

## *Marsh Mail*

This time of year is filled with enrichment activities and celebrations in schools. It is also a challenging time for setting budgets and timetabling for the following academic year. In recent times this has become increasingly difficult due to financial pressures faced by schools.

There has been significant press coverage of this issue in recent months, including action taken by young people and their families to challenge the impact that this issue has on their education and their future.

The march conducted on Parker's Piece, Cambridge in April showed the strength of feeling shared by parent/carers and students about real-terms cuts to money received by schools. Linton Village College, like other schools across the County continues to suffer the inequities of historic funding arrangements. In correspondence shared with the school community as part of the national Worth Less? campaign I have detailed specific issues that we face by not having sufficient funding and the impact that this has on school staffing.

In 2019/2020 LVC will be £174,000 worse off than the promised minimum funding for schools as set out in the National Funding Formula. We will be the equivalent of £360,000 worse off next year than we were in 2010 due to rising costs.

I am very grateful for the support from parents/carers in raising these issues with local MPs. I met the Secretary of State for Education, Damian Hinds, in May to raise my concerns directly on behalf of head teachers that are struggling to balance budgets.

I am also really appreciative of the great work done by the Friends of LVC to fundraise for much-needed improvements to College facilities and resources. This group is not limited to parents of children at the College. Nicola Tudge, Chair of the Friends, welcomes support from volunteers to run events that raise funds for LVC: Nicola [friends@lvc.org](mailto:friends@lvc.org).

Education is a crucial investment in our children and their future. I hope our collective voices will help to provide the pressure that is needed to ensure all schools receive the funding they need and students deserve.