



Breakspeare School
 Gallows Hill Lane
 Abbots Langley
 Hertfordshire
 WD5 0BU

Tel: 01923 263645
 Fax: 01923 260087

admin@breakspeare.herts.sch.uk

Merja Paakkonen
 Head Teacher

26th May 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

The government recently announced plans to make all schools academies and although an extension to its time line has been extended the issue is still very much on the agenda. In our drive to provide the best possible provision for Breakspeare School we have begun initial talks within the governing body, with the local authority and other local SEN schools. We will also investigate multi-academy trusts and free schools as a part of our future planning.

It has been agreed, with the governing body, that over the next six months we will spend time exploring the best options, timescales and possibilities which will result in a long term plan for Breakspeare School's future. We expect to have a strategic decision within the first half of the 2016-17 academic year.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to our recent survey. It was pleasing to note that the vast majority of respondents are happy with the provision that Breakspeare community provide. This survey is completely anonymous and is therefore an important way to express your thoughts and for us to continually improve our practice. Please be assured that we are committed to providing high quality provision for your child and we welcome your feedback. Please do not hesitate to contact us with issues that may be causing you concern so that we can work together to resolve them.

The governing body has approved the budget for the 2016-17 school year. Like many schools, year on year, our financial position is getting tighter and we have to be very careful when planning the school's future resources. In September 2016 there will be a ninth class, which, due to the increasing number of students attending Breakspeare School is necessary. The cost of setting this up is significant but as a community we feel that this is essential, as we want to keep our class sizes small. We are also investing a significant amount of our carry forward to improve our transport area and some classroom environments. Please see the information below regarding our budget.

	Last financial year 2015-16	New financial year 2016-17
Total Income revenue	1910317,89	1,839,492
In year surplus		248,248
Total Expenditure Revenue	1890522,06	2,087,740
Surplus / Carry Forward	302072,51	
Cumulative surplus		53,697



We are currently recruiting staff for some vacancies. Ben Hawkins our site manager has got a promotion to the Premises Manager Role at Rickmansworth School and will start in his new role in July. Julie Irons-Little and Ellen Watson are leaving us due to relocation and career change at the end of June. Ben, Julie and Ellen have made a significant contribution to the school community and they will be greatly missed. We wish them all the best in their new adventures.

We have received absolutely fantastic news from the restaurant, ZAZA, who over the last two years have been raising money for us. They have raised the astonishing amount of £15,000. This money will be spent on buying a people carrier to enable more frequent educational visits into the community for our students. We are extremely grateful for their generosity of time and money. ZAZA will be providing refreshments for our annual Sports Day, which will be on June 14th. We would like to make this a very special occasion and we welcome everyone to attend. Please remember to bring a packed lunch.

As part of an International School Partnership project we are welcoming a group of German students and their teachers to Breakspeare School for a week commencing Monday 13th June. The focus of the exchange is on sport and it is brilliant that will be with us during the week of our Sports Day celebrations.

Finally, you will receive information about your child's class including the other pupils and staff and their end of year progress report in July.

I wish you and your family a relaxing and happy half term holiday.

Merja

