



# Spring Newsletter

What a fun autumn term we had! As you know, Friends of Balliol- our PTA- run lots of fundraising campaigns during the school year to raise money for the school. Friends of Balliol have continued to support the school community, organising exciting events that have not only been great experiences for our children, but help us to partially fund future school trips. Most of our funds help to reduce the cost of school trips to parents as we help to pay for coaches- and sometimes the trips themselves. This means every child benefits from the work we all do.

## Our year so far...

We started the year with our ever-popular Christmas card event, which the children love doing. This year we made £343 from our budding artists.

Next up was our Halloween disco. This was the first time we have been able to run one in years- and all the children had a very spooky time! Thank you to all of you who donated decorations- it made the experience really special and those of you who gave your time to supervise. Along with cakes, our total profit was £668.

Finally we had the Christmas Fayre- one of our favourite events to organise. From the experience itself- Santa was as popular as ever- to the raffle and side stalls there was something for everyone. We raised over £1500, which really helps us to support the school community.

## We continue to need YOUR help!

Easter is round the corner, and we would like to sell our knitted chicks. These are very popular, but we do need more knitted. If you, or anyone you know, can knit, please do help! If you need the pattern, don't hesitate in asking- we would love your support whether it's one chick or twenty!



This Easter we would like to arrange some themed hampers and chocolate ones too. We are asking parents to donate Easter eggs or any other item that would be suitable. We also have letters that can go out to supermarkets to ask for their support. If you can distribute letters, please email Jill: [jill@teachingwithease.co.uk](mailto:jill@teachingwithease.co.uk)

## WE NEED YOU!

To continue to run more events, we need your help- big or small, whether that's helping out on event day, writing newsletters or collecting raffle prizes from local businesses- we would love to hear from you. We have listened to parents who have expressed an interest in helping out but have not been able to attend meetings during the day, and have changed the times to early evening.

Our next open meeting is **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 6pm**. We will be discussing our Easter event and thinking ahead to the summer fayre.

Our AGM is **Wednesday 17th April at 6pm**, and we would love to welcome new faces. If you are unable to attend in person, join us on a Teams link. We have a friendly WhatsApp and look forward to growing our group.

If you are interested in joining or even seeing how we run, please contact either Mrs Smedley or Mrs Bicknell. You can contact our Chairperson, Jill Creighton, on the above email.

## We hope to see you soon!