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12 March 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians

I wrote to you last week, along with 7,000 heads to 3.5 million families, about schools' funding. You may also recall the unusual step taken by thousands of heads at the start of the current academic year to take part in what the media described as a 'polite protest' to raise awareness of the continuing challenge of schools' funding. We start in this vein because these headlines highlight the stark reality of funding in this sector.

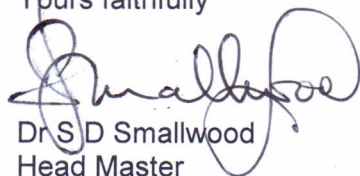
Despite the Government's commitment to move to a national funding formula to iron out unfair regional disparities in funding, next year we are faced with a 7.2% increase in our contributions to the Teachers' Pension Scheme and in the Sixth Form funding remains at £4,000 per student for the seventh consecutive year. Over the previous few years we have also had to absorb the cost of significant changes to National Insurance rates and the Local Government Pension Scheme. In common with the rest of the country, we have tried very hard to mitigate against these cost pressures through cuts wherever possible to our cost base, increases in class sizes, reductions in options, marketing the Sixth Form more widely, and income generation activities, but despite our efforts the financial outlook remains grim.

Therefore, once again we turn to our hugely supportive parent body to request that you sign up to the Bishop's Gift Aid Income Appeal Scheme. Quite simply, the only way to avoid any further erosion of what we offer is to ask for whatever financial assistance you are able to give (the form is enclosed with this letter). It is only with your help that we can add the distinctive edge that sets Bishop's apart. We are extremely proud of what Bishop's has achieved in its 129 year history and are anxious to ensure that it continues to do for today's and tomorrow's generations what it has done for previous generations.

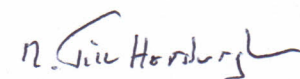
Since its inception, the Income Appeal has enabled us to stay in the black, and importantly has ensured that Bishop's has been able to retain some of the most committed members in the teaching profession. It has also allowed us to complete a brand new teaching block for Maths (public funding was insufficient), refurbish two science laboratories, build a new Reception (again public funding was insufficient), create a new classroom in the 'Paddock Block', deliver site-wide Wi-Fi, purchase a 14-seater minibus (in addition to the fabulous 17-seater purchased by the BWSPA), refurbish a DT room, enlarge an art studio, improve the recreational outdoor space, create two dedicated Sixth Form private study rooms, provide an additional spacious and modern science laboratory, and purchase a double decker bus for overflow seating from the dining hall! It's clear then, the Income Appeal makes a massive difference to the life of this fantastic school.

Please help me and my staff do what we all entered the teaching profession for – to help your boys (and girls in the Sixth Form from 2020) achieve fantastic things each and every year. In Bishop's Salisbury really does have something to be proud of; please do what you can do to help us preserve it.

Yours faithfully



Dr S D Smallwood
Head Master



Miss M J Horsburgh
Chair of Governors

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GIFT AID

Gift Aid is a scheme from HM Revenue & Customs that allows us to reclaim an extra 25% on your donations made during the past 4 years, as well as on all future donations, without costing you a penny. This means if you donate £40 we can claim £10 making your gift worth £50.

GIFT AID DECLARATION

Bishop Wordsworth's School Income Appeal

Title..... Forename(s) Surname

Address

.....

..... Post Code

Son's Name Year Group

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify.

Signature Date

For Office Use: MOP

Donor Record
No.

Bankers Order in favour of Bishop Wordsworth's School

To the Manager of Bank plc, Bank Branch..... Sort Code...../...../.....

Address..... Postcode.....

Account in the name of:..... Account Number.....

Please pay Lloyds Bank, Salisbury, SP1 1DA, (Sort Code 30-97-41) for the credit of

Bishop Wordsworth's School (Gift Aid) Account No 03905201, the sum of

£20 £40 £50 £100 or other amount

I wish to donate £ (in words)

Please start on ___ / ___ / ___ and each month until further notice.

Title..... Forenames Surname.....

Address..... Postcode.....

Signature..... Date.....

If you would prefer to set up an Online Standing Order Payment yourself please tick box

Please return to: **The Finance Office, Bishop Wordsworth's School, Exeter Street, Salisbury SP1 2ED**

Telephone 01722 333851; Fax 01722 325899; email finance@bws.wilts.sch.uk

[Registered Charity No. 309475]