

13.09.2018

Dear Parent / Carer,

RE: KS2 pupils - lunch

I am writing to you to give you an update on some changes to lunch arrangements for KS2 pupils this year.

The purpose of the changes are so that:

- Children have longer to play outside having had a decent lunch
- Children have a set time to eat rather than eat a little and throw the rest away – or on the floor
- Children can be supported to eat sensibly and have discussions during their lunchtime
- Packed lunch children bring home their “rubbish” so you can see what they actually eat at lunchtime
- Children will take more responsibility for themselves at lunchtime – enjoying a social rather than noisy and rushed experience
- We increase accuracy in hot food preparation

What is working so far:

- Children are having more time to play – which they all say they love
- Lunchtimes are MUCH calmer, quieter and enjoyable
- Staff have been able to see which children need more time to eat and those who would otherwise rush and or throw food away
- Staff have been able to see which children need more food at lunchtime
- There has been a massive reduction in wasted food (both cooked and brought from home)
- Children are learning to use a knife and fork to eat their cooked food – rather than a spoon for everything

What is not working yet and will be addressed in the coming week:

- Some of the timings are too short. Whilst there is a minimum time expected for children to eat – this will need to be longer. This will begin to be fixed this week
- Children are not saying a reflection at lunchtime to show appreciation for the food that has been made for them
- This will be fixed over the term

Choosing school dinners:

To improve service, school dinners if chosen, must be selected for the **whole term**. We cannot offer a day by day choice through our current contract with Caterlink. This ensures we produce the correct number of hot dinners day in and day out for children.

If you choose school dinners you will be asked to select either the vegetarian menu or non-vegetarian (Halal). Please make your choice on ParentMail and make payment on ParentPay.

Thank you for the feedback and questions from you this week. We will continue to improve the lunchtime experience by investing in new cups, water jugs, serving equipment and by giving children responsibility for helping during service. I will update you again in a couple of weeks with a progress report.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Wynne
Head teacher