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Rob Earrey – Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carer

Fitzjohn's School Association: Monthly Payments

As you will know, schools have had real terms budget cuts over the last ten years and, as the government introduces a new national funding formula, this will continue.

We are funded mainly through the number of children that we have in the school and then receive extra monies for supporting children with Special Educational Needs/Disabilities and for children who are entitled to free school meals. Fitzjohn's also receives extra income as we charge for Nursery, rent the buildings at weekends and have an amazing parents' association (The FSA).

The new funding formula will hit Camden schools particularly hard and **Fitzjohn's in particular**. This is because we are a one form entry school, with good prior attainment, in a relatively prosperous area, with low numbers of children on free school meals

75% to 80% of our income is spent on teachers, teaching assistants, office staff and the caretaker; a further 10% is spent on the premises (which includes maintenance and services such as electricity, etc). On top of this we also employ art teachers, sports coaches, music teacher and a psychotherapist. As you can see this gives us very little room to manoeuvre.

We are now facing a **financial deficit** of **around £100,000** and because 80+% of our expenditure is on the people who work here this is the area we need to look at first.

Let me be clear, we don't want to have to do this. But we might have to. We might have no choice.

So how can you help? How can we prevent this?

Feedback from events such as The Fitzjohn's Conversation indicates that the thing parents most value is the ethos of the school and the staff who help to foster this. The children, staff and parents value our TAs, counsellors, artists, musicians and PE teachers as they add value add to the learning of the school. Now we need your help to maintain them.

Like many schools, we are in the position that we are having to ask for parental donations to help supplement our income. We have decided to do this via our charity (The FSA) as we can add to your kind gift by claiming gift aid.

The FSA asks that you please support the school with a monthly donation of a recommended amount from £15 - £50 per child or £50 - £100 per family per month but whatever you can afford will help.

Our annual target from events such as discos, fairs, popcorn nights and monthly donations is £70,000.

Monthly parental donations will help us to plan ahead as we can predict income but one off donations are also kindly received. If you feel you are unable to offer financial support your time and energies are just as valuable to us. We are always looking for an extra pair of hands to help out.

Check the FSA section of our website for more information.

I thank you in anticipation of your support.

Best wishes

Rob
Headteacher and President of The FSA