

November 2020

Dear parents/guardians,

I hope you & your family are all keeping well during these unprecedented times. All the team at FOCHS are pleased that the children have been allowed to return to school this term as it gives them a much needed sense of normalcy & contributes to their overall well-being.

Unfortunately due to Covid-19, this year has been markedly different & we are unable to carry out our normal range of activities. However, the team have been working hard to be creative & in consultation with school, we have come up with an alternative set of events/activities that will hopefully continue to enhance the children's time at school in the run up to Christmas.

During the first half of Autumn term, FOCHS funded additional Wet Play toys for all classes across the school which has been well received by the children. In the second half of Autumn term, FOCHS will focus on 3 events/activities which all adhere to government/social distancing guidelines. Please find below some more detail in terms of how each of these events/activities will run:

1)The Christmas basket raffle (starting this week)

This raffle will be run in a Covid-19 secure manner. All parents will receive an email with a Christmas basket raffle ticket. This raffle is for the chance to win one of the five lovely Christmas baskets that will be on display around the school. The children normally get very excited about this event & the chance to win one of the baskets. If you would like your child/ren to have a chance of winning, please print out the raffle & fill in your child's name & class. It is £3 per entry. Payment online only – no cash will be accepted. Please include your child's name & class in the reference. Online payment details for FOCHS have been included at the end of this letter. Once you have paid, please return your completed raffle ticket to your child's teacher & they will pass it onto FOCHS. Miss Barnard will draw the winning raffles in Assembly before the end of term.

2)FOCHS Virtual Online Giftshop (orders will be taken in class next week)

Instead of a physical Christmas Giftshop this year, FOCHS will be running a remote shop as this is an event the children normally love. There will be a selection of gifts suitable for adults & children on offer – ten gifts in total. Each gift will be priced at £3. As a general rule, each child will be limited to 3 gifts so total maximum spend would be £9. Each class teacher will be responsible for taking gift orders in their class-so there will be no mixing of bubbles. Classes will be shown a PDF gift brochure of the ten gifts by their teacher next week & the children will then select their gift options. I'd like to stress that this is a purely optional activity so there is no pressure to participate. If you would like to opt out, please just let your child's teacher know & they will not take an order from your child next week-thank you! All order taking will finish by Friday 13th November – sincere apologies but we will not be able to accept any orders after this date. Once all orders are taken, they will be filtered back to FOCHS. FOCHS will then request payment from parents via the class rep system/ email. Parents will then need to make payment online-no cash will be accepted. Please include your child's name & class in the reference. Once payment has been made, FOCHS will purchase the gifts. Bagged gifts will be returned to each class after quarantine & teachers will hand them out to the children in the week beginning 30th Nov 2020. Overall, FOCHS are managing this event but will not be onsite

3)Visit from Santa with a gift (class bubble Christmas lunches to be organised)

'Santa' will visit the children in their class bubbles during Christmas lunch & provide each child with a little present from FOCHS. He will adhere to social distancing & all Covid-19 guidelines.

I hope the children enjoy these activities & they manage to spread a bit of festive cheer around the school. Anyway, if you have any questions about any of these events/activities, please do not hesitate to speak to any member of FOCHS.

Thank you & take care during lockdown 2.

Best wishes,

Your team at FOCHS X

Online payment details for FOCHS

Friends of Coopersale Hall School. Sort code 20-52-74. Account 30405256

Please include your child's name & class in the reference with any payment you make to us. Thank you!