

# F@B FOCUS *Autumn term 2018*

Hi Parents & Guardians,

My name is Sarah Jones (mum to William in 4LB) and I am the Chair of the school's PTA, Friends at Bessemer (F@B). Our aims are:

- To help create a welcoming, inclusive school community.
- To raise money to help the school provide amazing workshops, trips, and experiences for our children.
- To provide fun activities and improve life skills for the children through creative play, access to nature, sports, music and the arts.

Our first big event this term is the Fun Run on Saturday 13th October - don't miss out! Spare entry forms are available from the school office and the entry deadline has been extended until the end of this week, so hurry to secure your places! Children and adults all welcome. Last year's run raised £2000 and we would love to raise even more this year.

On Thursday 11th October we're hosting a special "meet the chickens" session after school, where everyone is welcome to come and learn about our new school chickens. We have lots more events and activities planned this term - details overleaf - please come along and have some fun.

## Please help!

Everything we do is organised by parents and carers in their spare time. If you can help in any way, big or small, please do. Some ideas of how to help:

Do you have **no spare time** available, but want to support the school?

- Sign up for easy fundraising [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk). (This takes seconds to set up and will then provide funds for school every time you shop online.)
- Make a donation at [www.mydonate.bt.com](http://www.mydonate.bt.com) (we are listed as Friends at Bessemer).
- Sign up to our school's secure Classlist site to stay informed about what's going on at [www.classlist.com](http://www.classlist.com).

Do you have **bits of time here and there** to help?

- Volunteer to help occasionally with play street, ice cream Fridays or maintaining the nature garden.
- Help on a stall for 1 hour at the winter fair, or help with setting up and packing away for the fair.
- Find out if your employer offers a matched funding or charity support scheme and ask them to match some of the funds raised at an event like the fun run or winter fair.

Do you have **a bit more time available and want to get more involved**?

- Run a stall at the fair - planning, preparing and briefing other volunteers on the stall.
- Volunteer to become a class rep - talk to Ramona Graham or Dan White to find out more.
- Volunteer to coordinate once-monthly playstreet events.
- Help us communicate with parents - encourage people to sign up for Classlist, design posters about events, keep the notice boards up to date, etc.
- Volunteer to recruit local companies to advertise on our Classlist site.
- Propose a new event or fundraising drive that you would like to organise. We would especially love to put on an event to celebrate Eid or Ramadan in summer 2019.

If you have an idea for any events, activities or fundraising drives you would like to organise, please let us know. We would love to put on more fun events for the school community and have more people involved in F@B.

## F@B Events Autumn 2018

Event	Dates	Contact	Volunteers needed?
<b>Play Street, snack stall &amp; cake sale:</b> road outside school fully closed to traffic so that children can play	19th October, 9th November, 23rd November	Etta Collier (stepping down end of September)	We need a new volunteer to coordinate play streets from October, and lots of volunteers to help on each date. Can you help?
<b>Gardening &amp; Social Sundays:</b> a time for families to come to the garden to help with maintenance tasks or just enjoy the space.	14th October, 4th November, 18th November & 2nd December from 10:00 AM.	Paul Andrew & Mark Collier	If you would like to help look after our lovely nature garden, come along and get stuck in!
<b>Explore &amp; Play in the Nature Garden</b>	Every Tuesday after school until half term and every Friday after school after October half term.	Elena Nosada	Volunteers always welcome to organise a nature-based activity for these sessions.
<b>Ice cream Fridays:</b> sale of ice creams, crisps & drinks outside school or in the nature garden from 3:30 - 4:15.	Fridays after school until half term (or until weather gets too grotty, if that happens sooner.)	Dan White	3-4 people needed each week, from 3:00 - 4:30. If you can volunteer sometimes, please contact Dan White who will be delighted to hear from you!
<b>Meet the Chickens:</b> Come and meet the eggstremely cute school chickens and take your chance to name one of them!	Thursday 11th October at 3:40	Elena Nosada	We will meet in the Nature Garden to learn all about the chickens: their habits, the food they like, how to take care of them and how to pet them.
<b>Fun Run:</b> a sponsored run for children and parents in the JAGS field, raising money for F@B.	Saturday 13th October 1k run starts at 1:15pm; 3k and 5k runs start at 2pm.	Laura Morales & Lisa Brogan	Lots of participants needed to help make the event a success. Please come along to run, help, or cheer on the runners!
<b>Winter fair planning meeting - entertainment &amp; stalls:</b> ideas & suggestions for the winter fair, all welcome!	Friday 19th October 9:05-10:00	Sarah Jones & Ginny Paterson	Lots of volunteers needed, if you are interested in helping with a stall at the fair please come along.
<b>Winter fair planning meeting - food &amp; drink</b> ideas & suggestions for the winter fair, all welcome!	Friday 2nd November 9:05-10:00	Sarah Jones & Ginny Paterson	Lots of volunteers needed, if you are interested in food at the fair please come along!
<b>Diwali festival of light celebration in the nature garden</b>	Friday 9th November 3:30 - 4:30	We need a volunteer to lead this event!	Volunteers needed to help organise the event and help set up in the garden.
<b>Winter fair planning meeting - logistics:</b> ideas & suggestions for the winter fair, all welcome!	Friday 23rd November 9:05-10:00	Sarah Jones & Ginny Paterson	Lots of volunteers needed, if you can help with anything at the fair please come along.
<b>Back of the Wardrobe Boutique:</b> pop-up ladies clothes swap evening	Friday 23rd November from 7:30 PM at the Copper Beach Cafe, Jags Sports Club	Nici Hosfield	We are looking for donations of good quality second hand ladies clothing - come along with your unwanted finery and hopefully leave with some nice new outfits!
<b>WINTER FAIR:</b> the main F@B event of the term - save the date!	Saturday 8th December 12:00-3:00	Sarah Jones & Ginny Paterson	Lots and lots and lots of volunteers needed - please help if you can, or just come and enjoy the fair!

*All the event organisers can be contacted via our secure Classlist site at [www.classlist.com](http://www.classlist.com).*