



HELLO!

Introducing FOSS



WHO/WHAT IS FOSS?

FOSS stands for Friends of Stepgates School. We are a registered charity set up to support the school in additional fundraising. We are made up of parents, grandparents, other family members, friends in the community and ex-pupils. FOSS isn't a "committee" or "group" that you need to be a member of – it's all of us!

WHAT WE DO...

FOSS support and organise a number of activities throughout the year. Some of those to raise vital funds and some to simply reward and celebrate Stepgates children and their families. Here are a sample of some events that take place throughout the year:

- Themed discos
- Mother's Day & Father's Day stall
- Summer Fair
- Black Cherry Fair procession float
- Elfridges shopping stall at Christmas
- Coin Trail
- Break the Rules day
- Goose Fair stall
- Table-top sales
- Second-hand uniform sales
- After school ice cream sales
- Ad hoc serving of refreshments at various school organised events

Additionally, we raise funds through companies.

For example:

- Stampastic is a personalised stamp usable on fabric, metal, wood and some plastics. 30% of the sale is donated directly to FOSS.
- Easy Fundraising is an easy way to raise funds with any purchase you make online. There are nearly 3,000 retailers on board ready to make a donation, including

Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, Go Compare, Screwfix, eBay, Ocado and Sainsbury's; the list is huge and it doesn't cost you a penny extra! Head to www.easyfundraising.com and follow the instructions. It is so simple and has the potential to raise a huge amount for the school.

100% of the money FOSS raises goes directly to enhance the learning, welfare and entertainment for the children of Stepgates - present and future.

WHERE THE FUNDS HAVE GONE BEFORE...

- School swimming pool donations
- Classroom enhancements for each class
- PA system
- Playground reading shed
- Forest School equipment
- Annual school pantomime
- Hi-vis safety vests for class trips
- Classroom fans and cover during hot weather
- Year 6 leavers hoodies
- Heavily subsidised class trips
- Playground equipment including benches, recycling facilities, plants, games and footballs
- After school/lunchtime club equipment
- Lockdown support materials

WHAT WE ASK...

- Mainly, we ask for just a little bit of your time every now and then. By volunteering even an hour can make such a huge difference!
- Disco help (decorating the hall and/or helping for a short time during the disco)
- Summer Fair (helping beforehand, helping on a stall on the day)
- Other activities throughout the year – Easter, Mother's Day, Christmas fun, other ad hoc and seasonal activities
- Black Cherry Fair (helping beforehand and/or on the day)
- Start using Easy Fundraising for all online purchases
- Order clothes stamp through Stampastic
- Your new ideas! Any particularly handy skill that could help with any of the events?
- Join us for a meeting and make your voice heard
- Join the WhatsApp group to keep up to date
- Like our Facebook page to stay up to date on all the events – search "Friends of Stepgates School"
- Meet us! Talk to us! It's such a great way to be involved with school life and to meet new people.

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Thank you