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Learning through faith

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Academy
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Tel/Fax: 01282 612191
Date: 14th March 2024

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you are well. As you are aware St Mary's currently use Aspens Catering Services for our school lunches, we have been informed that due to rising food costs that we will have no other option but to increase our school lunch price from £2.41 to £2.50. This will come into effect from after the Easter Break.

I know with the cost of living being at an all-time high this isn't ideal but we want to ensure that the same quality of food is being produced for our children. Some children may be eligible for free school meals if you get any of the following;

- Income support
- Income based job seekers allowance
- Child tax credit
- Universal credit
- Income related employment and support allowance
- The guaranteed element of pension credit

On average if you are eligible for free school meals you can save approximately £475 per school year. You would also receive £15 per week in vouchers during the school holidays which can be spent at most large supermarkets such as Aldi, Asda and Sainsbury's etc. Please visit the below website to check if you are eligible;

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/>

Finally I would just like to reiterate that the snacks that the children bring in for playtime are healthy such as fruit or a healthy breakfast bar, not cake, sweets or chocolate. Too much sugar can impair learning and of course have a negative effect on children's health. Thank you.

Kind regards
Gabrielle Hacking
School Administration Manager



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