



Governors' messages to parents May 2017

Finance Committee

Due to government cuts in school budgets, we have had to use our savings from the last financial year to meet a £91,000 deficit in the budget.

We have allocated money for the following important items:

- Improvements to lighting throughout the school. Phase one is completed and phase two has begun and will be completed this year. This will save on electricity consumption.
- Improvements to the security of the school office and entrance/reception area.

We are also

- Continuing investment in our own Education Welfare Officer, due to the school's priority to improve attendance and punctuality
- Reviewing and upgrading our ICT security in light of issues nationally with hacking.

The School Money system has been implemented allowing parents to make online payments to the school, which should help to improve both efficiency and security in payments.

Premises Committee

- Work has been completed to a high standard on the wall of the Thomas Slingsby Duncombe Learning Centre. All damp and structural issues are now resolved.
- The lighting across the school is being upgraded. This has begun and will be completed by the summer.
- Plans have been drawn up to improve the school entrance, improving security. Works are scheduled for the summer holidays.
- In order to offer high quality provision for 2 Year Olds from September 2017, some adaptations will need to be made to one Nursery classroom. These plans are currently being drawn up.

Pay & Personnel Committee

- Relevant staff will be trained in skills required to offer high quality 2 year old provision which begins at Duncombe in September.
- Teaching staff take on additional responsibilities such as leading on curriculum areas or leading phase teams. These roles are currently being allocated for 2016/17.

Curriculum Committee

- The school has prioritised improving reading across the school and developed a comprehensive plan. A grant was secured from the Local Authority to support the implementation of additional reading programmes and staff training.

SEN Committee

- Attendance and punctuality is keenly monitored by the governors who attend the school's half termly Attendance Team meetings.
- All parents of children with medical needs have been written to with new health care plans. Governors ask that parents please return these completed forms by following Monday.
- Governors have overseen the procedures that ensure epi-pens and asthma pumps are up to date and request that parents respond promptly when contacted by the school about this.

Whilst the school continues to invest in the development and support of our pupils, we still hope that parents will continue to play their parts in helping and supporting the development of their children at home.