

Priory School Minibuses

As you are probably all aware, at Priory School we run three minibuses which are invaluable for all the work we do with our students across the whole curriculum range and all pupils in school this year have benefitted from the opportunities these wonderful vehicles enable us to conduct. We have never charged pupils for the use of the minibuses, as is common in many schools, and all the upkeep for these vehicles is provided from school fund.

We are now in the situation where one of our minibuses, at fourteen years old, needs replacing; it has seen sterling service in the local community, nationally and abroad. We have been fortunate to receive a promise of a minibus from the charity 'Lord Taverners' but we have to match-fund the bus – this means that we have to provide half the cost of the bus. Our outlay is to be £28,000 and, so far, we have been able to raise £18,000, which leaves us with a deficit of £10,000.

I have been asked to begin the process of raising the £10,000, which would be needed by summer 2017 at the latest. This is not an impossible task but I am relying on the goodwill of our community and everyone connected with school to help achieve this.

During my time at Priory School (how quickly twenty-five years passes!), I have helped with fund-raising for four minibuses for transporting groups of pupils. As my final gift to the school before retiring, I would love to be able to set the school well on its way to achieving their goal but to do this I require the support of you all.

You may be asking how you can help – so here goes: -

1. Please support our raffle by sending in prizes and buying some tickets – you have to be in it, to win it!
2. Encourage your child to learn the Christmas-themed spelling list, when it is sent out, and to find lots of sponsors. There will be a prize for the pupil who raises most money!
3. Let your child take part in the non-uniform day on 21st November and pay a fine for not wearing school uniform (!) – a raffle prize or £1 is all it takes to be allowed to come to school without uniform (but please send in lots of other raffle prizes too!).
4. There is going to be a loose change collecting tub available in Reception. We would be grateful to receive any odd bits of change (£p only please) any time you come into school.
5. I am contacting various charity and business organisations at present to try and raise some sponsorship but if you know anyone who can help, please let me know. Similarly, if you are part of an organisation that makes grants to groups – please tell them about our minibus fund. Or see if you can help us by raising money in your work place!
6. There will be some events during next term that you will be able to help us with so please look out for information about these and give school your support. Fantastic evening of entertainment and dancing coming up at the end of January – more information to follow at the beginning of next term, but it will be a grand night out!
7. If you have any ideas to help with fund raising, please contact me. I have a long list, but further ideas are always gratefully received.

K Isaacs