

St Margaret's at Hasbury Church of England Primary School

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LIVING LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

22nd June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you should all be aware, this week, we have experienced staffing issue in our school kitchen. Our cook has had to take emergency leave with a family member, and is not available to work with immediate effect. Another member of our kitchen team has recently left to care for their poorly child. Therefore, we have had to make the difficult decision to only serve a cold menu to pupils in receipt of free school meals, or universal school meals (Rec- Y1 & Y2).

On Monday 19th June, we contacted all parents via *School Life* to advise you that we had cancelled **ALL** meal bookings from *School Money*.

We asked parents to go back on to *School Money* to re-book a cheese or ham grab bag for the rest of the term. This applied to all those in receipt of free school meals, or those in Reception/Year 1/Year 2 who are entitled to a universal free school meal.

We also stated that 'if your child is in Years 3, 4, 5 or 6 and is **NOT** entitled to free school meals, you **MUST** provide them with a packed lunch from tomorrow'.

Many parents did this, and we thank you for your support, as we realise this must be very frustrating for you.

However, a significant number of parents, did not rebook a meal or send a packed lunch in, despite an email and a text message being sent.

We are now looking at a situation where an external caterers will be used. However, for us to do this, all meal bookings for each week must be received by midnight on the Sunday before.

The list will be sent to external caterers at midnight on Sundays for the week ahead. Therefore, if you have not booked a meal for the week ahead, there will not be a meal for your child. There will be no opportunities to add any children to the list, since there will be no surplus food on the school site.

Please can we ask that you all check you can access School Life and School Money by 3pm on Friday 23rd June 2023.

This letter is being sent out as a paper copy to all families, to ensure this important message reaches everyone.

We are working hard to find a solution to our catering problem, and we are very sorry for the inconvenience that it is causing to our families.

We really appreciate your support at this time, as we understand that this is frustrating to all.

Kind Regards

Mrs S Shepherd

Headteacher

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