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SOUTH DARLEY C.E.  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



News  
from

FRIENDS OF SOUTH DARLEY SCHOOL

Spring 2024

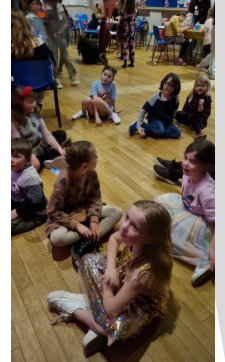
Welcome to the Spring 2024 edition of the Friends of South Darley School Newsletter, bringing you all the news!



## Valentine's Disco

We held the Valentine's Disco on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February just before half term in the Village Hall. The hall looked very appropriate with heart shaped balloons and fairy lights and Mr Wilde did a great job with the disco including favourite numbers that the children had voted for.

With games like musical statues, best dance and musical islands as well, they all had a great time. For the parents, we had a bar selling wine, beer and G&Ts as well as coffees and teas, and this was a big success. The tuckshop and badge-making organised by Sophie Maher was also very popular, Takings were over £200, so it was a very good fund-raising event as well as great fun. Many thanks to everyone who helped with setting up, running the bar and tuckshop and tidying up afterwards.



## Christmas Fayre

This was held on December 8<sup>th</sup> and was much anticipated as there had not been a Xmas Fayre since before the pandemic lockdowns. The school was taken over with stalls mainly run by the children (and we had a committee meeting of children a few weeks earlier to help decide on the stalls) with support from parents and staff. Parents, friends and local businesses were very generous with donations of bottles, cuddly toys and other prizes for the stalls. Santa in his grotto (in Mrs Manning's office) was kept busy with requests, and the candy floss stall (thank you to Garin's mum who was busy all afternoon) was very popular. As well as cake stalls, craft stalls and games stalls, we had mulled wine and hot chocolate on offer to keep things seasonal.

We had a fantastic donation of mince pies from Sainsbury's which gave us enough left over to share with parents after the Nativity Play the following week. At the end of an afternoon which was fun for everybody, Steve our Treasurer added up the takings, calculating the profit as being a little over £600. (and this is how things like the new playground markings get paid for).



# Donors

Many local businesses generously donate to help the fund-raising work of the Friends of South Darley School. We'd just like to name and thank them (they do get thank you letters as well!)

Co-Op Matlock and Darley Dale Stores  
Sainsbury's Matlock  
Spar Two Dales  
Maazi Indian restaurant  
Heights of Abraham  
Gulliver's Kingdom  
Chatsworth  
National Stone Centre  
Peak Adventure Indoor Play  
Matlock Farm Park  
Peak Wildlife Park



We'd like to particularly thank the Co-op who have made us one of their two local causes that will be supported by their Local Community Fund. They will make a series of payments during the year that mean we will be able to enhance the school playground with planters that the children can get involved in planting with flowers, fruit and vegetables and we hope to start a school gardening club.

Co-op members have already raised a fantastic £964.52 for FOSDS PTA so far.

The Co-op want all the good causes they are supporting to promote, share on social media and encourage friends, family and supporters to choose FOSDS PTA as their preferred charity.

Members just nominate us as their charity and we get 2p for every £1 they spend on Co-op goods, when they swipe their Co-op membership card. This works at any Co-op, not just the local ones, so you can get Co-op shoppers from all over the UK to support us.

Our cause page is here:

<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/83074>

It is easy to join as a member which costs just £1 and gives other benefits. This also works within the app.

## Grants

South Darley Parish Council have kindly made a grant of £150 that will go towards Forest School equipment and facilities.

The Ernest Bailey charity have kindly made a grant of £175 that will go towards the school gardening project.

## Sum Up Machine

We invested in a SumUp machine just before the Christmas Fayre, this means we can take card payments rather than always asking for cash (and also needing cash floats). The Treasurer is very pleased with this, as are we all. It does rely on a good wi-fi connection so we need to check our location before using it but having now used it at the Xmas Fayre and the Valentine's Disco, it does make taking money easier for everybody especially if you don't have the right cash on you!

## School Uniform Sales

A reminder that we also have a rolling second hand uniform sale where parents can buy pre-loved (and some new with tags attached) items for **just £1 each**.

Every piece of uniform your child requires for school is available to buy – from red PE shorts and logo-ed white polo shirts to trousers and summer sun dresses – from brands such as John Lewis, Next and Marks and Spencer among others.

To have a look at the 200- plus items of uniform available to buy, you can download the list and order form from the school website:

<https://southdarley.derbyshire.sch.uk/page/?title=FOSDS7pid=33>

or email us at [FOSDSPTA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FOSDSPTA@GMAIL.COM) for an up-to-the-minute inventory.

We offer a no quibble refund, upon return, if the items aren't 100% right.

If you have uniform you wish to donate, please just drop it off freshly washed and bagged up, to the school office.

More than £100 has been raised for FOSDS through second hand uniform sales so a big thank you to everyone who has bought or donated.

***Big thanks to Mary Murtagh from the rest of the committee for all her work on grants, charities and the school uniform sales programme.***

## School Play

The FOSDS ran a coffee/ tea shop and bar before and during the intervals of '**The Wizard of Oz**' on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of March. This was very popular and the volunteers who ran it got to enjoy the play three times over as well! The initial 'summing up' from the Treasurer indicates that we made over £350 from doing this.

Many thanks to the team of volunteers who staffed the bar!

The funds raised from activities so far this year, means that we are well on our way to starting the large planters for the playground which means that the playground will look more attractive and the school can start a gardening club. We have also bought a trolley for the use of the forest school and will be buying more equipment for forest school as well.

