Update from the School Council: Of Sharing Minutes and Giving by So Many of Innumerable Hours

As the school year draws to a close it is time for a brief update on some of the many things we have achieved at our school over the last year.

The recent successful visit by the School Inspection Service ended with a wonderful endorsement of the work we are all doing together at our school. Details will be published in the new school year when the report is officially placed on line from the School Inspection Service but in the meantime here is a hint: 😊.

The scaffolding has been removed from the bunkhouse and with it the Gateway project is nearing completion within budget and only marginally outside of an ambitious time schedule. Amongst many other things, some thirty years after our school began its work, we now have three-phase electricity, a working heating system across all buildings, an updated sewerage system, a woodchip boiler and three new buildings. They stand as a symbol of the many talents we have within our school community and what we can achieve when we roll up our sleeves and put them to work. Earlier in the year, the interest rate was fixed at 4.84% for the 20 year repayment plan on bank loan, a rate well below expectations.

Our sincere thanks to all those who have given innumerable hours beyond the call of duty and voluntarily to making this happen.

The admissions team led by Kaycee Fordham has worked hard behind the scenes with the result that we will be starting the next academic year with more pupils across the school. We will miss those of you leaving us and we welcome the many new children and their families warmly!

The new management structure consisting of College and School Management Team has now taken shape and Council is looking forward to ratifying the new way of working in the next term. Our website will be updated shortly to reflect the changes.

My thanks also on behalf of the finance office to the response we have seen to the recent call to settle outstanding invoices. Going forward, please bear in mind that as a charity we charge to cover our costs and we run a lean operation. Ensuring our school is as accessible as possible is important to us, but so is paying our teachers an income that respects what they do. So, one thing you can do is pay your bills on time...

...the other is to join the rest of the community on one of two working days per term and assist the estates team in keeping our grounds in good shape – for those who have forgotten (or didn’t know) this is a requirement for all parents – and it is fun!

Last but not least, along with the minutes from all Council meetings and communications since November, draft minutes for our AGM on 17th June are now available on the school website. Please send your comments by email to edwinaintotnes@gmail.com.

With thanks for all your support and best wishes for the summer,

On behalf of School Council,
Marcus Link, Chair