



Great Whelnetham Church of England Primary School

Newsletter

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22nd June 2017

Dear Parents

Along with the Governing Body, we work incredibly hard to ensure that the funding we receive whether it be from the government or other sources is spent wisely, carefully and in a way that ensures best value is achieved at all times. Our focus is always to achieve the best possible outcomes for our children.

I am sure that many of you are already aware from the news on TV and National press of the pressures facing school budgets and these pressures are likely to continue in the future. All schools, and we are not alone in this have been hit with a range of extra costs: higher contributions to national insurance and teachers' pensions, the introduction of the national living wage and the apprenticeship levy. On top of all this, costs have gone up generally for all items of expenditure and significantly, per-pupil funding is not rising in line with inflation. The National Audit Office estimates that this equates to cuts of 8% in real terms by 2019/2020.

What does this mean for us? It means that we have had to undertake a review of costs across the school and make savings where possible. Within the review we have looked at the running costs of our Early Birds Club with a view to ensuring that the income we receive from paying users covers its running costs, which include wages, heating, lighting and resources. As a result, governors have taken the difficult decision to increase the per-pupil daily charge from September 2017 to £1. We have contacted other schools to ascertain the fees that they charge for their early morning clubs and are therefore confident that this increase is fair and reasonable.

We do understand that this will have an impact on you as parents and this is why we wanted to give you as much notice as possible. Please remember that fees for the club can be paid weekly, monthly or on a more flexible basis to suit.

Please do speak with either myself or Mrs Kimber if you have any comments or questions regarding this increase.

Kath Parkin

Headteacher



Website: www.greatwhelnetham.suffolk.sch.uk