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Headteacher Mrs Lesley Lutas-Brown

25th March 2019

Dear Parents,

In my role of Chair of Governors I am writing to update you on the progress on school priorities and the important work of the PTA. As you know Greatworth is a strong and supportive community. Greatworth School has committed and hard working staff and a strong governing body who have led the school to 'Good' with some outstanding features which was recognised in the OFSTED Inspection in January 2018.

Having three children at the school and being resident in Greatworth since 2009, I believe that as a small community school we are fortunate in being able to provide small class sizes in dedicated key stage groups. Children at Greatworth interact across age groups and they thrive and grow because of the broad curriculum and extra-curricular activities available, including various sports, music, drama and visual and performing arts, not to mention the access to the farm and Forest School Club. This results in high standards and children who enjoy coming to school.

As a parent and Governor, I am also immensely proud of what our pupils achieve, last Year's year 6 are now in secondary school and the Government has just published the school performance results. I am pleased to confirm that Greatworth pupils performed above County and National average standards, and would encourage you to look at the great results and performance tables at <https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk>

2018 was a busy year improving the look and appearance of the school. Willow class has seen some structural improvements to provide a more open class room with additional sound attenuation to improve the learning environment and the recent redecoration and displays look great. We have also received good news that the Local Authority have agreed to fund a major refurbishment of the school roof, this will take place during the summer holidays followed by redecoration of Beech Class.

All schools nationally do however continue to face financial challenges and Greatworth like other schools is being asked to do more with less resources based on a decline in funding that in real terms has not kept pace with inflation over the past 8 years. Through increasing pupil numbers and with the



Silver Award



support of the school staff and Governing Body, we will continue to look at ways of increasing our funding.

The PTA continue to do an amazing job in raising funds for the school and I am always mindful that as a small community there are many demands for support for various worthy causes, so your ongoing support for the school is very much appreciated. Recently we have been increasingly reliant on the PTA to support with essentials such as books and materials, as well as larger items such as the willow dome, IT and outdoor equipment.

The PTA also pay for the much loved Forrest School outings, they provide coaches for school trips to make them more affordable for parents and they are always on hand to support events with a cup of tea (or glass of wine) when required. Their latest fundraising will enable the school to purchase new laptops essential for covering the ICT part of the school curriculum.

Parental contributions and a strong PTA is now vital to the financial success of any school and we are fortunate that our PTA can offer such amazing events for the families of pupils and the wider community. In September several of the current long serving PTA members are due to step down. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their hard work over many years and to encourage some new members to volunteer to continue this essential support.

If you are able to help, please contact either the school office, Fiona Edwards or Siobon Herring.

2018 has been a progressive and successful year in many areas and I look forward to your continued support and an equally progressive 2019.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Froom', with a large, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Michael Froom

Chair of Governors
Greatworth Primary School