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Head teacher: Mrs Rachel Worsfold



23rd November 2023

Dear Families,

New Catering Supplier – January 2024

We are very excited to be able to share with you that from January 2024 we will have a new catering supplier in school. With the support of the local authority we have appointed the award winning HCL to provide our school lunches. HCL are specialists in providing dinners to the education sector and work with a number of other local schools across Central Bedfordshire. HCL are committed to working with the school to invigorate and refresh the lunchtime experience for our children. More information on HCL can be found on their website www.hcl.co.uk

From January pupils will see a redesigned dining hall and lunchtime experience. Due to the large increase in our pupil numbers when we return in the new year packed lunches will be eaten in the main school hall and school dinners will be eaten in the current dining hall.

HCL have a specialist dinner ordering and payment portal called SchoolGrid. You will need to set up your child's SchoolGrid account before January, once this is done you will be able to view the menu and book lunches in advance through SchoolGrid. SchoolGrid is not yet live to set up accounts. We will let you know when it's ready. Dinners should ideally be booked by a Friday for the following week however the beauty of SchoolGrid is that you are able to book dinners up until 8:50am on the day if needed! If you have not booked by 8:50am you will be asked to provide a packed lunch from home. **Please note from January ParentPay will no longer be used to book and pay for dinners but will still be used for trips and Big Fun Club.**

If your child has any allergies or special dietary requirements HCL are happy to provide tailored menu's for them. These are applied for via a designated parent website. The website gives parents the control and enables them to upload up to date medical evidence to support their child's menu production. The website links to SchoolGrid and once special menus are approved and go live this is reflected in the child's choices on SchoolGrid. We will email the parents of those children that we know have any existing dietary requirements separately to remind them to set up their account.

We have updated our school website with lots of information including how you can set up your child's SchoolGrid and dietary website account, (if applicable). To access the information please go to www.tithefarmprimary.co.uk click on the parents tab then scroll down and click on school lunches. We will share any updates and further information on the new caterers via the weekly newsletter so please make sure you check and read each Friday.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'RWorsfold'.

Mrs R Worsfold
Headteacher