



HEADTEACHER: MELISSA ROBERTS

LONDON ROAD, TRENT VALE, STOKE-ON-TRENT, ST4 5NT

MLR/hr/School Fund
12 October 2023

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

I am writing to you with a plea – if you aren't already one of the amazing people who support our School Fund, might you help us to enhance provision for your children?

The school fund is the voluntary contribution of £60 per term (which works out as £15 per month) that we encourage all parents to make. Recently we have used this money to fund improvements such as:

- Some new laptops for use in lessons
- New displays in the hall and around the school
- An upgrade to DT food facilities
- New books for the library and our new reading-for-pleasure programme
- Facilities and materials for our 90+ extra-curricular clubs
- Materials for our whole-school Masses and liturgies
- Items to support our house events and our celebrations for the Coronation and the Culture Kitchen as well as for the St Joseph's College 90th birthday celebration.

Every penny goes on students, and it is a huge help in allowing us to pay for those extra items that we simply can't fund from our budget.

Of course, education should be free; I absolutely support a free education provision for all children. However, what we want at St Joseph's College is to give our students exceptional opportunities and experiences that go way beyond the norm, to enrich their lives with cultural, spiritual and social experiences that enhance their academic progress, to give them an incomparable education. All this comes at a cost both financial and in terms of staff workload. I will never want to give our students anything less than exceptional education and so I am asking for your help in supporting our work to offer the very best for your child.

If you have not previously supported the school in these payments can I urge you to reconsider. If every parent paid school fund with a contribution of £60 per term per child, we would have an additional £196,000 to help provide your children with the very best experiences we can offer. Furthermore, if Gift Aid was applied we would get an additional £39,000 at no charge to parents.

You can pay School Fund online via Parentpay, either as a lump sum or in instalments. Alternatively, there is attached a standing order form for you to complete. If you are a UK taxpayer, please complete and return the Gift Aid form to enable us to claim the 25% tax on your contribution at no cost to you.

I recognise that these are very constrained financial times for many people and we are lucky that so many parents do support our school. We will always strive to provide our children with the very best; if we can encourage a few more parents to support us we can offer even more to enhance their time at St Joseph's College.

Yours sincerely,

Ms M Roberts
Headteacher

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