

## **REMINDER: Friends of Nercwys School AGM, 20th November 2014 at 3.20pm at St Mary's Nercwys School**

10th November 2014

Dear Mums and Dads,

As another year rolls on by and we all start wondering where on earth 2014 has gone, the summer seems like a distant memory....all of a sudden the shops are full of things Christmassy, and it is time once again for the Friends (FoNS) AGM.

Firstly let me take this chance to say a big hello to all the new families who have joined our small yet perfectly formed, friendly school. I personally have been a parent at the school for 10 years and have seen 2 of my boys come out the other end and move happily on to The Alun School. They both loved their time at Nercwys School and I came to realise over their time here how fortunate we are to have a school that knows our children so well and encourages each pupil to try their best. Even when it might not be something they think they will be good at. I'm always amazed at the Yr6 Leaver Service how the children are so confident at standing not only in front of their peers but also many adults. They manage to say their piece with aplomb, while we the parents bite our lip! One day you too will understand what I mean! This service, I feel, shows the school at it's best and when you look back at your child's Nursery Year photo as you head off to their Leavers Service you too will see how Nercwys School has done a terrific job.

All this leads me nicely on to the fact that one of the best ways for you to feel a proper part of the school is to play a positive part by coming along to as many of the events or services that you can. Another way, is to help out with FoNS. Often at these events we are the ones running about making cups of tea or deftly arranging biscuits on a plate, or selling raffle tickets. Nothing is very tricky when it comes to FoNS, its a very well oiled machine, but it does require people to help out. This may only be to provide a raffle prize or remember to buy the tea, coffee and sugar, but every little job needs doing. The more people who are able to offer to help the less time it all takes.

FoNS is a group of parents who do their very best to raise as much money for the school. We try to hold a couple of meetings a term to organise events that will be fun for the family or sometimes just the grown ups. The money raised is used by the school to buy extra items needed to support our childrens time at Nercwys School, or sometimes it is used to reduce the price of school trips. For example this term FoNS will pay for the ice-cream at the Panto and the Christmas Party refreshments, prizes and presents from 'You-Know-Who'. You may be interested to know that during 2014 we have provided the following for the children of Nercwys School:

- IPad docking and charging station for the iPads used in school.
- Educational trips to Chester, Erddig and the Celtic Experience in Wrexham, covered the travel costs of these trips.
- Reading books for use by the 'more able and talented' pupils in Yrs 3-6.
- New equipment for use in the school garden, supported the gaining of a successful grant application.

I am very aware that this is a very busy time of year, to be honest, every time is a busy time! But the lead up to Christmas is for some reason very stressful. It is also a very busy time for FoNS as it is our main fundraising period. At the moment we are busy putting together the school calendar for 2015. If you know of a business that would be able to sponsor this please contact me asap as it goes to the printers on Monday 24th of November. The sponsorship has been kept at £20 per business. The calendar will be available for sale on the night of the Christmas Concert.

The Christmas Concert is our main event. It is a wonderful family event, what Nercwys School is all about. After the concert FoNS offers refreshments (the price of which is included in you £1 entry to the concert). During this time we run the Tombolas, sell calendars and raffle tickets. We also draw the raffle. Its a great chance to meet parents and put faces to names you have heard about. As you can see there are quite a few things to be organised beforehand and I know from many years of experience its always a huge relief when you see people leaving carrying a lovely raffle prize.

So if you feel able to help out with any of these preparations or maybe help next year to organise a pub quiz or the Easter Chocolate Bingo Night, please come along on the 20th of November.

Below is a list of things you can do if committees aren't your thing or you are unable to come:

**Sponsor a month on the Calendar** - we need the company's name and phone number which will appear on the calendar and £20 (an invoice and or receipt can be provided if needed.)

**Provide a Raffle Prize** - vouchers, luxury food items for a delicious hamper, Bottles of wine or champagne, a suitable child prize.

**Chocolates and or Bottle for the Tombola** - these items are to be donated on Friday 5th December as payment for an Own Clothes Day. If you are able to help number these items, set them out on the table or run the stall on the night of the concert, please let me know.

**Buy Raffle tickets** - this year they will be priced at 50p per ticket (£2.50 per book) and each family will be given 4 books. If you are a whizz at selling raffle tickets and require more, please ask at the office. All money, stubs and unsold tickets need to be returned by Friday 5th December.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I hope it helps explain the work that goes on behind the scenes and make it sound not too daunting. We are a friendly bunch and really welcome people who are keen to help out and support our school, the children and staff.

If you have any questions please either email me or text or call me: [sarah@crosby.uk.com](mailto:sarah@crosby.uk.com) or 07879635794

Kind regards

Sarah Crosby  
Mum of Adam Yr4 and Chair of FoNS