



WILLIAM HARDING SCHOOL
Aim high... Work hard... Be kind...

WILLIAM HARDING SCHOOL

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Head Teacher: Miss T Cotchin BA(Hons) PGCE NPQH



11 January 2022

Dear Parent/family,

Re: Update on Lunchtime Provider – Menu clarification and plans

Following the successful launch of our new provider Freshstart, we would firstly like to extend our thanks to all of you for your support and patience with the swift, last minute need for the change. Sadly, the ongoing issues with our previous provider were so severe that we were left with no option but to change in such an urgent manner.

Positive Feedback

Freshstart have already well exceeded our expectations and have provided lunches that the children are really enjoying. Mrs Fifoot, one of our Senior Lead Teaching Assistants, spoke to some of the children today and these were the responses we received: -

"I like my wrap"

"I like the jacket potatoes they are yummy!"

"The lunches are the best!"

"I really like the lunches they are tasty"

"I like the desserts best"

"The fruit is really juicy and I like water melon"

"The food is delicious!"

Other improvements are that we have not had missing or cancelled orders and we have had more than enough food every day for the children. The food is prepared well, being cut up making it easier to eat and more appealing to children, encouraging them to have their 5-a-day and varies daily to give them more things to try.

Our School Values are: Inclusion, Perseverance, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility and Collaboration.



Allergies and preferences are being managed very closely by the lunchtime team which then allows the midday supervisors to spend more quality time with the children, helping them to cut their food or talk to them if they don't seem to be eating.

Further improvements

As you know, the last-minute change has meant we have limited menu options until we are up and running properly. We can assure you that even these two choices of the deli bar or jacket potato, both with fresh fruit, vegetables and a dessert, are already much better than what we were being offered by the last supplier.

We have had a few questions regarding the deli bar. To explain, children are invited to choose from a wrap, a roll or bread for a sandwich and every day there are a selection of toppings that may include cheese, ham, tuna, egg. In addition, they can choose their vegetables, freshly prepared fruit (today was orange and/or watermelon slices) and a dessert (today was cake).

We have been working on the new menu options with Freshstart and I am pleased to say we have an exciting development happening during February half term. We are having the kitchen in KS2 refurbished with a full suite of oven, hobs, fridges, wash up and food prep areas so that Freshstart are able to produce our freshly made lunches every day **on site**. This will provide all our children with a much more varied menu, as there is so much more that can be offered if food isn't being transported to the school to be served.

Therefore, until this is in place, the menu will continue to be the limited a choice of two items – Jacket potato or the deli bar, until the end of this half term (February 18th incl). I know this may be disappointing but as I did explain in my last letter the full menu will progress to become full hot meals as soon as we are up and running properly.

As soon as the kitchen is up and running, we will be offering a sample tasting opportunity for parents, on the gates at home time one day, so that you can try the new menu out for yourself too. More info on that to follow.

Please bear with us during this time and if you have any concerns, queries or questions, please send them to myself either via the office office@williamharding.school or lunches@williamharding.school rather than social media, so that we can answer you much quicker.

Thank you in advance for your ongoing support and patience at this time.

Yours faithfully,

School Office

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