

Dear Families of St Mary's Primary School,

On behalf of the Trustees, the PTA and senior leadership team we write to you with an important update regarding our school's budget, and are asking for your support.

Schools across the country are grappling with significant financial difficulties, posing a considerable challenge to the education system. These challenges stem from various factors, including inadequate government funding, increasing operational costs, and a need to improve facilities and resources.

One of the primary issues faced by schools is the shortfall in government funding. Despite rising costs and inflation, education budgets have sadly not kept pace with the needs of schools. This has resulted in budget constraints that force schools to make difficult decisions regarding staffing and resources. At St. Mary's we continue to offer excellent teaching and support staff and I hope you agree our school is a very special place.

In response to these financial difficulties, we explore alternative sources of funding, such as fundraising efforts (alongside the PTA), seeking grants, and implementing cost-saving measures. Working across our three schools has significantly supported some of these challenges. However, some of these measures can only provide temporary relief and may not address the underlying issues of inadequate funding.

In line with our other two schools who already do this, we asking for your support in making a regular monthly voluntary contribution based on what you can afford. E.g amounts of £10/£7/£5 per month or a one-off payment / gift. Monthly contributions can be made via your School Money account or by standing order arranged through your bank should you prefer.

**ST MARYS SCHOOL PTA**

**Sort Code 20-42-76**

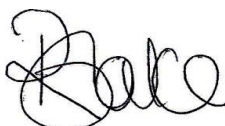
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Thank you in advance for all your support, no matter how much this may be. Together our partnership enhances the learning of all our children and we are truly grateful you have chosen to be on this journey with us to make St Mary's the local school of choice.

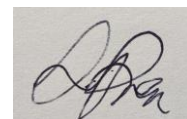
Kind regards,



**Mrs R Blake**  
Executive Headteacher



**Mrs V Kemble**  
Chair of Trustees



**Sharon Prendergast**  
Chair of PTA