léa will cost up & liaise with. Neela will check if we can get 10 chairs donated and fix table.

Other potential project depending on us finding a blacksmith
> **Ironmonger’s charity grant** deadline March 2024.

Does anyone know a blacksmith who could work with the children on a design for a fence? Would look nicer. This would be fully funded by a grant.

**3. FUNDRAISERS**

**Current fundraisers:**

- Tesco token fundraiser for outdoor sports equipment (Léa). Waiting to hear how much we will have won and then we can order a basketball hoop and football goals – ending end January

**Fundraiser ideas but no volunteers to organise:**- Silent auction? 1 prize from Creative Mash.

- Rainbow raffle for Easter?

**School:**

- Hackney Half – school is now signed up for the children event this year and looking into various ways of involving the parents

**Next year:**

- Léa wants to focus on Grasmere cookbook & Grasmere tea towels fundraisers so we will need new volunteers to take over organising events such as winter fair and jumble sales.

**4. OTHER PROJECTS**

**> Banners from Albion Road entrance.** School looking into banner and will pay for this themselves. We could add metal signs but waiting to know more about plan for front entrance.

> **Acoustic panels** to be installed on ceiling to change the atmosphere of the hall. It would transform lunchtimes etc. School keen to do this; longer-term project as likely to be a big amount; might be grants for it. (David S) £10,000. can we get grants for this project? Tba for next year.

**> FROGS banner** for kids to take pictures of in front on first day of school every year.
Need to get cost of banner and stand – need volunteer to get quotes in

**>** **KS2 Wall painting toilet block to finish climbing wall**- Megan will coordinate volunteers on a Friday or Saturday. Veronika to check paint colours. Need to buy paint etc.

**3. EVENTS**

**Friday 26 January:** Cinema night (Caroline, Nicola) – needed volunteers to sign up next week

**5-11 February Children’s mental health week** Yoga/wellbeing workshops (Nat, Debbie)

**Tuesday 27 February:** Pub quiz for parents (Andrew, Karen, Nicky, Nicola)

**Thursday 29 February:** Leap Day/Frog Day. Coinciding with the school’s first Relaxed day. Neela will ask staff what they like to do – decorate the garden? Have a bouncy castle?Ideas welcome!

**7 March World Book Day** Author visit TBC (Emmy). Bookmark Workshop? tba

**10-19 March - Science Week** Lea has emailed Jess the science lead regarding [Kaplaclubs](https://kaplaclubs.co.uk/) (costs £5 per child and involve each class building a giant Kapla construction in the main school hall), Happy Square and Stem ambassador (waiting to hear back from Jess) tba

**Saturday 16 March:** Jumble sale (Lea & Jay). Check with BHF new shop in Dalston if they could pick up leftovers (Jay) & Hackney Baby Bank. Can do books with app as usual. Separate clothes collection booked but can be cancelled. Did we get paid for last one? Tba

**Wednesday 27 March:** Easter Egg hunt (Jay & Nicola, Gill supermarket donations?) tba

**SUMMER TERM**

**Volunteer days** for painting and building TBC

**May:** Circus/Beatbox workshops after the exams? (Lea/Nicola)

**June:** Enterprise fair 14th June – volunteer organiser needed; Dolly (kitchen team) has offered to cook curry to sell as takeaways like last year.

**July:** Summer fair 13th June (Megan & Sally) & End of year Mr Bubbles

**Possibly International day,** usually organised by school. TBC. A day where kids bring bread from their own country to class, and free picnic after school. Would be after Ramadan too.

**6. OTHER IDEAS/FEEDBACK/QUERIES**

**Using calendar on Schoolping for current parents?** School says Hackney is suggesting they move to a different system which would include text messages so tba.

**Greenpeace’s Big Plastic Count:** to be added to school events by Neela

**Parents sharing their skills:**

- Simone has offered to help train kids to produce a dance show but there’s no space to hold rehearsal at lunchtime or breakfast time until we install a divider curtain in the hall.

- Georgie can help organise concerts through her world music charity, she’s offered to organise some oud/Arabic music workshops by Israeli-Palestinian artist Saied Silbak which would cost around £300 for whole school, cheaper if just an assembly – school keen but later in the year.

**Library help:** Offered to pay someone (TA) a few hours each term to help manage the library. – need to find out how much and if any TA wants to be a volunteer.

**Google volunteers:** School chasing this – bc of safeguarding school needs to organise rather than FROGS. They are also asking them about computers etc.

**Makerspace/ Blue container/ Old library wall murals/stairs**

Paused until we learn more about ownership of building and front garden and grants.

**7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** Wednesday **13.03.2024**