

The Friends of Ripley St. Thomas

Newsletter

December 2015

Once again a huge thank you to all pupils, parents and staff who helped out in any way and supported our sixteenth bonfire and fireworks display. It was a great effort from all concerned and the event would not have happened without you. We, the Friends, are very proud of our fundraising achievements, especially this event and thank you for all the encouraging texts and emails to say how much you enjoyed the evening, which are displayed with photos outside the Chaplaincy. We had over 1700 people attend the evening which was down 400 on last year, probably due to other events around town. Our outlay was up on last year too. We invested in new barbeque tops, torches and upgraded the sound system which we hope you agree proved to be money well spent. Last year we raised £5,300. This year we raised £2,971.37, but we still have to add to that total sales of stock which was sold after school. Thank you to those of you who answered the call to bake, 15 volunteered and this made a difference and helped Mrs Kelly keep her sanity.

The winners of the Transport Raffle which was drawn at the October meeting were as follows: £100 Jemima Wallace, £20 T Cheeseman, £20 D Greenwood, £20 No Name, £20 J Whiteside, £20 R Grant.

You helped to raise £1736.80 which will go towards our next new minibus. Thank you to everyone who bought or sold raffle tickets. This year The Friends voted to transfer £3,500 from our current account to the Transport account to try and keep the minibus fund on track. We want your children to be safe in the school mini bus, as we are sure you do.

Chas Jacobs' Print of Ripley School

Christmas is on its way and if you want a present that is just a bit different, The Friends are still selling the Chas Jacobs print of Ripley School. These prints are an on-going project and are excellent value at £39.50 each. You can view it on the school website. If you would like to purchase a picture please fill in the slip below and return to The Friends' box in reception and we will get back to you. Please make cheques payable to The Friends of Ripley School. These prints are being sold at a certain shop in town for £125 so buy from us and have it framed yourself.

Name Parent of Form

We wish to purchase Chas Jacobs print(s) at £39.50 each.

collection from our Harvest Festival Service in October was sent to Funzi Bodo Charity. The food donations were sent to The Olive Branch and Edward Street Homeless Shelter. A big thank you to everyone who contributed, you made a real difference.

The next Friends' event will be the Carol Service held in the Chapel on Wednesday 16 December at 7pm. There was a huge demand for tickets last year and some of you unfortunately missed out. Tickets are free and are now available from the Lodge Reception, Main School Reception and 6th Form Reception so collect early! Once again this year, as well as our usual refreshments, we will be serving mulled wine. We will have a gratuity plate to help cover the cost of the refreshments. Come along and enjoy, we would love to see you.

Forthcoming Events (All meetings in MA8 at 7.00p.m.)

CAROL SERVICE - Wednesday 16 December in the Chapel 7pm

FRIENDS' MEETING - No January meeting

FRIENDS' MEETING - Wednesday 10 February

There is an easy way for you to help The Friends. Do you shop online? If so, log on to www.thegivingmachine.co.uk, register with them and every time you shop online they will give The Friends a cash donation, no strings attached. There are many top name stores including : Curry's, Wallis, Next, Asda, John Lewis, Amazon, Apple, PC World even e-bay! Thank you to those of you who have already registered. Every penny counts.

**THE FRIENDS WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE
A HAPPY AND PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR**

