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Friday 22nd September 2017



Dear Parents

### What is the SOS?

As you may be aware, the **SOS (Supporters of Southcote)** is a group of parents and teachers who work to raise funds for the school. In previous years, these funds have contributed towards school trips, visits from educational companies and play equipment for our playgrounds. The SOS is also responsible for organising events such as Christmas and Summer Fayres, Gift Sales and Movie Nights which our children enjoy and look forward to.

### Our Aim this year

This year we would like to work towards raising money towards a MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) within our school field. This would mean that our children could enjoy more space for active play and PE sports whatever the season and weather during the school day. In addition, this area would provide a unique area for in-school and visiting sports clubs to practice and train our children both after-school and during holidays. These may include clubs from neighbouring schools and make hosting year round inter school tournaments more of a practical reality.

However, to achieve these exciting changes *we need your help!*



## Proposed Plan for this Year

What?	How could I help?	When?
EcoKidz textiles recycling project	Fill a bag with unwanted clothing, bags, toys, shoes, cosmetics or jewellery and bring into school.	Bags handed out on: Weds 20 <sup>th</sup> September.  Bags collected: 9am Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2017.
Drop in SOS Meetings	Come along and sign up or just find out more about the SOS and offer your ideas for future SOS events.	After the Macmillan Coffee Morning 29 <sup>th</sup> September.
Go to a Reading Football match at Madejski	Buy a discounted ticket for certain games by calling this number: 0118 968 1313 and the school will receive a percentage. Please see flier emailed to you and on the school website and facebook pages.	Through the Football season.
Movie Nights for individual Year groups.	Why not send your child along on their year group's Movie Night? £1 per child.	Dates to be confirmed in October 2017 and February 2018.
SOS meeting	Come along to meet other SOS members, offer ideas for future events and share how you could help contribute to the proposed plans for the year. Cups of tea provided! Pre-school 'helpers' welcome☺	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2.30pm
SOS meeting - 'chat and wrap' for Christmas Gift Sales	Come along and wrap the gifts (see box below) while getting to know other SOS volunteers. Cups of tea provided! Pre-school 'helpers' welcome☺	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November



What?	How could I help?	When?
Christmas Gift Sale - a chance for our children to buy the grown-ups in their lives a Christmas gift. These are usually priced £1-5 and come fully wrapped.	Could you help us by: -going shopping for gifts with a few others/solo at a time which suits you? - helping set up and selling the gifts? Pre-school 'helpers' welcome☺	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November and Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December lunchtimes. Volunteers can arrive for set up from 11 and then we start to sell to the children from 11.30-1.30pm
Christmas Card Sale	Order copies of your children's festive cards and other stationery. Friends and family will love them!	Nov/Dec. A letter will follow with more information nearer the time.
SOS meeting	Come along to meet other SOS members, offer ideas for future events and share how you could help contribute to the proposed plans for the year. Cups of tea provided! Pre-school 'helpers' welcome☺	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December straight after morning drop off.
Christmas Fayre	Could you help us by: -going shopping for supplies in the weeks leading up to the fayre with a few others/solo at a time which suits you? - Donating raffle prizes from your employer or your own business? -helping set up and/or manning a stall?	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December Fayre opens at 3.15pm, volunteers to help set up are welcome at any point in the day.
SOS meeting - 'chat and wrap' for Mothers' Day Gift Sales	Come along and wrap the gifts (see box below) while getting to know other SOS volunteers. Cups of tea provided! Pre-school 'helpers' welcome☺	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March straight after morning drop off.



What?	How could I help?	When?
Mothers' Day Gift Sales for children to buy gifts for their mums during their lunchtimes. These are usually priced £1-5 and come fully wrapped.	Could you help us by: -going shopping for gifts with a few others/solo at a time which suits you? - helping set up and selling the gifts? Pre-school 'helpers' welcome☺	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> March lunchtimes. Volunteers can arrive for set up from 11 and then we start to sell to the children from 11.30-1.00pm
Easter Egg Raffle	Could you help us by: - Donating chocolate eggs?	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March
SOS Café Chance to buy refreshments and pocket money toys with your children.	Could you help us by buying, making or serving refreshments for this? If not, please come along with your children and enjoy the refreshments anyway!	Further information to follow
SOS Meeting	Come along to meet other SOS volunteers, learn about how you could help in the future and share ideas. New faces always welcome. Cups of tea provided! Pre-school 'helpers' welcome☺	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> April straight after morning drop off.
SOS Meeting	Come along to meet other SOS volunteers, learn about how you could help in the future and share ideas. New faces always welcome. Cups of tea provided! Pre-school 'helpers' welcome☺	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May straight after morning drop off.
SOS Meeting -'chat and wrap' for Fathers' Day Gift Sales	Come along and wrap the gifts while getting to know other SOS volunteers. Cups of tea provided! Pre-school 'helpers' welcome☺	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> June straight after morning drop off.



What?	How could I help?	When?
Fathers' Day Gift Sales for children to buy gifts for their dads during their lunchtimes. These are usually priced £1-5 and come fully wrapped.	Could you help us by: -going shopping for gifts with a few others/solo at a time which suits you? - helping set up and selling the gifts? Pre-school 'helpers' welcome☺	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> June lunchtimes. Volunteers can arrive for set up from 11 and then we start to sell to the children from 11.30-1.00pm
Ice lolly sales	Could you help us by: -ordering/buying the lollies? - donating an unwanted chest freezer? -helping to sell the lollies between 3 and 3.20pm on your usual playground? - buying a lolly for your children at hometime (priced 50p or £1)	Each Friday in Term 6.
SOS Meeting	Come along to meet other SOS volunteers, learn about how you could help in the future and share ideas. New faces always welcome. Cups of tea provided! Pre-school 'helpers' welcome☺	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June straight after morning drop off.
SOS Meeting in the morning. Summer Fayre after school.	Could you help us by: -going shopping for supplies in the weeks leading up to the fayre with a few others/solo at a time which suits you? - Donating raffle prizes from your employer or your own business? -helping set up and/or manning a stall?	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> July.
New Parents Evening	Would you be able to meet parents of our new Foundation children and introduce them the importance of our SOS work?	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July at 7pm.



Ongoing ways to help us fundraise	
Donate via ParentPay	If you would like to donate a sum, choose the donations option on Parent Pay as and when you choose.
Easyfundraising	Download this as a tool bar or as an app. Each time you make a purchase online from various different companies the school will receive a small percentage. More information is on the school website and facebook pages.

### Could you help us in other ways?

Many thanks to the people who have already offered their help but as, in general, support has dropped away over the years we are trying to find other ways which would fit in with our busy lives.

- Do you work for a company that offers charity match-funding or offers voluntary help?
- Would your company like to sponsor us in some way?

We really appreciate your support

Many Thanks

Mrs Emma Rawlinson.

[emma.rawlinson@southcote.reading.sch.uk](mailto:emma.rawlinson@southcote.reading.sch.uk)

H/SOS Letters 17-18 Information letter September 2017

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I would like to be put onto the SOS mailing list.

Name:

Email address:

Child's Name:

Any other ideas, comments or suggestions:

