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Mrs Theresa Thornton
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Dear Parents & Carers

October 2020

Free School Meals & Pupil Premium Grant – We need to know if you are eligible!

We would like to make you aware how important it is for our families to continue to apply for Free School Meals (FSM) and the Pupil Premium Grant (PPG*)

We understand that having a child in school can put pressure on families financially. If you have found yourself in changing financial circumstances since the COVID-19 pandemic, you could be eligible for support through registering for FSM and PPG.

The aim of the PPG is to address the gap between the achievements of children. The PPG is paid directly to the school and allows us to offer financial support to families as your child moves through school.

The PPG in 2020-21 is £1,345 for every eligible primary school child. Last year, the School's PPG Funding provided opportunities for children in clubs, group and individual academic provision and extra teacher assistant time for interventions. We were also able to support families over partial school closures with resources delivered to the family home and crucial, regular contact with inclusion workers to support those who needed it.

Children who are entitled to PPG funding receive free milk daily, a uniform allowance and support towards the cost of school enrichment activities and trips. We subsidise our extra-curricular activities using PPG and this allows us to offer a rich variety of sports activities and music tuition. We have also been able to develop further our Forest Schools provision, made possible using the PPG.

The number of pupils eligible for the PPG in our school is lower than average both nationally and for the area, indicating that there are still pupils out there who are eligible but whose families may not have applied – perhaps if your child is in KS1 and already in receipt of a free meal, or you do not





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think that you meet the thresholds? Whatever the reason, PPG Funding could help towards the cost of school, and we would urge you to apply.

Your details need to be registered with the Education Welfare Benefits team so that eligibility can be assessed. To do this, follow the link below, or fill in the hard copy application with this letter and return to the School office. If you would like help to fill out the form, please ask. We treat all information you give us in school confidentially and it is shared only on a 'need to know' basis.

https://cambridgeshire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Apply_for_Education_Welfare_Benefits

We would urge all families to register their details regardless of current income. You only need to register once and your details will be regularly checked so that, if your circumstances change, even for a short while, you could potentially become eligible. Registration can be done at any point either before your child starts school, or throughout the year.

Warm Regards,

Mrs. E Verney-Davies
Deputy Headteacher

** Children who are currently FSM or who have been eligible for FSM in the past 6 years automatically become eligible for PPG funding which remains until they finish primary school.*

