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Dear Parents/Carers,

Dinner Money Increase

I am writing to you regarding an increase in the cost of a school dinner from September 2018. The cost of a school dinner has remained at £2.10 for eight years, and increases in costs from North Yorkshire County Caterers during this time have been funded from our school budget.

This financial year, due to rising costs, we are unable to continue to offer reduced rates for school dinners. As a result, from September 2018 school dinners will cost £2.35 per day or £11.75 per week.

We apologise for the increase, but would like to reassure you that our decision is in line with other schools within our cluster who have also incurred increased costs and can no longer subsidise from their school budgets.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will continue to benefit from the government's Universal Free School Meal scheme.

The government also offer all children the opportunity to benefit from a free school meal if parents are in receipt of any of the following:

- Income Support;
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance;
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance;
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit;
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190);
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit;
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018, your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If your child is eligible for and receiving free school meals at any time before 31 March 2022, they will remain eligible until this date. For more information, or to apply for the basic free school meals, please see the below link or feel free to call into the school office, where we can help you complete the process.

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Pye
Headteacher