

## Marsh Mail

Education news has been awash with challenges faced by schools. There have been a number of high profile campaigns, including [www.schoolsjustwannahavefunds.org](http://www.schoolsjustwannahavefunds.org) to address endemic funding issues that are affecting our ability to deliver the excellent education that all children deserve.

After months of consultation, the National Funding Formula was published in September. Despite a commitment to tackle inherent inequalities that saw schools in Cambridgeshire being grossly underfunded on the basis of historic formulae, the indicative figures demonstrate little real improvement.

Linton Village College stands to gain a nominal amount over the coming years. Unfortunately much of this is wiped out by real-term cost increases, meanwhile caps to protect the funding of better-off counties maintain existing inequities. If we were positioned over the Essex border we would see around £105,000 more in our annual budget; if we were in Greater Manchester we'd be over a million pounds better off; in Hackney we would receive an extra £2.5 million.

Making the books balance is becoming increasingly more difficult. We are keen to maintain a holistic and enriching learning experience at LVC, avoiding a narrowing of the curriculum that other schools in the area have resorted to, or having to cut back on much-needed pastoral and learning support, especially as access to other services are under significant pressure.

We are really grateful to the school community for supporting us with fundraising. The Chestnut Tree at West Wrattling raised over £1,300 from donations from their beer festival at the start of term which has been committed to improving IT resources. We are awaiting a final total of the monies raised from our annual sponsored walk which will help to update school facilities.

The Friends of LVC have recruited a new Chair and Secretary to the committee and we are thrilled that this important source of support will continue. Anyone wishing to volunteer can contact [friends@lvc.org](mailto:friends@lvc.org).

I know that many LVC past and present families and the wider community already contribute to LVC's Trust Fund. If you would like to contribute on a monthly, annual or one-off basis, please contact [Jackie.Bailey@lvc.org](mailto:Jackie.Bailey@lvc.org).

Helena Marsh

Executive Principal