



The Friends of Ditcham Park School

Ditcham Park School, Ditcham Park, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU31 5RN
www.friendsofditchampark.com; Tel: 01730 825659

Springing into action..!

Welcome to our first newsletter of this half term. We hope you all had a fabulous half term holiday!

The FDPS Committee met last week, and today we can share with you some of the plans we have for the forthcoming weeks and months...there is plenty going on!

We hope you'll be able to help at, or attend, one or more of the following events and we look forward to seeing you! First up...



Egg-stra Special Plans for Easter!

The annual Easter party is a much loved event in the School calendar and the Friends really enjoy working alongside the School's staff to provide a super afternoon of Easter activities for the Juniors and gifting an Easter Egg to ALL of the pupils!

This year, Committee member Lucy is taking the lead in organising this event for FDPS and would love to hear from any parent who would like to help on the day. The afternoon will finish with the traditional and hugely popular egg-rolling! Parents will be invited along during the afternoon to celebrate together with the children! Please get in

touch if you can help at this event via our website or by emailing friendsditcham@gmail.com

Easter Party at Ditcham - Monday 30th March 2015



We're so egg-cited!

Vicki Harvey (Chair); Denise Allen (Treasurer); Jules Wilson (Secretary)
Registered Charity Number 1048655



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Open Morning "Café"
Volunteers needed... can
you spare 30 minutes?

Saturday 9th May 2015 is School Open Morning and we invite parents to volunteer for a 30 minute "slot" in the School dining room or kitchen. FDPS members and existing parents traditionally serve refreshments to visitors. What better way to show how proud we are of Ditcham?

It is a **fun & sociable way** to help the School! If you would like to come along (perhaps with a year group friend) then please get in touch via email, letting us know what time you are available. Contact Denise at denise.allen@ditchampark.com as soon as possible. The Open Morning café will be open from 10am to 1pm. Thank you ☺



Share the Ditcham "skills bank" and raise funds for FDPS!

You may recall reading that, at our recent Burns Night Ball, the phenomenal sum of £2,800 was generated from the auction of prizes donated to our Silent Auction.

Keenly contested that night were the prizes that offered an opportunity to learn a new skill and benefit from the talents, hobbies and experiences of some of our School staff and families, including a day spent learning how to rock-climb, a golfing day, and a bee-keeping experience day.

This got us thinking... just how many other "hidden talents" are out there in our school community? Do you have a **hobby, talent or skill** that you could share with someone interested to learn more? **Instead of digging deep in your pocket, could you donate some of your time instead?** That way, the winner of your prize can benefit from your **knowledge and passion during their "experience day"**. Please contact us in the first instance by email friendsditcham@gmail.com if you think you could help in this way. We are currently asking for donations to our May Fayre raffle, so please don't be shy ☺

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Medieval May Fayre

Save the date!

Saturday May 16th 2015

12noon – 3.30pm



You may remember that in our last newsletter we announced that Ditcham will “go Medieval” at this year’s May Fayre and we hope that you’ve had a chance to think how you might be able to get involved, be it by helping on a year group stall, offering a raffle prize, attending as a stallholder, or just coming along as a visitor with your family and soaking up the atmosphere!

Invitation to parent businesses –

Would you like to **book a stall** at our event at a subsidised price? Stalls are being advertised externally, but priority will be given to families of the School should we become oversubscribed. The cost to Ditcham family businesses is just £15 for the pitch. You will need to bring your own table and gazebo (if required). Please contact us via the website or by emailing friendsditcham@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Advertising space in our Fayre programme –

will be available on a first come, first served basis. £25 for a whole page, £15 for a half page. Programmes will be given to every group attending the fair. Once again, contact us via the website or by email friendsditcham@gmail.com

Donations Day – Friday 8th May 2015 –

We will be inviting all families to contribute to the success of our event by taking part in our Donation Day on 8th May. This could be item(s) for the Bric-a-Brac stall, books for the Book Stall, food donations for the café and so on. More details of the items we need will be given nearer the time. Please note that this date will not be a school Mufti day. Thank you – your donations make all the difference ☺

Raffle Prizes – can you donate a prize?

Do you have an item you could donate for our Grand Medieval Fayre Raffle? Or perhaps you could donate some time and offer an “experience day” by sharing your hobby? Please email us at friendsditcham@gmail.com to let us know as soon as possible so we can include details in the Fayre programme.

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Can you help at your Year Group or FDPS stalls?

Contact your year group Buddy and see how you can help run a stall of your choice – but remember to try to theme along Medieval lines if you can...! We also need volunteers for other stalls such as the Bric-a-Brac, Bouncy Castles, Ye Olde Tavern too!

Can you entertain us Medieval-style?

Could you be our Jester for the Day? Can you juggle? We'd like to feature entertainers of the type that would have been popular at the Medieval Court....if you have any skill that you think might fit the bill, please do get in touch friendsditcham@gmail.com or via our website.



Calling all School Staff & Lunchtime Activities Groups!



Would you be able to get involved and come up with a "group idea" that you can run or demonstrate on the day? **Music, drama, the arts, history, cookery, tumbling (PE)**....all could fit in so very well with our medieval theme! Demonstrate your group's talents! If you have a great idea that you think would be enjoyed by visitors to our Fayre



please contact us via our Treasurer Denise Allen (School Deputy Bursar) in the first instance either by email denise.allen@ditchampark.com or by calling into her office anytime. Thank you!

And finally....



Experience "Ditcham after Dark"!

We are currently starting to organise a family "Camp over at Ditcham" event which we hope to hold on a Friday in June. More details coming soon, once we have confirmed the date!

Have a great weekend when it arrives!

Denise Allen, on behalf of the FDPS Committee

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