



Leverstock Green CE (VC) Primary School

Striving for excellence; caring for the individual.

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2nd March 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Meal Prices from 1st April

Our catering company, Herts Catering Ltd, has decided to increase its meal prices. From 1st April, meals for children in Y3-6 will cost £3.30 per meal, making the cost £16.50 per week.

The cost to school for Universal Infant Free School Meals will also rise and the grant we receive from the government will no longer cover the cost. This means the shortfall of 9p per meal must be met from the school budget share given for children's education. Obviously this is far from ideal in terms of providing for children's learning. Parents of children in R-Y2 may wish to contribute towards the shortfall; if that is the case, please speak to Mrs Fish in the office so she can set up an individual Arbor payment.

If your child is currently in Year 2, please bear in mind that you will need to apply for free school meals before the start of Year 3 if you are in receipt of benefits. You can check your eligibility here: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals. We cannot do this for you so it is really important you check as soon as possible.

Finally, myself and a number of local headteachers have expressed our disappointment at the increased costs. Mrs Azzopardi will be reviewing our catering provision in the coming months to see if an alternative provider would be better and I know a number of other schools are doing the same.

As always, if you have any questions or comments, please do come and speak to me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs V Burgess
Headteacher