



RHODES AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL

March 2017: Issue 7



As one financial year ends another opens I thought this would be the perfect time to update you on the schools financial situation.

Since our funding meeting in January many there have been significant political developments. The Fair Funding for all schools group has gained huge support nationally and an election has been called questioning all proposed government policies.

Since learning about the proposed National Funding Formula the leadership team has been busy reviewing allocated budgets, planned expenditure and income generation; with the determination that we do not brake our ambitions to provide the very best education and welfare for our children. The world is changing and the school must change with it to fulfil our desire to make teaching and learning relevant for the next and future generations. Over the past 5 months the school has reviewed its spending, the service level agreements we buy into, the cost of services we provide and resources we *buy*. We end this financial year with a surplus budget and also project that we will be able to do this for the next three years.

This initially sounds very positive however we are heavily reliant upon the income we generate. Through our extended provision, the letting of the school building and the money raised by supporting other schools we are able to survive. We spend over the allocated funds provided by the Local Authority and the proposed carry forward decreases year on year.

So what about the future?

We have reviewed many of our central service providers and have moved away from some of our long standing contacts to ensure we are getting the very best service for the best value. Joint procurement opportunities are being sought with our local schools and we have looked at new ways to generate income.

Following the parent questionnaire results, gathered at the beginning of the year, we now provide additional holiday sport opportunities; we have lengthened our breakfast club times and provide cooked breakfast choices. We will continue to provide full time Nursery places, to compliment the part time offer, and now have established long term letting opportunities to generate income. RAPSAs have looked at a variety of new ways to raise money, maximising charitable status and reviewing the impact of their spending.

From September 2017, Year 4 will be the only year group attending swimming lessons. Each Year 4 class will receive a full term of swimming lessons rotated throughout the school year.

We have been awarded National Support School status and Senior Leaders and Governors will continue to provide support to other schools generating income in some cases.

We must remain focused on what is important - the education and the welfare of our children. We have produced detailed school development plans to enable us to continue improving. To keep pace with technology, (not allowing it to dominate school life but using it as a necessary tool in our teaching) we will be updating the Interactive Whiteboards, class i-pads and some of our administrative hardware.

During the last academic year, RAPSAs raised huge amounts for the development of the Key Stage 1 play areas. We hope that this work will begin next half term and over the summer holiday.



We will be creating additional teaching spaces around school, for group teaching and interventions, as from September we will be a full three-form entry school with no additional teaching space.

We are unclear of the future: the election on June the 8th, the proposed NFF cap being lifted from a minimum 2.8% budget loss to a potential 11% in 2020 will provide challenges we have to face. What will remain central is the education of our children and not just academic. There is a need for us to educate the whole child; to become future citizens morally strong, with the ability to think for themselves and the ability to recognise the importance of health and fitness.

I would like to thank you for your continued support and your generosity of ideas and funds when supporting school events. Without either I know the school would not be what it is today or what we have the potential to be in the future.

Dates for your diary

	Date	Time
Year 6 SATs	8 th – 12 th May	Every Morning
Year 2 SATs	15 th - 19 th May	Every Morning
Year 1 Lego Workshop	10 th May	am
Kingfisher Class assembly	11 th May	9.10am
Robin Class Assembly	18 th May	9.10am
Bollywood Evening	19 th May	
KS2 Sports Day Albert Recreation Ground	24 th May	9.30am
KS1 Sports Day Albert Recreation Ground	25 th May	9.30am
Year 3 Educational visit	25 th May	All day
Owl Class assembly	25 th May	9.10am
1JM Class Assembly	26 th May	9.10am
Half Term	29 th May – 2 nd June	
Class Photographs	13 th June	
Kingfisher trip to Ally Pally	14 th June	
Nursery and Reception Sports Day	19 th June	9.30am
New Parent welcome Evening Nursery Reception evening	20 th June	6.00pm 7.00pm
Summer Concert	26 th June	
Summer Fun Day	2 nd July	
Year 6 Performance	12 th July	
Parents Evening	13 th July	from 3.40pm
Term ends	21 st July	3.30pm

Please keep looking at t school website for the most up to date events and times.

<http://rhodesavenue.school/news-events/diary-dates/>

Term Dates

2017-2018 Term dates and INSET days are available on the school web- site

<http://rhodesavenue.school/news-events/term-dates/>

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