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Headteacher Lynn Harrison

31st March 2021

Dear Parents,

School Meals:

I am pleased to announce that after the Easter break there will be a change to the Lunch Shop menus. We have been working closely with Orian to provide nutritious, tasty and value for money meals.

So, from April 19th onwards there will now be a choice of 2 hot meals plus the option for a filled jacket potato or large filled roll available each day (plus the extensive salad bar currently served by Caron due to COVID restrictions). The only exception to this will be on 'Roast Dinner days and Friday Fish days, where only one hot option plus jacket potatoes and filled rolls will be available.

The cost of a daily lunch which includes a pudding will now be £2.70, which does represent very good value for money. I have attached the menus for your perusal. Could I ask that parents and pupils continue to order their meals at home, it saves so much 'reading time' each morning and reduces possible cross contamination of the multiple users touching the big screens.

I have also attached the new packed Lunch advice. We must ask that if your child wishes to bring a packed lunch that you follow the guidance closely. The contents of packed lunches will be monitored, and unsuitable items will be removed.

Great North Air Ambulance Clothing Collection:

Each year we arrange one or two clothing collections (usually around April and November) as a source of fundraising. The funds raised from the collections are divided equally between our school and the Great North Air Ambulance Service. The Great North Air Ambulance is particularly important in rural areas such as ours, where access can sometimes be difficult for the emergency services, so we are always keen to support them in this manner.

Our next collection will be taking place shortly after the Easter break, with a doorstep collection in and around the villages of Irthington, Newtown, Newby, Laversdale and Old Wall on **Sunday 25th April 2021**. Bags should be left outside from **10am** onwards. Bags can also be left in the schoolyard between **8am and 9am** on **Monday 26th April 2021**.

Items which can be included in the bags are as follows:

Good quality unwanted: clothing; pairs of shoes; belts; handbags; blankets; curtains; and towels.

Mobile phones (working or not); and used printer ink and toner cartridges – these should all be included in a separate bag.

Please do not include any bric-a-brac (unwanted household appliances or books).

Each pupil will be coming home today with two bags, which include confirmation of the collection dates and details of the items, which can be included in the bag.

We have also had some offers of help to distribute and collect bags around the local villages from parents through the PTA Whatsapp group, for which we are very grateful. If you have volunteered to assist in this manner Mrs Lawson will arrange to provide you with bags for distribution around the area you are covering before the Easter break.

If you are not already a member of the PTA Whatsapp group (to be kept informed of PTA events and news) and would like to become involved, please let Mrs Lawson in the school office know and she will pass your details on to Mrs Ruth Coulthard, PTA Chair.

I hope that everyone has a lovely Easter Break, that the sun shines and everyone has the opportunity to relax and recharge.

Yours sincerely

Lynn Harrison