Trump 'is an idiot with brains of a schoolboy,' say his aides

of an 11-year-old, a book claims.

In Fear: Trump in the White attack on Syrian civilians in 2017, gone to great lengths to avert House, journalist Bob Woodward Trump reportedly told military says Chief of Staff John Kelly told a brass he wanted to assassinate staff meeting: "He's an idiot.

"It's pointless to try to convince

DONALD Trump's frustrated aides Iames Mattis said Trump had the 75, who along with Carl Bernstein say the US President has the brains "understanding of a fifth-grader".

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

According to Woodward, the of how the White House operates, him of anything. He's gone off the Defence Secretary responded by rails. We're in crazy town. I don't telling the President he would work book" and suggested the journalist even know why any of us are here. on plans, but then hung up the made up some of the content. This is the worst job I've ever had." phone and told an aide, "We're not **NIKE KNEES TRUMP: P23**

uncovered the Watergate scandal. Following a chemical weapons claims the President's team have disaster as they struggle under him.

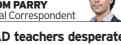
> Trump pushed back against Woodward's scathing new account saving that it's "just another bad



CRISIS IN OUR CLASSROOMS: SCHOOL WEEK CUT

Heads bring in shorter hours to balance the books as Tory austerity cripples education

EXCLUSIVE BY TOM PARRY



HEAD teachers desperately trying to balance the books due to Tory cuts are putting pupils on shorter weeks in a bid to save even more cash as the schools crisis deepens. And they warn the drastic move could

severely jeopardise the education of tens of thousands of children unless Theresa May ends her crippling austerity.

Many have been left with no choice

but to bring in a 4.5-day week for kids as they cannot staff classrooms properly. The measures come as a Mirror investigation found schools are so

strapped for cash many special needs pupils are not getting support as heads have had to axe teaching assistants, leading to fears of behavioural problems. That is coupled with a lack of basic equipment, growing class sizes, no cash

to repair leaky buildings, staff shortages and cancelled school trips. At least 24 schools across the land, including 14 in Birmingham alone, have ditched lessons on

than 200 other heads have warned they are considering Paul Whiteman, general secretary of the National Union of Headteachers, said: "The idea that some schools have moved to a 4.5 day week and that others are considering the deserve better than this bargain basesame option ought to be ringing serious

alarm bells with the Government. "School budgets are at breaking point. to make major changes to the way they provide education.

Has your child's school been hit by budget cuts? Contact the Daily Mirror newsdesk at mirrornews@

situation will only get worse. Children and young people ment version of an education system.

addressed a dire

Sending pupils home at lunchtime on Fridays means heads can employ fewer School leaders have made all the obvious assistants to provide cover for teachers savings, now they are faced with having who are out of the classroom doing vital preparation work for other lessons.

Many heads, with some begging Kevin Courtney, joint general parents to provide cash for basic

expect the deficit to rise as their wage 2020, it will be £377,668. bills go up annually through statutory pay rises while income is static.

Catholic Primary School in Enfield, who need it. The future is very bleak. North London, blasted Tory claims that education would be protected.

asn't changed with inflation.

start the new term in debt. They is now £77,000. Within three years, by and extra-curricular opportunities. "We have fewer teaching assistants

Kate Baptiste, head of St Monica's individually and give support to those "There will be a drop in standards."

were given the same amount as will be dire. Austerity measures will when she came in to office." previous years". Kate added: "This cause us to keep reducing the staffing."

Jules White, head of a secondary

beleaguered core budgets. "The Government must do far more

We will not be able to nurture children truly wants to end the burning social in reality there has been an 8% cut in She said it simply meant schools in the same way. The repercussions injustices that Theresa May spoke of

Louise Regan, head at Hillocks "I used to spend 80% of my budget school in West Sussex, said: "There is Notts, added: "You only have a finite 2021 even with the additional £1billion on salaries, now it is 92%. The a drip, drip, drip effect of these savage budget and by the time you have paid a year the Government is providing by

"Schools like mine are having to use They aren't getting the same level of closure within 18 months without an funds earmarked for the most support that they did a few years ago. who can listen to children read disadvantaged families to prop up our That will have the knock-on effect of an increase in exclusions."

> budgets since 2010, according to the Institute for Fiscal Studies.

The IFS said school funding would

pens, have told how their schools will resources for the children. Our deficit there are significant cuts to curricular left. There just isn't enough money to It is feared 400 of the worst-hit state help children with complex needs. nursery schools for under-fives face injection of new money.

shorter week was the only way to

save £35.000 - the equivalent of a

Mrs Gay, who runs Osborne

Primary School in Birmingham, said

naving a half day on Fridays was due

to shrinking budgets and rising costs.

She said: "We would never ever

have thought about it apart from the

"If we hadn't have done that then

we would have run a deficit budget

Mrs Gav, who has met Shadow

Education Secretary Angela Rayner,

added: "We can make small savings;

if I reduce the swimming it's £1,500

The school has had to spend less

on basics like paper, while football is

banned because a dangerous surface

cannot be replaced. Swimming and

music lessons have been cut.

or music it's £2,000 but £3,000 is

peanuts when talking about a

eacher or teaching assistant."

funding issue.

this year."

A survey of school support staff by UNISON released vesterday found Despite Government claims it is drastic cuts, restructuring and stress to support our education system if it spending more than ever on schools, are becoming the norm in schools.

More than four in five workers said they have suffered stress due to their workload in the past five years, with one in five going sick. Nearly three Primary School in Sutton-in-Ashfield, fall by nearly 3% between last year and quarters revealed they were doing work they were not qualified for.

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A SCHOOL in the Prime Minister's constituency asked parents to provide

toilet roll to help it save cash. St Edmund Campion Catholic Primary sent an Amazon wish list link to 17 items also including pens and A3 paper. Elsewhere, school staff have reported

breaktime as kids have nothing to play with. In Hitchin, Herts, Parents Against School Cuts Campaign collected toilet rolls to pass on to schools. And Robert Piggott C of E primary in Wargrave, Berks, asked for a £1 a

day voluntary contribution for stationery.



introduced in April was supposed iron out

discrepancies between regions. Justine Greening, then Education Secretary, said schools would get an increase of 0.5% per pupil from this school year and a 1% increase from 2019-

schools rather than local authorities and minimum funding levels of £4,800 per pupil at secondaries would boost schools that are currently underfunded.

But heads said money was just being recycled from other parts of the

Secretary Angela Rayner said: "For many pupils and schools, funding will fall in real terms between now and 2020.

"There is no new money for education and this funding for schools is coming from other cuts to education budgets.

in PM's patch