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WE PROMOTE STAFF WELL-BEING

‘Caring and Achieving Together’

Dear Parents,

The Friends of Catfield Primary and its fund raising is a crucial aspect of our school and pre-school but is under threat!

In the current financial climate, the school is facing a yearly task of ‘balancing the books’. This has meant that over the years we have relied heavily on the Friends and it’s fund raising to be able to keep the school up to date and enjoyable for the children to attend. This year the Friends have funded:

- A new storage shed for Little Owls & another storage shed for play equipment & forest school items*
- Fencing and building resources for a new quiet area on the field.*
- Plants & seeds for the quiet area*
- Books*

Most crucially all school visits are heavily subsidised by the Friends as the cost of transport etc. is ever increasing, here are just some of the trips that the children have been on:

- Pettit’s, Y6 Leavers treat, Weavers way for Forest school, Norwich Castle, Federation Days, Thrigby Wildlife Gardens, Bewilderwood, Hickling Barn Sports day, The Forum Norwich, Gressenhall*

At the moment we are looking to:

- Continue to develop the quiet area on the field, adding a sensory garden and a new sheltered area.*

- Restock our school library which is under strain from our increasing numbers. This would include making a specific area for our pre-school and reception pupils.
- Acquire further resources for Forest Schools – something children from the pre-school up to year 6 all access and find invaluable.
- And of course, continue to heavily subsidise school trips and treats.

Without the Friends, resources for the children will dwindle which will make learning and teaching a difficult feat!

The Friends is currently without a committee, which to meet guidelines requires at a minimum a Chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer. We are pleading with all of you to consider taking on one of these roles otherwise the Friends will have to fold – something that we as a school just cannot afford.

The chairperson provides leadership for the committee, sets the agenda for meetings and manages meetings in line with the agenda. They do not have to commit to organising any Friends events or take on a larger role other than chairing meetings and being the front face for the Friends.

The secretary ensures that the PTA runs smoothly taking minutes and overseeing making bookings etc. for events.

The treasurer's role is to manage and control the funds the PTA raises.

We meet as a whole Friends committee once every half term (more if there are major events or decisions to be made) and so the role is not too time consuming. The PTA will be meeting again Thursday 12th October @ 3.15pm. Please either come along (cool club available for child care if required) or show your interest by letting either a member of staff or someone who is attending the meeting know. If nobody steps forward we will have to make some difficult decisions about folding the Friends!

Many thanks

Natalie Butcher Head of School