20th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

We are delighted to announce that HCL will be taking over the provision of school meals from Monday 13th April 2026. HCL are an experienced school catering provider who specialise in delivering healthy, nutritious and enjoyable meals for children. Their approach focuses on high-quality ingredients and balanced meals to support children's learning and wellbeing.

With this letter is literature introducing HCL, along with the menu which will be in place until after the October half-term, when it will change to the winter menu.

What this means for you and your child:

- Five meal choices each day, including a cold option;
- Daily salad bar;
- Parents and carers will be invited in for taster sessions and other activities;
- Parents and carers will be able to order a packed lunch for school trips;
- More options for children with intolerances and allergies;
- More special theme day lunches.

While the system is embedding, children will continue to order on the day, but once HCL are fully established they will introduce an online ordering system, allowing parents and carers to select meals in advance from home. We will share more details of this when it is rolled out.

As you are aware, the current cost of a school meal is £2.50, and has been for some while now. HCL charge £2.95 for a meal but the Governors have decided to increase the cost to parents and carers to only £2.60 for the first term and to subsidise the additional cost from the School Budget. We will review the charges again for September. We understand that any increase in cost is not ideal, but the price rise will allow us to offer a much broader menu.

Please take some time to read the HCL literature and menu with your child. We are excited about this change, and are confident that the children will enjoy the wider variety of meals available.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely

Mark Sawtell
Headteacher