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PENNAETH DROS DRO /ACTING HEADTEACHER: Mr M Davies BA (hons), P.G.C.E

Dear Parents/Colleagues,

2017 has been a year of challenge and change for our school. In December we appointed our new headteacher, who has already been actively working with us on our Post Inspection Action Plan and School Development Plan over the past weeks and months. Mr McGovern will be joining us in September. In March we received our Individual School Budget and from this it is clear that challenge and change will remain part of the school's landscape for some time.

With this in mind and with the end of the summer term fast approaching, we thought parents and colleagues would welcome more information about 'where we are' and the 'road ahead'. So in the spirit of openness, in the knowledge that there will continue to be things that are unknown to us at this point and therefore the need to remain responsive; this will be our direction of travel.

School Budgets

For a myriad of reasons Greenhill's Individual School Budget (ISB) is shrinking. Our income for the 2016/17 year was £4,431,707, in 2017/18 we will have £4,109,234 available and in 2019/20 we expect this to fall to £4,065,520. At the same time, in line with other schools nationwide, costs have risen. Whilst there are opportunities to generate some income ourselves we do have to acknowledge the realities that substantial savings will have to be found. This will require significant restructuring of the curriculum, potentially narrowing the breadth of curriculum offer, increases in set sizes; reduction of staffing at all levels in the organisation, as well as all other means of being as efficient and effective as possible.

This may sadly mean that we may not be able continue to offer everything that we do currently. Despite these challenges we will continue to work hard to improve the quality of the education and standards at the school. For this we will require every pupil, parent and member of staff to contribute positively and meaningfully to make Greenhill a school of which we and our local community can be justly proud.



Standards and Expectations

Despite the need for financial prudence we will be raising our expectations at Greenhill with immediate effect. If we wait until the beginning of the next academic year, there will be a missed opportunity in the remaining seven weeks of the summer term 2017.

Therefore, the next academic year will begin on Monday 5th June 2017. Each year group will move up, for example year 7 moving to year 8 with a new Head of Year Mrs Rapi and year 9 will graduate to the upper school and begin their G.C.S.E's. To ensure we realise our potential our expectations will create a school where:

- Everyone performs to the very best of their ability in everything that they do, each time seeking to improve on their previous performance.
- Our community actively respects and supports each other, where equality and dignity are the norm and where diversity is embraced and nurtured as something that enriches us.
- Staff are unrelenting in their expectation for high standards, and consistent in the application of our standards.
- Pupils work cooperatively and collaboratively with staff, taking direction from their teachers, and taking responsibility for their learning and behaviour.
- Our behaviours and attitudes seek to enrich our school community; the individual, those around them and the environment in which we live and work.
- Parents actively support the goals and expectations of the school. Taking every opportunity they can to contribute to making the school an exceptional community of learning.

Ultimately, as a community of learning we should all embrace the opportunity to learn. Not because this will lead solely to a life of useful work but for its own sake. Education and a passion for learning has the ability to enrich and transform our lives, our chances and our choices. Making the world the better for our being in it and the contribution we can make to it. We can think of no one who has been diminished as the result of being well educated and whilst there are challenges ahead, if we are relentless and unapologetic in our endeavours to achieve excellence. There is nothing we cannot overcome or achieve together.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. Matthew Davies
Acting Headmaster



Mr. Raymond McGovern
Headmaster designate