



Evenlode Primary School
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From little seeds grow mighty trees

Date: 26th May 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: FINANCIAL SITUATION AND IMPLICATIONS

I hope that you are enjoying the weather. I only wish that the school's financial situation was as bright. We recently wrote to you to regarding the school's financial difficulties. As a result of budget reductions and cuts to funding, the school has now had to make some very difficult decisions.

Over 90% of the school budget is spent on staffing, so as well as cutting the school's expenditure on resources and materials, we have also had to take further measures.

This week three LSAs and three lunchtime supervisors were notified that they will be made redundant from the end of this term. Two other supervisors will not return in September.

Such actions obviously deal a severe blow to morale, but will also impact on how the school operates:

- Classroom Assistants will from September, oversee lunchtimes.
- In addition to reduction in numbers, Classroom Assistants will spend less time supporting children in class and 'targeted support' for individual children and small groups will be reduced.
- There will be less support for all teachers and it is very likely that 'extra-curricular' activities will also be reduced
- School trips and sporting fixtures will be reduced
- To help 'balance the books,' insurance for teacher absence will be removed, saving nearly £20k. This means there will be more onus on classroom assistants to cover short term absences
- The money which the school receives to staff Foundation Phase classes and provide training for staff has also been cut. This means that there will be no money again this year for staff training.
- Releasing teachers to attend meetings and courses and to work with other schools will also be limited
- Money for teaching resources has been cut by 50%
- Money for repairs/ maintenance of the school is reduced to £3k
- Money for school furniture is £1k
- To help raise money, the Governors have agreed to second Mrs Jones, Deputy Headteacher to work for the Consortium and the development of newly qualified teachers, for three days a week. This will obviously have some impact on the school's strategic development

We must stress that the school will do its very best to maintain standards and provision and other schools in the cluster and across the Vale of Glamorgan are in similar predicaments. However, due to Evenlode being traditionally the lowest funded school in the Vale, we are being particularly badly hit.

We do have the new school hall and another three years to pay for it, (20k per annum) but it does generate income through the Pre and After School clubs. At the moment we need to maximise the use of the hall, which is unused during weekends and available for hire in evenings. If you know of any organisation 'looking for a home,' please contact us. Similarly, if you have any thoughts or suggestions to assist with funding, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Rees.

As ever, your support is greatly appreciated.

Ceri Griffiths
Chair of Governors

