



# Tring School

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[www.tring.herts.sch.uk](http://www.tring.herts.sch.uk) Headteacher: Mrs Susanna Collings BSc (Hons), MA, FRSA

11 November 2011

Dear Parent/Carer

Tring School aims to offer the best possible all round education and has good reason to be proud of the performance of our pupils. However, the indications for this school are that we can expect more cuts. I want to take this opportunity to publically thank those parents who have already signed up and are donating money to support the school.

The formula for the sixth form and the general monies that we are allocated per child across years 7-11 has changed. The money for capital repairs and development has been slashed by 80%. Following a redundancy process last year and natural wastage of 5 teachers we are now faced with a further 10% cut in sixth form funding and our general income is likely to receive a further reduction. Whilst we keep cutting back, we have become so prudent with our staffing, our learning resources and the maintenance of the site has become very limited, so that we cannot cut back any further without it affecting provision severely. I fully accept that we all pay taxes and, nationally, you will hear that money is invested in education – sadly this is not the case for Tring School, because our students generally come from affluent backgrounds, and it is deemed that your child doesn't need extra investment compared to those from inner cities and large towns.

Following very helpful parental feedback about my first letter requesting financial help I can share with you more robustly that the school needs to raise monies for general learning resources such as the replacement of equipment in lessons and the new versions of IT software to support learning. Our current money for departments is £130,000 per year. This next year it is likely to be reduced to £100,000. The £30,000 short fall cannot be made up without your help.

In addition the fabric of the school is being tweaked in places to maintain our buildings but no investment is taking place because the finances are simply not there to do it. Currently we have 2 boilers which are genuinely falling apart. If they completely break down, then we have to find £200,000+ to replace them. We are currently spending money to keep them operating but their life span is nearly over. Without the boilers in the winter months the school would be too cold for students and staff to work in and it could result in school closure. My pragmatic view would be that we would wrap up warm and we would get through a difficult time like that if it occurred. To prevent such a scenario I want us to launch our boiler fund! It always used to be that we could apply for local authority grants and get these monies via other means. This is not the case these days and the local authority just doesn't have those sorts of reserves any more.

In summary, the two big areas I am focusing on for fund raising are the general learning resources, so that lessons have the right materials for the delivery of the specific content, and the Boiler fund. Tring School Trust has charitable status and was established specifically to assist us in providing the best possible educational resources and environment for your children. Its focus is to provide additional resources as well as improving and modernising our existing facilities.



The Tring School Trust gives all parents an opportunity to contribute directly and effectively to the school. The Trust fund will make a difference to each individual student as they progress through their time at Tring School and it will help to secure the buildings right now. In order to obtain the maximum benefit from the Trust we must receive the support of as many parents as possible. This Fund can only function in the long term if there is considerable and ongoing parental contribution. The school would like you to donate as much as you feel able to afford; ideally at least £10 per month. Please give what you can as any contribution is of value to the fund, whether it is £5 or £50 per month.

There are two different ways you may contribute via Gift Aid.

**1. Standing Order**

The school would receive a monthly donation from you, automatically administered by your bank and paid to Tring School Trust.

**2. Single Donation**

The school can also achieve great things from single sum donations and there is no minimum amount that must be given to qualify for tax relief.

The standing order form and gift aid declaration are attached and can be found on Tring School website

The following example illustrates how Gift Aid is beneficial to the school:

Gift by donor £500,

Tax repayment to school £ 125

Total benefit to school £ 625

Please complete and return the attached slip as soon as possible to the finance office at Tring School

This is a fantastic school which could be enhanced substantially through donations, and the more help you can give, the more we can support your child to realise their ambitions.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Sue Collings  
Headteacher

Ref SC/BL2