



Fundraising Ideas...for Schools

A fundraising event is a great way to have fun and raise money. There are plenty of things for classes, students and teachers to get involved in or sponsored for - from giving up favourite things for a month to a sponsored readathon - a great way for the whole school to work together!

The key is to keep it simple, not to spend too much and make sure that whatever you choose is something that people will want to support you in. All you need are ideas and enthusiasm...here are some ideas that really work! (Don't forget to look at the list of ideas on the back page of the Fundraising Guide on the website - there are over 150 ideas there to help inspire you!)

Homemade Biscuit Buffett

Each student brings about 2-4 dozen cookies... this ensures lots of variety. Set them out on a table where students, staff and parents will be passing. Hand all shoppers a plastic glove and a pastry bag (hopefully donated by a bakery) and allow them to choose any type of cookies that would fit in their pastry bag - charge £3 - £5 per bag or ask for a donation.

Mile of Pennies

Your challenge needs to run for long enough to raise 80,468 pennies. That is the exact number of one penny pieces in a mile! Download a Mile of Pennies label sheet template from our website. Make copies and cut the labels to fit the cans, jars, etc. your group will use to collect their pennies. One 340ml soda can holds about 550 pennies. You could award prizes to individuals, classes, etc. that collect the most pennies or even have a "Pennies Party" in the hall to launch the drive. Play games, provide refreshments, and apply the labels to your cans, jars, etc. Pit the girls against the boys to see who can raise the most money.

A Mile of Pennies has tremendous public relations value for your school. Call your local newspaper and TV stations and encourage them to do a feature on the campaign. A great parent social gathering could involve meeting in the hall and rolling pennies. Newspapers and TV stations would love to cover something like this. If you collect one mile, why not go onto your second!

A Challenge for Teachers

Willing teachers can issue a challenge to their classes (or if they are really brave, to the student body) to bring money in. For every £50 pounds raised, the teachers will run one mile. Change the amount if necessary (before you advertise the challenge!)

Spelling Bee

Consider organising a sponsored spelling bee for classes in your school and hold the winning round during an assembly.

Launch those Legs

All you need to do is organise a sponsored challenge as part of your usual school day or, if you don't have a regular sports day, hold the challenge on its own at lunchtime or as an after school activity. You could even create your own mini sports day and encourage staff and students to battle it out in a sack race or egg and spoon race!

Lollipop Bouquets

Make these, each bouquet containing five lollipops. Tissue paper can be used to make the lollipops look like flowers, they can be held together with a rubber band and a gift tag can be attached. Sell these bouquets by pre-order in the morning and during the lunches. They can be purchased as gifts for special days such as Valentine's Day, Mother's Day etc.

Balloon Blast or Stomp

A large number of balloons are inflated and placed on the floor of your venue. A few special balloons have a winning ticket placed inside them prior to being blown up. Contestants pay a fee to enter. On a whistle all the contestants try to pop the balloons as quickly as possible to find the winning tickets. The contest ends when all the balloons are burst. You may wish to put a ticket in all the balloons although most will say "Sorry Try Again" or something similar. Alternatively, cordon off an area of playing field, school hall or gym. Contestants pay a fee to have a balloon tied to each ankle. On a whistle all the contestants have to try to stomp on other people's balloons and pop them. If both of your balloons are popped you are out. The winner is the last one with a balloon on their leg. Why not challenge the parents too!

April Fool's Tea break Surprise

Organise a list of teatime treats and ask teachers and students to pick one of the list numbers out of a hat. Everyone brings their items to school in brown paper bags the next day. To participate, everyone pays the same price and picks a bag (you can swop them later if needs be!) The contents range from a simple sandwich to a super-duper bag of treats. This is a great way to bring the students and teaching staff together too and can really build some excitement!

A Car Wash

This is simple to organize, fun to do and is a great way to raise funds. If customers are to remain around while you wash their cars don't miss an opportunity of selling them some lovely home made refreshments while they sit and wait.

Recycle for DCH Charity!

We are all aware of the impact the lives we lead have on the planet. From a fundraising point of view there are certain products that can actually make money if we collect and re-use them properly. A quick internet search will help you find companies that will pay you for collected items that can be recycled.

A Rubber Duck Race

All the plastic ducks are carefully numbered or named in waterproof pen. Participants pay to sponsor a duck. At the start of the race the sponsored ducks are all launched into the local river. They then float downstream to an agreed finishing line. The duck that crosses the line first wins.

Non Uniform Day

Students can either make a donation or pay a set fee to wear their own clothes to school. An alternative could be to incorporate dressing up into topics that fit with the curriculum. Schools could suggest students dress up as characters from novels, for example, and combine this with World Book Day.

Nominate Dorset County Hospital Charity as your Charity!

Many children in Dorset will benefit from the services of Dorset County Hospital. Please consider making DCH Charity your school's "Charity of the Year". Whether your school plans on raising £20 or £10,000 we would be delighted to hear from you!

Universities/Colleges

Are you at university or college and looking for a charity to fundraise for as part of your RAG appeal? Are you a university student looking to do a sporting challenge or sponsored activity for charity? Or is your university holding an event and looking to partner with a beneficiary charity? Please choose to support us!

Thank you for your support!