

Friends' Update Christmas 2011

Christmas Fair: we were absolutely amazed at the success of our first ever Christmas Fair! The Fair was opened by The Mayor of Croydon and our very own Jessica Hann as the voice of Evie from the hit series Mike the Knight. Literally HUNDREDS of you thronged across the Plaza to be enchanted by Coulsdon C. of E. School ringing hand chimes, captivated by Drolet Dance and their ballroom dancing, mesmerised by the Zodiac gymnasts, and soulfully entertained by Brian Martin & Worship 4 Life. The Buggy Malone Cast enthralled us with their acting and singing as did a solo performance from the Academy Choir. We hosted amazing stalls including magical face painting, a cupcake competition, crafts, Academy tombolas and gifts, and of course the BIG MAN himself was there – Santa (not Mr. Millar!) in his Grotto with the elves. All the Academy Families were represented as were the 6th Form who worked up a sweat in the Sports Hall with tournaments. It was an amazing day and a real testament to what we can achieve when we all work together. We were blessed with the donation of a Doll's House from Natasha Stear which sold on a table top auction for £100; this helped us to raise a whopping **£1900!!!** WOW! We would like to thank our sponsors for the Fair: Pulsar Print Management Limited, Bidwells Estate Agents, and Stagecoach Coulsdon & Caterham for their time and resources – THANKS!


Welcoming new Friends: we held our Annual General Meeting on 10th November and said a huge thank you and goodbye to some old Friends: Simon Orr and Claire Taylor. A new Committee of 19 parents and 5 staff members was voted in and are looking forward to planning events to entertain you all from the New Year. If you missed the meeting and would still like to join us, it's not too late, just contact us via our email address. Details of all our events will be published on the Academy website from January. We will be kicking off our new year fundraising with a Quiz Night in March and the tickets will be on sale from late February. This was a complete SELL OUT last year, so start swotting now if you want to beat the teachers, they can be very competitive!

Be a Virtual Friend: we know that sometimes it can be hard to get to evening meetings and sometimes you just don't fancy joining a committee. We would still love to hear views and ideas on projects that you would like us to raise funds for. Please feel free to attend any of our meetings as a "one off" or email us with your ideas or you could tweet us

Dawn Chorus: the Friends are not particularly techno savvy and are sure that our children know more than we do but we are giving tweeting a blast and it would be great if you could start following us. We currently have 52 Followers and it is the first place that we go to give you an instant update on what we are doing and where we are going to be. To find out more visit:

www.twitter.com/OasisCoulsdon.

Keep up to date with us by:

- Following us on  twitter at www.twitter.com/OasisCoulsdon - our first stop for instant messaging
- Checking out our Diary Of Events on the Academy website
- Emailing us on foac@oasiscoulsdon.org
- Downloading our Meeting Minutes from the Academy website

You are represented by:-

Brunel: Reena Ramus, Sam Smith, Henrietta Westergaard-Belcher, Tracey Jeal, Tracy Lavelle, Karen Steele, Lynne Dunham **Da Vinci:** Sue Buckingham, Kate Taylor, Dawn Lockyer, Graham Day, Shirley North, Paul Laing **Curie:** Jacky Vasili, Claire & Russell Taylor **Luther King:** Jackie Hann, Clare Howe, Alison Fitzwalter
Y11: Jan Boothby **Independents:** David Millar, Mark Pelling, Marion Jones, Bob Lund

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 10th January at 7pm in the Diner at the Academy.