

BSA Spring Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

This newsletter is to update you on recent and future BSA events and to give you an overview of how the school is planning to spend the money that we have all raised. Thank you all very much as always for your continued support.

FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Last term...

We have had a very busy few months! The bigger events included Bourn to Run, Movie Night, Christmas Capers, the Christmas Giftshop and Christmas Cards, which together raised nearly £12,000 for the school.

As well as organizing the events listed above, the BSA served refreshments after Friday assemblies and at events such as the Christmas plays and the opening of the new classrooms.

Parent and children volunteers have been spending Saturday and Sunday mornings working hard to bring the Nature Reserve back to its former glory, with a view to reopening the reserve after the Easter holidays, so that children can benefit once again from such a lovely place to enrich their learning and play. Work has included clearing away brambles, branches and clearing out the pond. New volunteers would be very welcome; please contact Verity at school or at bsa@bournschool.co.uk if you and your children would like to help.

This Term...

We have now set dates for events for the rest of this term as follows:

Movie Night – Thursday 6th March

Quiz – Friday, 14th March

Mothers Day Giftshop – Wednesday 26th March

Nature Reserve Opening – Friday 25th April

More details for all events will be sent out in due course.

SPENDING

Last term...

Last term's main expenditure was on the markings on the lower playground, which appear to have been a huge success, as there are so many different and creative ways that the children can play on them. The BSA also paid for a puppet show for everyone in KS2 and for the refreshments for children and parents following the opening of the new classrooms.

This Term...

The main expenditure this term and next will be on ICT equipment and an outdoors sporting/recreational project.

The ICT expenditure is likely to be in the form of additional classroom and portable tablets and laptops, so that the school is well resourced to meet the new computing element of the curriculum which will be effective from September 2014. The ICT governors are in the process of finalizing their proposals for what they would like to buy.

The school pledged to use a significant proportion of the money raised by Bourn to Run to fund a sporting or recreational project and options are being considered by the school and the BSA – as soon as a decision has been made we will let you know. As always, the focus is on ensuring that BSA money is used to fund projects that could not otherwise be afforded by the school and should always be something that can be of direct benefit to the children.

Also, this term a friendship bench painted by the pupils will be installed in the upper playground, which be paid for by the BSA.

NOTICES

Secondhand Uniform – we will continue to sell this on the first Friday of every month. Uniform will be laid out in the medical room before school and will be available to purchase all day. We are looking for donations of new logo uniform, so please do pass them on if you have any items that no longer fit. Items can be given directly to Mark Rowbotham or Sally Baker or via the school office.

Easyfundraising - The reason we keep pushing this is because it is really is so easy! When you next shop online, please, please log in to www.easyfundraising.co.uk and select Bourn School Association as your chosen charity.....then go via the Easyfundraising website whenever you shop online and you will be making money for the school. Alternatively, you can install an Easyfundraising reminder that pops up on your screen (when you have for example logged into Marks and Spencer), to ask if you want to make a purchase via Easyfundraising. Thank you!

Class assembly refreshments – Would you consider helping to serve refreshments after your child's Friday assemblies, once a term? It is a very easy way of being a BSA volunteer and only takes about 20 minutes before and after the assembly. Ideally we would like two volunteers per class. If you think you might be able to help, please contact Katherine Reid at bsa@bournschool.co.uk or speak to any BSA committee member.

Running Club - Runners meet Mondays (beginners/returners) and Wednesdays (intermediate/experienced), led by experienced runners Hannah Hodgson and Julie Pashley. It is a great way of keeping fit whilst catching up with other parents. It costs £2 per run, all proceeds go to the BSA. If you are interested, just turn up on the day, or contact Hannah or Julie via bsa@bournschool.co.uk.

BSA Committee meetings – the BSA Committee and regular volunteers meet monthly on a Friday at 1.45pm at school, to discuss events and spending plans. All parents and carers are members of the BSA and are welcome to attend meetings to contribute to planning and discussions, or just to hear what is going on, or to volunteer occasionally. Meetings for the rest of this term are 7th February, 7th March, 4th April. The current committee is as follows: Chair - Katherine Reid, Treasurer - Verity Risby, Secretary - Catherine O'Toole, Voting Members - Vicky Gregory & Jen Hayes. The position of Vice Chair is vacant; please contact Katherine at bsa@bournschool.co.uk if you are interested in finding out more about the role. Our **AGM** with cheese and wine will be on Wednesday 12th March at 7.30pm. An invitation will be sent out nearer the time, but please do put the date in your diaries.

Bourn to Run 2014 – One of the most important BSA events of the year is Bourn to Run. Please note that it will now be taking place on **Sunday, 14th September**. We are delighted that we now have two co-chairs and a group of parent volunteers ready to plan Bourn to Run 2014, who will meet monthly from 12th February. Planning includes sponsorship, leafleting, marshalling, organising the route, car parking and refreshments. Over the next few months, we would really appreciate additional help in these various areas, so please let us know if you are able to lend any support in the lead up to the event or on the day itself.

Kind regards,
Katherine Reid
Chair, BSA