

## **Rhayader Town Council** – Report on Rhayader Primary school

The school (like many across Powys) is facing a crisis in funding, that the head teacher & the finance committee are working very hard to mitigate but the financial outlook is very bleak, which poses some real challenges.

The school recently experienced a serious flood which resulted in the school having to close. A combined effort by school staff, PCC and our local fire brigade resulted in a small miracle as the school was able to re-open in just two days. One thing resulting from this was that the school's emergency planning proved to be Fit for Purpose!

It is understood that the need for a new perimeter fence has been agreed by David Thompson and has apparently been put on the "Schools service major improvements programme for 2019-20" - pending approval from finance.

There is an ongoing issue with the school drains – the play- ground drain (soakaway) frequently blocks so flooding the playground. This coincides with the toilets not flushing so also blocking - it is not clear what the connection is between the storm drains and soil drains. Metrrod a drain company have inspected; they believe that the old clay pipes have collapsed. This is further complicated due to the school drain running UNDER the building.

But that despite all this, standards in the school continued to be good with pupil outcomes amongst the highest in Powys. I was honoured to be able to attend a fabulous celebration of creative learning at the school, which showcased ways in which the school is ahead of the game in adapting to the new curriculum.

Cllr. Angela Davies