



MAHARISHI SCHOOL

CONSCIOUSNESS - BASED EDUCATION

6th August 2019

Dear Parents, Carers and staff,

Re: School meals from September and Taster session

You may have heard that our caterers are no longer able to provide us with school lunches. We wish them all the best for the future.

I am pleased to inform you that we have found a suitable, and more local, replacement company who currently supply schools and nurseries in the region, as well as providing a hot meals-on-wheels service locally. We are confident they can supply us with high quality hot meals, sandwiches and desserts which the children will enjoy.

The 3 week rotating menu system will continue as before, with termly modifications to reflect the seasons, but the menus will be based on the new provider's offering. Meals will continue to include a main course and a dessert. The menu formats have been finalized, and are on ParentPay from today. Therefore you can start to order now for the first half term (please see the paragraph below regarding the new ordering timescale).

Although the meals will be available from Thursday 5th September, **we are holding after-school taster sessions at both phases on Tuesday 10th**. We know there were quality issues previously and that meal uptake reduced over the last year. These sessions will enable you to see the type and quality of food that will be available going forward.

The Primary phase taster will start at 3:40pm in the Reception class (or weather permitting, outside). The Secondary phase taster will start at 4:10pm in room 1 of the Morris Birnbaum Building (or weather permitting, outside). We expect both sessions to last about 30 minutes.

The topic of healthy eating has been previously covered in school in various ways. However, we are also taking this opportunity to have a focus on this subject during the

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Autumn term, to help children understand how important healthy eating is, both to them and the planet, and to help them make healthier food choices. This is a common theme in schools at present and we will want this to follow through with what the school offers to pupils.

As part of this change, we are also going to start by only offering vegetarian meals. We feel the choices will be varied and more interesting than before, and will provide an appropriate nutritional balance. We are also in discussion with another provider for those that want vegan only meals and will update you on this in due course.

As you know we have maintained the same meal cost for some years. This cannot, unfortunately, continue and the meal cost will increase to £3.70, which we feel still represents excellent value.

The final change is that the deadline for ordering meals will be a week earlier than it is now. That is, instead of ordering by midnight on Wednesday for the following week's meals, you will need to order by midnight on the Wednesday, two (2) weeks in advance (eg: order by Wednesday August 21st 2019 for September 5th and 6th. Order by August 28th for week commencing 9th September.)

I hope this is all clear and that your children will enjoy the new meal offerings.

With kind regards,



Mr P. Mitchell,
Bursar.