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Acting Headteacher: Mrs N. Green



Cleves School
Oatlands Avenue
Weybridge
Surrey
KT13 9TS

23rd May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We fully appreciate how fortunate Cleves is to have such a supportive, generous parent and carer body and an active and successful PTA.

We are now writing to ask for your support in specific areas, and for your ideas...

Across the country all schools are under ever increasing financial pressure, not least because of Government decisions for which schools have not been fully funded. Cleves is in a far more fortunate position than many schools thanks to our finance team's very careful management over many years; an active lettings strategy and support from you. This has given us a proud tradition of offering over and above the requirements of the national curriculum in many areas – eg in the arts, sport, music and well-being. Our goal is to retain, and where possible expand on, our provision by future proofing ourselves, and we are already working on this internally. But we would appreciate your support where possible...

...first, on IT provision

Our IT and computing offering are substantially greater than that of most state funded schools and we cannot maintain this without an ongoing annual contribution from parents and carers.

Some of you will be aware that in some previous years we asked for a voluntary contribution to help with the cost of our children's chrome books. This was £30 a year (£120 over four years, payable either annually or in a lump sum). We are facing increased costs, for example the cost of the appropriate specification of Chromebook has risen to over £200, meaning a more realistic sum to help us simply maintain our IT provision is **£250** or £63 for each year that a child is in the school. This will allow us to replace the Chromebooks as they reach the point of being out of date. These devices are not only used to access the ICT curriculum but used to enhance other areas of learning too, including but not limited to literacy, mathematics and design. This contribution is of course optional, and no child will be disadvantaged if your family is not in a position to contribute or if you can only contribute a lesser amount.

We would like to encourage all those who are able to do so to make either a full or partial payment through ScoPay. There is an option to pay either a full amount or for you to choose how much you wish to contribute. **Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate.** Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer. If you are able to Gift Aid your donation, please indicate this on ScoPay, or complete the attached form.

... secondly by letting us know if you might qualify for Pupil Premium funding

If your child is eligible for free school meals the school might be able to claim pupil premium funding. You can find out if your child may be able to get free school meals here: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>. And you can find out more about pupil premium funding here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium/pupil-premium> or you are very welcome to contact our Welfare Officer at Cleves for a confidential conversation by emailing welfare@cleves.co.uk. In order to find out if your child qualifies for free school meals we would just need the parents' name, date of birth and national insurance number.

... and finally, we would love to hear of any suggestions for securing additional funds, grants or other resources

We are already aware of, and have previously successfully applied for, some local and national grants and resources, though these too are under increasing pressure as more schools apply.



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As a stand-alone academy, Cleves is both a registered charity and a company. As such:

- do you know of any businesses that might wish to support us or work with us, or rent facilities?
- do you know of any shopping sites that allow shoppers to contribute to a charity
- do you have other suggestions?

We will consider any suggestions you have and, as appropriate, either make them known to the wider parent body or pursue them ourselves.

Finally, thank you again for all your support.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Susan Foster – Chair of the Board of Trustees

Natasha Green – Acting Headteacher

