

Success for today, prepared for tomorrow

Friday 3rd March 2017

If they don't listen to me, perhaps they will listen to you.

Over the next few years Bonneville Primary School, alongside most schools in England, will have to make difficult choices over staffing and resources as we manage with less money.

We will have less money because school budgets have been cut from 8- 10% in real terms over the last few years as schools have had to meet the cost of pay rises, increased pension and National insurance costs and "taxes" such as the Apprenticeship Levy.

At Bonneville Primary School, it is estimated that we will lose approximately £686 per pupil. The future looks bleak. Although some schools will gain a little extra money through a fairer funding system being introduces across England next year, the future is still bleak for most. Schools across England are close to financial crisis.

I, along with most Headteachers, will need to make difficult choices as I consider what to cut: Teaching assistants?
Support staff?
Teachers?
Resources?
Counselling and support services?

Headteachers across England are crying out to the government for help but we do not feel we are being heard. If they won't listen to us, perhaps they will listen to you, the parents, expressing concern for the education of your child. We need your help to show local and central government that school funding is in crisis.

I will of course be working with governors to ensure we do whatever we can to limit the worst effects of the cuts and will also be lobbying our local MP, Chuka Umunna so that he is aware of the negative impact such cuts will have on our school. I would also encourage you to get in touch with him to express your concern. You may wish to sign an online petition at www.schoolcuts.org.uk.

There is a Lambeth-wide event, organised by parents who are part of the *Fair Funding for All Schools – Lambeth* campaign group, on 15th March at 7pm at Sunnyhill Primary School, Sunnyhill Road, London SW16 2UW. All parents are welcome to attend. Together we can get a fair deal for Lambeth schools.

Thank you for taking time to read my concerns.

Yours sincerely

Miss A. Parker Headteacher