



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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Archdiocese of
Birmingham

15th October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Increase in cost of School Meals

As a school we have been proud to have maintained our price for school meals for paying children for many years now at £2.00 per meal even when other schools in the area increased their meal price.

However, despite our best efforts, we now have to recognise the fact that £2.00 does not enable us to cover the total cost of the school meal. Only last week we were informed by our food supplier that food costs will be increasing by 3.5 %. This has only reaffirmed our decision to increase our meal costs. Our supplier provided us with a detailed commodity report which is on the catering page of our school website.

Therefore from 1st November the price of a school meal will increase to £2.50 per meal (£12.50 per week). This price continues to be good value for money for a two course freshly cooked meal. There will also be the return of the salad bar & fruit bar on a Wednesday with a small percentage of jacket potatoes, yogurts, fresh fruit and bread available daily as an alternative to the main meal and dessert.

This change will not affect those who are entitled to free school meals through the Universal Free School Meal programme in Reception and in Years 1 & 2. It will also not affect children in Key Stage 2 who are entitled to Free School Meals. If you are unsure about being eligible for 'Free School Meals' please contact the school office.

Our catering staff pride themselves on providing our children with a healthy and nutritionally balanced meal. The new balanced menu for next term is available along with this letter and is on the catering page of the school website. Children are always encouraged to choose a healthy balanced meal; for many this is an opportunity to introduce them to different foods.

Payment Information

Parents are still required to pay online where possible. The deadline date is midnight on a Thursday for the following week. **WE CANNOT ACCEPT LATE PAYMENTS.** If your child is absent from school, please contact the school kitchen to claim a credit. **IF YOU DO NOT INFORM THE KITCHEN OF YOUR CHILD'S ABSENCE THEY WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO A CREDIT.**

Following a challenging 18 months, we now look forward to welcoming Key Stage 2 back into the dining hall for hot lunches! Thank you for custom and your understanding.

Yours in faith and partnership

Mrs Louise Bury
Headteacher





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