

North Wootton Academy  
Priory Lane,  
North Wootton,  
Kings Lynn,  
Norfolk.  
PE30 3PT

18<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

From September, the school will be using Aspens as our catering company. We are excited by this new service and you should have already received the new menus ready for September.

However, one of the reasons for the changes to Aspens is that school caterers are facing an incredible challenge to offer quality meals during this unprecedented period of rising food prices. Therefore, there will need to be two major changes in September:

- The first is a price rise, with pupil meals now costing £2.50. We appreciate that this is almost a 10% rise and apologise for adding additional pressure on your finances but this is a reflection of the increase in the food and utility costs that we are all facing and should allow the school to fix the price for the year. For the majority of our pupils, this will have no impact as those in Reception to Year 2 receive their meals for free, as do those who are entitled to Free-School Meals. Should you feel that you may now qualify for Free-School Meals please contact the office for more information.
- With such cost increases, the company must minimise the amount of food wastage; therefore all meals will now need to be pre-ordered **at least one week in advance via the app** and paid for when ordering. We appreciate that this is a substantial change but there is really no other way of providing this service within the current climate. Universal Infant Free School Meals and Free School Meals **will** also need to be ordered via the Select App, but no payment is required.

This week we will send home login details for you to access the Aspens Select App. Once your account is activated this is how you will order and pay for your child's meals.

Dinner payments via Scopay will cease so please only credit your account with funds to last until 22<sup>nd</sup> July, when we finish for the summer.

Aspens will continue to run breakfast club; however we will be unable to offer breakfast for the first few weeks until the new caterers are up and running. Although pupils can continue to bring their own during this time. Unfortunately, the snack trolley will also stop for the foreseeable as again there is now a need to ensure that wastage is minimised and for the kitchen to focus on ensure the main service is running effectively.

We do envisage some teething problems at the start of term, but will endeavour to keep these to a minimum, please bear with us while we work through these.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school office and we will do our best to help.

Regards  
James Grimsby  
Principal