



St. Stephen's C.E. Primary School

Winchester Road

Twickenham

Middlesex TW1 1LF

020 8892 3462

Building Each Other Up in Love and Learning

26th November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are very grateful to the families that have made donations to the St Stephen's School Trust. As you may be aware Virgin Money Giving is ceasing to take donations from the end of this month, so to easily facilitate donations, we have set up replacement ways to donate. Please see the new ways of donating below:

Via Invest my Community:

<https://app.investmycommunity.com/st-stephens-school-trust-2695>

Via PayPal – please also click link in PayPal to boost your donation by adding gift aid:

<https://www.paypal.com/gb/fundraiser/charity/3138736>

The provision of specialist teachers and mental health support is core to the St Stephens vision for our children. However, sadly, they are not core to Local Authority funding which means there is a very real threat that we will not be able to continue to provide these opportunities. This year we are again facing a funding shortfall of £100,000 which mean we rely heavily on the school fund and FOSS.

We have faced a very challenging year financially and things aren't improving. We have a roof that is leaking in several places, our energy bills are about to rise significantly, and our ongoing increased costs related to covid are causing additional financial strain. We would also like to undertake general maintenance to the building and grounds to prevent significant bills in the future. We urgently need funds this year to continue the provision of specialist music provision in every year group. Furthermore, some of our interactive whiteboards and chrome books are failing and we need to replace them. Any donation will help us.

The Governors, along with the senior leadership team, are investigating ways to not only improve the facilities for the children but also put the school in a position where it can achieve significant income from hiring out the school facilities. Our aim is to primarily fund these improvements through grants to enable school to remain on a more secure financial footing in the longer term and enable us to continue to deliver the school vision.

FOSS do an amazing job in raising significant amounts of money to enhance your children's education and provide essential resources to support the school but under PTA rules, FOSS can't pay for operational costs. This is where the school fund comes in, contributing to the specialist teachers, teaching assistants, building repairs, new infrastructure and supporting the school as required.

What do we need:

If you have a regular payment set up with Virgin Money Giving, we would really appreciate it if you could set up a regular donation via one of the new sites. If you don't yet donate and are in a position to do so, we would urge you to support the school through donations either as a one-off amount or a monthly figure. Regular contributions to the school fund make budgeting for the future much clearer but **any** donation makes a significant difference.

We understand that not everyone is in a position to make a financial contribution and there are many ways which our parents already support the school, and we are truly grateful for your time and support.

If you are looking for a venue for a party (for children or adults!), please remember that the school hall is available in the evenings and at weekends.

Yours faithfully,

E. Bachour
Headteacher

Alice Bishop
Chair of Governors

How to donate to the St Stephen's School Trust:

Via Invest my Community:

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Via PayPal – please also click link in PayPal to boost your donation by adding gift aid:

<https://www.paypal.com/gb/fundraiser/charity/3138736>

Via Direct Debit:

Name of Account: St Stephens School Trust Fund

Account number: 01117792

Sort code: 30 97 06

If you are donating via direct debit and are a UK taxpayer then please also complete the form below to enable the School Trust to reclaim the Gift Aid to increase funds.

Gift Aid

St. Stephen's School Trust is a registered charity (Charity No. 800126) and if you are a UK tax payer we are allowed to reclaim gift aid on donations made to the School Trust.

The tax reclaim, from HMRC, will help boost the school's finances therefore enabling us to have extra money for resources and projects for our school.

If you are a UK taxpayer and would like St. Stephen's School Trust to reclaim gift aid from your donations please completed the form below. The Gift Aid acceptance can be cancelled at any time.

DECLARATION

Child/Children's Name:& Year Group

Donors Details:

Title: First Name..... Surname.....

Full Home Address:

Postcode:

I agree for St. Stephen's School Trust to reclaim gift aid on my behalf from the date below until I inform them otherwise.

Date:..... Signature:.....

Please notify St. Stephen's if:

- You want to cancel this declaration
- There has been a change your name or home address
- You no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

Please return your form completed and signed to the School Office or by Post to 'Finance Officer, St. Stephen's School, Winchester Road, Twickenham, TW1 1LF.' St. Stephen's School Winchester Road Twickenham, TW1 1LF