

Edwinstree School Association Annual Report School year 2023 - 2024

Many thanks go to all the ESA committee, trustees, volunteers, teachers, parents and students who have attended and supported our events throughout the school year 2023-2024.

Events

September Ice Lollies

The new school year started on 5th September with hot weather and with only the year 5's in for the first day we were able to just about meet demand selling ice lollies from our single cool box at the end of the school day. £23.49 was made and introduced the ESA to many new parents meeting their children at the school gate on the first day.

New Friends Disco

22nd September we held a disco for year 5 and 6's to help make new friends. We also had some new ESA committee members and volunteers for this event. £717.33 was raised.

Family Fun Night – Escape Style Challenge

We repeated the same Pirate themed escape style challenge from June on November 10th 2023 and with almost a sold out event we challenged the brain cells and raised £336.83. Joanne has her thinking cap on for another themed escape style challenge coming soon!

Christmas Jumper Swap Shop

In late November children were asked to donate their pre loved Christmas jumpers for a swap shop. This was the first time we had organised this event. 54 items were donated, with 20 finding new homes and owners for Christmas. We sold leftover items at the Buntingford Christmas market and raised £27. We would like to host this event again in 2024.

Buntingford Christmas Market

The ESA had a stall at the Buntingford Christmas market on 1st December 2023. Generous donations of chocolates on a non school uniform day were used to fuel a chocolate tombola which raised £224.50. We also sold Christmas gifts from the textile club (with some addition items made by Mrs Pegrum which raised £30.50).

Christmas Concert

This had been a planned event hosted by Edwinstree with Freman College, but with Mr Wainwright-Meekins ill the event was cancelled late in the day. Mr Barclay and the Freman staff were able to host just the Freman students and since the ESA had already purchased refreshments were invited to Freman college. £78.83 was raised.

Family Quiz

Mr Funnel was our question master this year on 9th February and building on the success of our first quiz, we had more teams entered this year and raised £487.89. The

winning Moulteasers team included several members of last years winning team. We are happy with the format and hope to continue to host a quiz annually.

Pamper Night

We had been organising a pamper night for March, but due to sickness of the main organiser this event was cancelled. A few stall holders donated their stall fees and thus £34.75 was raised. We need to consider if we would like to host this type of event in the future.

Easter Eggs

For the second continuous year the ESA have supplied a small Easter treat to all pupils, spending £163.40.

Spring Disco

Another successful disco on 17th May just after the year 6 finished their SATS. DJ Hayley donated her services once again so £1150 was raised.

Summer Fair

Mrs Van Wyk was keen to build on the success of the previous years Summer Tree't. Along with the Year 8 Leaders more stalls and a dog show were planned. ESA members helped organise the many bottle, chocolate and raffle donations and staffed the refreshment stall. £1327.68 was raised. £1182.40 will be ring fenced for Mrs Van Wyk to spend, with £145.28 going into general ESA funds.

Sports Day

Sadly once again cancelled due to weather conditions.

School Musical

Pupils and staff managed to give two excellent evening performances of Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies 26th & 27th June. Mrs Brock requested if we could try selling tickets this year, rather than just asking for donations on the door. The online Sum Up shop was utilised selling tickets and pre orders for drinks. A raffle was held both evenings.

The ESA made £288.54 on the raffle and £164.12 on refreshments (pre orders were little but worked really well) Ticket sales made £556.72. Expenses for the show, along with money raised from the previous year means that there is £427.40 ring fenced for next year's production.

Year 8 Leavers

The tradition of camping out on the school field continues. The ESA were asked to fund a disco at very late notice. DJ Hayley once again was able to volunteer her services for free. Ice lollies were donated costing £5.12.

Pre Loved Uniform

Joanne is managing collecting donations from school, uploading to the on line shop and storing. She then delivers purchased items to the school office for collection. We also had pop up shops at year 5 and 6 parents evenings and the new Year 5 starters meeting. Sales January to September 2024 have raised £333.28, saved parents an estimated £1332.10 and reused 115 items. Volunteers to help manage the pre loved uniform would be greatly appreciated.

Other Income

Easy Fundraising has generated £182.46 with still only 32 supporters. This is an increase from £81.18 last year but much more could be raised with more supporters. A volunteer to be our Easy Fundraising champion could help us generate more funds. Commission from parents buying Stikins name labels raised £44.03.

ESA Funding

Outdoor Classroom

All our fundraising efforts from the previous school year and donations from the local community meant that we met our target and the outdoor classroom was constructed in November 2023. It's a fabulous space that can be used throughout the school day for lessons and socialising during breaks. We really appreciate everyone who donated to make this happen.

Forest School

With Ms Sanders retirement, Forest School has been handed over to Mrs Hill. £88.05 has been spent on some tools and there remains £99.15 ring fenced for this project. She has some more training to complete before being able to expand the Forest School to more pupils.

Outdoor Environment

£48 was spent on 2 tonnes of topsoil for the Growing Garden (spent from the Summer Fair budget). Poultons donated shingle for a new seating area created by Mr Kitto during the summer holidays.

Key Stage 2 Maya Workshops

Mrs Hill organised workshops to supplement key stage 2 pupils learning of the Maya civilisations. The ESA donated £400 to help reduce the cost to parents. We will be supplementing the cost of Greek workshops this school year.

PE Department

It was agreed to fund items for the PE Department this year, starting with a new shed, that was more easily accessed than the shipping container that replaced the old car park shed. £1749.42 was spent and thanks go to Mr Kitto, volunteer parents, great grand parents and former pupil who helped to build it during the summer holidays. It has been requested that the ESA continue to fund this project by funding an electrical supply to the shed (with further potential to floodlight the tennis courts).