

Dear parent / carer,

As I am sure you will be aware, education budgets have been severely impacted by the events of recent years. There has been very little additional funding provided by the government and this follows on top of years of dwindling budgets. The funding crisis in education is well documented and has been highlighted through the recent teacher strikes that have taken place, where the lack of appropriate funding in schools has been one of the key issues.

Even though we as a school are now full in every year group, we are still facing a lot of difficult decisions regarding how we support our students. In addition, as a specialist Sport and Performing Arts school we have a significantly higher spend than most schools on equipment, fixtures, professional coaches and training; all things that would normally only be available at this level in fee paying schools. We want to provide the very best experience for all our young people but unfortunately the funding is not always there to do this.

With this in mind, we have already launched the **Training Fund** where parents can contribute a small amount each month to support the resourcing of our specialisms. This has already provided a lot of equipment for both Sport and Performing Arts and we have really appreciated parents' support with this. Please refer to Mrs Lapskas' newsletter or contact me at the email address below for details of how to support us through this if you are not already doing so.

As we have done in previous years, we are also looking to raise further funds for the school through **sponsorship** of some of our teams and flagship events – all of which cover a range of different budgets. We are looking for local companies or individuals who may want to sponsor any of the following:

- **Awards evening** – our annual presentation evening held at the Life Centre in Bournemouth in the summer term where we celebrate the fantastic achievements of our students.
- **Prom** – our Yr 11 and Yr 13 Leavers Prom which will take place after the exams are over.
- Any of our **sports teams** – to purchase new kit and cover fixtures, transport, facility hire etc.
- **Specialism week** – our annual sports week for Years 9 & 10 in the summer term.
- **Summer show** – our annual summer shows at the Lighthouse in Poole.
- Any of our other **Performing Arts events** – to support with the cost of costume, transport and facility hire etc.

In return, we can offer extensive publicity through our popular social media channels and website as well as the opportunity to have logos displayed in our event programmes or on the front of any sponsored kit.

If you know of any companies or individuals who would be willing to sponsor any of these events or one of our teams, then please email me at tim.clark@leafstudio.co.uk to find out more information about the range of opportunities available and the estimated costs for each.

Thank you, once again, for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely



Mr T Clark
Vice Principal - Inclusion

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT
Jon Webb, BA (Hons), Director of Secondary Education
Nadine Lapskas, BSc, Principal
Geoff Lake, CertEd, Head of Sixth Form

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