

Dear Parents,

On the School's behalf we, The Governors, would like to welcome you to Thames Ditton Infant School and to explain a little bit about the importance and purpose of our **Thames Ditton Infant School Donations Fund**.

Background – why was the fund established?

As a state school, our budget from the Surrey Local Authority is calculated on a 'per pupil' basis and, in inflation-adjusted terms, has not risen commensurately with our costs for several years. At the same time, costs have exponentially increased due to the cost of living and fuel crisis.

Additionally, a global pandemic has 1) affected the Friends' ability to conduct the fundraisers upon which we have previously relied and (2) curtailed the School's ability to generate income from other sources, such as from third party providers using our facilities.

The amalgamation of both these unprecedented issues has impacted the capacity of the school in helping children receive resources to add value to their learning.

We require support from parental generosity via both donations and the incredible efforts of The Friends of Thames Ditton Infant School to cover this year's core costs.

Request - what are we asking of you?

Contributing to the donations fund is **voluntary**, but we welcome all parents who are able to donate, to do so. The more you give right now, the more the school can offer for the benefit of all current pupils.

We're aware that many families already contribute generously to the school through supporting the Friends' initiatives which is an invaluable source of funding for us that has financed some fantastic additional resources for the pupils. However, the Friends' funds are presently intended to cover enrichment items for the benefit of pupils, rather than the basic outgoings (hence the "Void" in the Income section of the illustration overleaf).

We also know that not all parents are able to attend and support the Friends' events and may therefore wish to support the School in other ways.

Regular donations through the Fund provide much needed visibility as to upcoming monthly income, which helps us to plan how we deploy our staff, materials and other resources.

How to Donate

If you would like to donate today as a one-off, please use The Friends payment machine in the library.

If you would like to donate regularly, please set up your standing order online using the following details:

Name: Friends Tdis2
Sort Code 40-44-11,
Account No. 91356631 with the bank reference 'Donation [child's surname]'

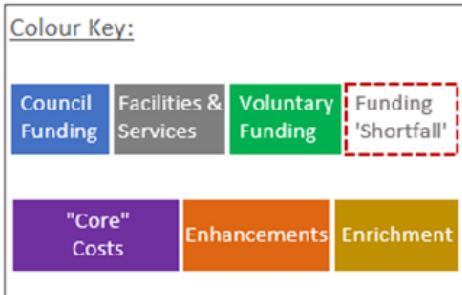
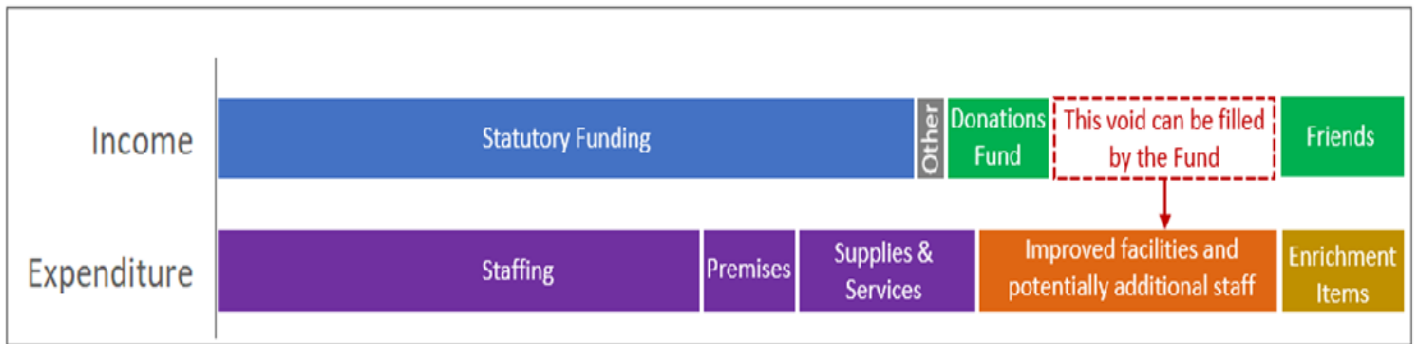
I hope this letter helps to explain the purpose and importance of the Fund, but if you do have any further questions, please do contact the Governors on email via sbm@thames-ditton-infant.surrey.sch.uk.

Thanking you in advance.

Yours faithfully,

Bronek Carr
Parent Governor, Chair and on behalf of the Finance & Resources Committee

Headteacher Mrs E. Leach
Thames Ditton Infant School, Speer Road, Thames Ditton, Surrey KT7 0PW
Tel 020 8398 5842, Email sbm@thames-ditton-infant.surrey.sch.uk, www.thames-ditton-infant.sch.uk



Frequently Asked Questions

What has the money been used for in the past?

The school has been able to fund some fantastic additional resources for the pupils in the past couple of years, such as smart boards for the each classroom and google chrome books. Also, in partnership with the Friends of Thames Ditton Infant School, it has helped to refurbish the School's Library and has invested in a new reading scheme.

What projects are planned for next academic year?

The school has a project planned for a new Amphitheatre to be built on the School's Field which will provide an outdoor learning and performance space for our children.

How else will the donations add value to the children's learning?

We will use it to buy quality art equipment, improved outdoor learning resources, and further development of quiet spaces and places around the school.

What is the suggested donation amount?

Any amount you can afford will be gratefully received and used to benefit your children's time here at Thames Ditton Infant School. We recommend a monthly donation of £20 per month.

Headteacher Mrs E. Leach

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