

Parent Council Finance Meeting

As I get to know the school and systems better, I'm realising we need a lot of investment to get the school to where it should be in terms of the environment and resources.

There has been a recent e-mail sent to Heads advising that money within the council is extremely tight and only essential spends should be actioned at the moment.

This is why it is crucial we have an active, transparent fundraising committee made up of parents, staff, children and the community to supplement the devolved school budget and help us achieve our targets. I'm happy to meet a finance committee every month over a coffee to discuss reform, support, projects and evaluate progress.

Short term spends

Music trolleys – 1 per floor. We currently have two. We need to buy one more and need to repair/replace some percussion. Approx - £500

Audio Equipment – Ady Powers (parent) has confirmed that the audio equipment is 20 years old, but he has serviced it and it seems to be ok for now. However, we need a bigger projector screen for the back of the stage. Approx - £450

Promethian Board – replacement in P3 - £1950. We know we may need to replace another 2 in the next few months.

i-Pads – All children in P6 and P7 have received their i-pads. We were given a 'gold stock' of 4 additional i-pads for children who may join the school in P6 and P7 after the roll out. Since the roll out in November, we have enrolled 8 children, so already we are 4 short and will have to purchase ourselves at £350 each (approx.)

Back playground resurfacing – taking away the gravel, backfilling then putting wetpour around the climbing apparatus. We got a quote, (11k approx) but just found out that the gravel is much deeper than originally thought. He is coming back on Tuesday, but a bit reticent about doing this bigger job. We also have been tipped off that the pipes under the playground may have cracks in them, hence damp and drain overflow. No strategy as yet!

School Camp – Huge cost this year £460pp. In recent years, The Primrose Fund contributed £1200 annually to support families who could not afford the full amount. We are desperate to have as many children as possible as it is, genuinely, an experience of a lifetime. We can support some children through PEF, but this is done through SIMD information and not randomly.

Medium Term Spends

Outdoor Learning and Sustainability – Continue with pupil feedback plans and linking ideas around a sustainability/green theme.

Parent/Nurture/Sensory Room – The old Meeting Room. Planning has gone in for security doors at the end of that corridor so that there is independent and safe access to the building. Work will not be starting until Spring Holidays at the earliest. We will pick up the costs for the doors, secure access and repainting the room. We may need to ask for support to resource the room with appropriate equipment (e.g. lighting) this is completely new.

New Resource Room – Resources are scattered round the school and the desire from staff is to have everything in one area where they can plan a resource efficiently and appropriately in a timely way. We will fund the physical changes. But we may need to update some of our older resources (e.g. novels etc)

Long Term spends

Re purposing and upkeep of our 125 year old building!

Stephen

January 2023