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[www.wheatfields.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.wheatfields.cambs.sch.uk)



Mrs Theresa Thornton  
Headteacher  
Mrs Emma Verney-Davies  
Deputy Headteacher  
Mrs Gemma Edwards  
Assistant Headteacher

Dear Parents & Carers

September 2017

### **Pupil Premium Grant – We need to know if you are eligible!**

From September 2014, **all** children in EYFS & Key Stage 1 became eligible for a daily school meal. We are delighted that so many parents and carers continue to encourage their children to try school meals and have been heartened by the many clean plates! However, as a result of this change, we have seen the numbers of families applying for Free School Meals (FSM)\* and the Pupil Premium Grant (PPG)\* drop. We would like to make you aware how important it is for parents to continue to apply for these, and how the money is used to facilitate opportunities for pupils at Wheatfields.

The PPG was introduced by the Coalition Government in 2012 with the aim of addressing the gap between the achievements of children. Historically, many children who come from families with a lower income *can* go on to achieve less well than their peers. The PPG in 2017-18 is £1,320 for every primary school child from a family on a lower income. Last year, the school received roughly £65,000 in PPG Funding which provided opportunities for children in clubs, group interventions, inclusion workers working with families and extra teacher assistant time. We have also purchased specialist resources for these projects and invested in high quality training.

**Children who are entitled to PPG funding receive free milk, a uniform allowance and support towards the cost of school outings and residential trips. We subsidise our many and varied extra-curricular activities partly through PPG and this allows us to offer a rich and varied diet of sports activities and music tuition. We also run very popular Forest Schools sessions, boosting confidence and enthusiasm for school, which has been made possible using the PPG funding.**

Numbers of pupils eligible for the PPG in our school is lower than average both nationally and for the area, indicating that there are still pupils out there who are eligible but whose families may not have applied – perhaps if your child is in KS1 and already in receipt of a free meal, or you do not



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think that you meet the thresholds? Whatever the reason, PPG Funding could help towards the cost of school, and we would urge you to apply. If you would like help to fill out the form, please do not feel uncomfortable asking us – there really is no such thing as a daft question! We treat all information you give us in school confidentially and it is shared only on a 'need to know' basis.

Alongside this letter we have provided some information and an application form which we would be grateful to receive back. Please pop in to see myself or Mrs. Moffat if you would like support in filling out the form.

Warm Regards,

Mrs. E Verney-Davies  
Deputy Headteacher

\* Children who are currently FSM or who have been eligible for FSM in the past 6 years automatically become eligible for PPG funding.

