

Lernmittelfonds : Charles-Dickens-Grundschule : School Book Fund

Dear Parents,

we would like to inform you of the current situation with regards to the school book fund. Under normal circumstances we would currently be organising the registrations for the school book fund for the forthcoming school year. However due to political circumstances we are not able to do this.

The Berlin authorities are proposing to reintroduce free school books for primary school children in classes 1 to 6 as from the coming school year 2018 – 2019. This proposition still needs to be voted on by the politicians but it is expected to be carried through.

The school authorities have given us very clear instructions not to accept any further registrations for the school fund, nor to collect any further funds. We have also been instructed to prepare for the dissolution of the school book fund to take place latest 31st December 2018.

We are therefore proactively working on the following:

1. Ordering the school books for a punctual delivery.

The school has sufficient funds to place an order for the school books and material required for all children in the coming school year.

The LMF team already has the necessary structure and a good supplier in place. The LMF team will work together with the school and place the book order as normal with our supplier. Therefore we expect a punctual delivery at the beginning of the new school year so that lessons can start on time.

2. Payout of the school book fund deposits

We have an accurate record of all deposits that have been paid. The funds for the the deposits are banked in a separate "Tagesgeldkonto". This means we have immediate access to the funds as and when required.

We now need to collect the bank account details from all parents to payout the deposits. We were already in the process of building an online portal to assist with the registration and deregistration process. This will now be adapted for deregistrations only and will be used to collect all bank details quickly and accurately. We expect to start with this process at the beginning of June.

As normal the deposits for the approximately 80 children leaving the school will be paid out as soon as possible at the end of the school year. We will pay out the remaining 300 deposits as soon as possible but please be aware that this may take some time.

We use a double signing system and have only two persons with signing rights for the bank account. Furthermore, these two persons will be carrying out the work in their free time. However we are certain that all payouts will be completed by 31st December 2018 so that we can dissolve the school book fund as requested.

Clearly this is a big change and will involve a lot of work to ensure a smooth transition. We will keep you informed once we have more information but in the meantime ask you to be patient.

Please use the school website to keep yourself informed. Should you have an urgent inquiry you can contact the LMF team per e-mail at cdgs-lmf@outlook.de or the school secretary at Verwaltung@Charles-Dickens-gs.de

With best wishes,
Frank Effenberger, der GEV Vorstand und das LMF Team