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30^h August 2023

Dear Europa parents,

In anticipation of “La rentrée des classes”, I need to update you about some information concerning the funding of our school which we need your help to address. It is necessary to share the detail, which is laid out in the next few paragraphs, but more important is the request to all the parents of our school, in the final two paragraphs at the end of this letter.

Over the past two years we have been in communication with the ESFA concerning a funding issue relating to the school’s decision to open the third language stream in 2015. Following a very welcome three-year financial resolution by the funding of actual pupil numbers, we have now reverted to a default lagged funding basis. The consequence has an adverse impact because we have three streams moving through to replace only two streams. This results in 30 unfunded students in the school each year until we reach three streams in every year group.

We continue to receive significant support from our constituency MP, Mr John Howell and through his efforts, we met with the Minister of State for Education, Rt. Hon. Nick Gibb, in December last year. Despite the Minister’s request for the ESFA to reconsider our funding basis, the resubmission has now been rejected. The Governing Body feel that this is clearly unfair, and we have acted immediately and secured a meeting in early October with the regional commissioner for Schools in the Southeast region. John Howell has indicated that he will join the meeting. I will provide you with an update on any subsequent progress.

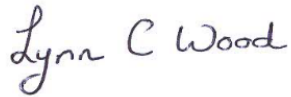
In rejecting our business case, the Funding Agency praised the school for its sound financial management. Like other schools we have had to make economies to cope with rising costs however our priority is to maintain the quality and nature of our outstanding educational and pastoral provision which has been demonstrated in outstanding results achieved across the school this summer. We are grateful for the parental support we have received and for several million-pounds worth of investment in Capital works which is ongoing with the new primary classroom build.

I ask you to continue to support the school with our annual voluntary donation request of one pound per day per child. If there are families who can afford more, we would ask for two pounds per day. However we welcome whatever you can contribute and the link to our fundraising page on the school’s website is [Fundraising – Europa School UK](#). We understand that times are hard for many families and emphasize that all donations are voluntary and anonymous. Donations can be made in a lump sum or via monthly instalments and these options are signposted on the website page. If you cannot help financially, there are many other ways in which you could participate to make a difference such as volunteering in school or supporting other fundraising events. We are grateful for any support you can provide.

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I have scheduled a parents' meeting with the Governors and myself to share with you our school's achievements, its strategic plans as well as answer questions about a range of issues including school funding and fundraising. The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 27th September at 7:30 pm in the Schuman Hall – more details to follow in early September.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynn C Wood".

Lynn Wood
Principal