

16th December 2019

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Executive Headteacher:
Mrs C M Peet M.A.

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, the Governing Body has been working with the Federation's two PSFAs to work out a practical way in which the whole school community can help to address the current funding crisis. Setting last year's budget was very difficult, and we are already feeling the effects of the cuts we were forced to make in our resources and in support from TAs, sports coaches and therapists. We hope we will not be faced with further cuts next year, but whether we are or not, we are still having to cope with the impact of the cuts we have already had to make. This is where you can help.

We greatly value the support we regularly receive from our large parent body, whether it is helping in the classroom or on outings, making donations to cake sales, or simply attending PSFA events. Without your help and support, many school activities simply could not take place.

We are particularly grateful for the fundraising work of our two PSFA committees. We have stressed before that parents can make a huge contribution to the schools simply by giving of their time, and we are very appreciative and grateful to the parents and carers who do just that. However, some parents have suggested that they, or their children's grandparents, would like to make financial donations to help mitigate the effects of the cuts and to fill some of the gaps in provision they have created. Any such donations need to be made through the PSFAs, and they have therefore signed the schools up to two portals which handle donations like these:

Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) <https://www.cafonline.org/my-personal-giving>

Benevity <https://www.benevity.com/workplace-giving>

CAF is a charity which processes donations and also passes on the Gift Aid, saving us the need to undertake a lot of administration in order to secure this vital additional funding.

Benevity is a site which allows businesses to give donations to charities chosen by their employees. We know that many local businesses use this site and we have received several donations already where parents have nominated one of our schools to receive their gift.

The PSFAs have agreed that each month they will pass on donations received through either of these sites to the relevant school. We will then allocate this funding to four key areas:

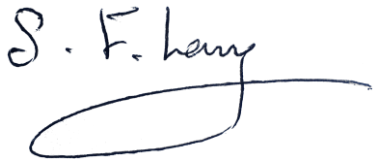
- £600 per half term to provide weekly music or art therapy sessions for an individual or group.
- £600 per half term to provide a weekly intervention for groups of children
- £30 per hour for Premier Sports coaches and Play Leaders at lunchtime
- £2,000 for an interactive television

Using donations to provide additional support for groups or individuals will benefit all our children, as, in addition to directly helping those who receive the support, it will also mean that teachers and other adults will have more time for other children. In the case of support from therapists, if children who might otherwise find classroom time difficult are coping better, everyone benefits – lessons can progress smoothly and the teacher can give more time to the needs of the whole class. Our interactive white boards are coming to the end of their lives and we need to replace them. We have done our research and we have found the interactive television that would suit our classrooms best. We will need to introduce the new equipment through a gradual replacement programme.

We hope this makes the situation clear and how we can all contribute to helping our schools through the current tight financial situation. We will keep parents regularly updated on the rate of donations and on items and services that have been purchased. Equally, if you do use the donations sites, any feedback you can offer the schools that might be useful for other parents would be very welcome.

Thank you for all that you do to support our schools and our children!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. F. Lang". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Dr Sean Lang
Co-Chair of the Governing Body

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mr Davidson". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with a prominent initial 'M'.

Mr Will Davidson
Co-Chair of the Governing Body

