

Classroom & Clubhouse Update

To build the school's much-needed fourth, fit-for-purpose classroom, the old mobile classroom (believed to be from 1971!) will need to be removed. The government funding in place for this project must to be spent by March, so expect to see the diggers arriving in February!

During the construction period, Chilton Club Childcare, which provides an essential wraparound childcare service to so many families, will be temporarily located within the school building. This is far from ideal, but continuing to provide this valued service during this time is an absolute priority.

While gaining a new classroom is terrific news, it presents an opportunity to create a new and larger space for Chilton Club Childcare, which has become so critical to the community, particularly working families. Consequently we are working in partnership with the new charity, Chilton Foliat Community Association (registered charity number: 1180519) to support the school and the wider community in building **The Community Clubhouse**, a multi-purpose community space next to the new classroom. It will come into its own when the playing fields are created adjacent to the car park! There are many exciting ways this new space will benefit the school and wider community, and building both spaces together (classroom and clubhouse) provides huge economies of scale, but also provides a significant fundraising challenge, especially given the tight timescales!

The charity has a fundraising team who are working hard with the school, wider community and grant providers to secure the £85,000 needed. It's wonderful to see such incredible support for the fundraising effort! The children are getting involved with 'Grow a Fiver', and parents and friends of the school are encouraged to 'Pledge a Plank' (see previous emails with the link to The Good Exchange). **In a very short time, pledges and donations from villagers, alumni, friends of the school, businesses and trusts have together raised an incredible sum of over £21,300, so we are already over a quarter of the way there!**

At celebration assembly on Fridays, the children will be colouring in planks on the fundraising tracker to share progress. It will also be at the Wheatsheaf Pub, and you can keep an eye on progress on FaceBook: Chilton Foliat Community Association.

Although there is a fundraising team, we encourage everyone to help this amazing cause; ask employers whether there are fundraising opportunities; ask alumni, friends and family of businesses if they would like to help by 'pledging a plank'. As you can see from the incredible success so far, every contribution makes a difference!

Please feel free to contact the charity's fundraising team via their email:

chiltonfoliatcommunity@gmail.com