

Dear Staff, PTA members, Parents and carers and all concerned,

As many of you are aware, schools across England are facing dramatic reductions in funding, creating unprecedented pressure, with some schools facing a reduction close to £200,000.

A group of parents and carers at St Matthew's is trying to help, please join them:

**April Fool's Day March – meet at 4pm, at Reality Checkpoint,
Parker's Piece, Cambridge**

We are going to march to the Guildhall on April Fool's Day to highlight the "foolish" funding cuts schools are suffering and to demand more money for education from local and central government. "Don't take us for fools! We deserve a properly funded education!" the children will shout, after meeting at Reality Checkpoint on Parker's Piece at 4pm on Monday April 1st. Along with parents, teachers, councillors and celebrities, the children are being invited to dress up as fantasy characters from their favourite TV shows and books, to encourage politicians to stop living in a fantasy land and face up to the reality of what school funding cuts mean for children. Children are also welcome to bring along toys and musical instruments to make as much noise as possible, and to create their own banners protesting the cuts. Afterwards we will congregate at the Guildhall, Market Square and expect to be there by 4.45pm.

This protest march is part of a wider plan to connect with a growing national campaign against school cuts that is being organised by politicians such as Jess Phillips. We are in contact with Jess, and are also getting involved with the organisation schoolcuts.org. We will update parents with more details about how to get involved in the national campaign as soon as we can.

Please join us on the march on Monday 1st April at 4pm on Parker's Piece, more information can be found at facebook.com/groups/fund.our.schools.uk where the march is listed as an event. Please join the facebook group and indicate whether you can attend the event or not as we need to get a rough idea of numbers.