



Hello everyone

Welcome to 2018, we hope the start of the year has been good despite the ever changing weather!

Following on from the thank you letter we sent in December and last week's school newsletter we would like to make sure that each class has a 'class rep' whose role will be to communicate messages from the school and the Friends of Ellingham to all parents. They will also, organise the rota for school fairs, support collection of mufti donations and attend termly parent forum meetings or send a representative from the class. If you think that you have the time for this role and would be interested in taking it on, can you please contact the school office or place your contact details in the Friends of Ellingham Post Box by Friday 2nd February. We really appreciate your support with fulfilling this very important role for the school.

Future fundraising and events

Along with the summer fair in July, we intend to have a spring disco and possibly a parent's only event such as a quiz night to raise funds for our children. Feedback following the Spooky disco proved that we have capacity issues. We therefore intend to split the disco into 3 with the aim of making sure everyone can attend. Our intended time slots will look something like this:

4.30pm-5.15pm – Nursery and Reception – Parents to stay with children

5.30pm-6.30pm – Years 1 & 2 - Children can be left if required

6.45pm – 8.15pm – Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 – Children to be left

We hope this will make the disco more accessible to everyone and give more room for extra tickets to be purchased for siblings. Once we have sorted the finer details and date we will update you.

We would also welcome feedback on whether a parent's only evening event would be well attended. A separate survey will be circulated for this.

We will be donating £10 to each class this term. The children, teachers and parents can decide what this will be spent on. In addition to this there will be the opportunity to 'grow' this money by fundraising yourselves. Each year group will also be allocated a week where they can organise a fundraising activity on one of the days after school (such as a cake sale). The profits of this will be split equally between the two classes in that year. It is vitally important that each class has a representative who is willing to organise these events. Dates will be circulated soon.

Committee vacancy

The role of secretary for the committee is still vacant. The role profile detailing the responsibilities with the main area being maintenance of our social media was sent out with last weeks newsletter. If anyone would like to find out more or put themselves forward for it, please get in touch.

Thank you all again for your continued support.

Morgana, Vicky, Dave, Clare and all at Friends of Ellingham

REMINDER of how to raise funds simply by shopping!

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be collecting free donations for Friends of Ellingham and the school.

There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline and Sainsbury's – it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofellingham/> and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and the Friends of Ellingham will be really grateful for your donations as will the children of the school that our funds go towards helping.

Thank you for your continued support and happy shopping!