

Better Buildings Committee Update

June 2022

As mentioned at the last governors meeting, it was felt that ring rounds to ask parents for money was inappropriate, particularly against a backdrop of the rising cost of living which has worsened the financial position for most people and doesn't appear to be easing.

As a result, Melissa and I have met to discuss the various options and agreed that a change of approach is now required for our fundraising effort.

There are two strands to the new approach. Firstly, targeting specific grants, which the school has had some great success with already. The second strand is to put together a fundraising strategy built around a specific project that will benefit the whole community so we can approach multiple sources for financial support. It was felt that the swimming pool was a suitable project as it urgently requires a complete refurbishment that could easily cost in excess of £250k. That would enable a strong community aspect due to the usage by local primary schools, Barracuda's and other organisations. It will also unlock the possibility of match funding by Sport England and other funding sources. Possibly sponsorship as well. Importantly, we can then reach out to parents for support with this specific project and present the request in a way that we believe would be well-received.

Melissa and I plan to meet soon to progress the plan. Once we are clearer about this, we can then reinstate the Better Buildings Committee meetings following the pause through covid.

Jason Oster