

Writtle Infant School

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Friday, 5th October 2018

Dear Parents,

Happy & Healthy Hub News

I am writing to give further details on our plans for a new building which aims to provide well-being and mental health support and also support within our community. First of all, I am delighted to say that we have received a grant of £10,000 from The National Lottery. We have decided that we want to create something that is long-lasting and attractive and the ideal would be a garden room/log cabin style. We have set up a working party, but of course we want the whole school community to be involved.

We have an acute need for space to offer support primarily for our parents and children, but also where appropriate the community. For example we would love to offer drop-ins from the school nurse or visits from the elderly population of the village but we do not have the space. These events would bring people together, build strong relationships in and across the community and, given the age of our children, work to address issues at the earliest possible stage. The hub would give another space to meet with our families and put into place key and timely help and intervention.

We know from charities such as the NSPCC that there is a rise of more than a third of primary children referred for mental health issues and this trend is reflected in our school. With the cuts in funding for other sources of help, we are often the only form of support that is left to families and other groups within our community.

We are applying for other grants and will be setting up opportunities for donations and events across the school year, including a mini marathon in the spring term. Our children will be writing to certain identified individuals and celebrities to try and get some other support.

This is going to be a really exciting project and will benefit the school for years to come. We will keep you informed about events and will be asking for help with certain things. It may be you have contacts within certain areas and can help with materials, fund-raising ideas or maybe companies that you work for may match fund. Mrs Pluck is going to set up a website page to track how much we have raised.

The time scale for this is flexible, but we hope within an academic year. I look forward to inviting you all to the opening day!

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Helen Castell'.

Helen Castell

**Our values: Honesty, Independence,
Perseverance, Inclusivity, Politeness**

School documents can be printed, translated, or made available in alternative formats (e.g. large print), on request.



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