

November 16 2011

Dear Parents and Carers

***Did you know ... just registering your child for Free School Meals means that the school gets extra money?***

***Register now to make sure we don't miss out***

The Government is giving money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. This funding is called a 'Pupil Premium'.

With this money we could help families struggling to buy shoes and coats as the winter approaches, ensure all students have opportunities for extra curricular activities and curriculum related trips or buy into specific resources to meet the needs of individual students. To make sure the school has the funds to provide these opportunities you must ensure your child is registered for Free School Meals.

**Please register before Christmas to make sure your child and others in their class don't miss out. Mrs Howe the Family Liaison Officer or Miss Read the Office Manager can help you fill out forms at school if you are unsure how to claim. You must bring your National Insurance number with you then we can post the form.**

### **How does it work?**

1. First, check if you qualify – it is not just if you are unemployed, so please look at the list on the next page.
2. Registering is really quick and easy
3. If you want your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime that's great – they will get the free meal (saving you more that £350 a year)
4. If you don't want your child to have the school meals they can continue as normal – as long as you qualify and are registered, the school still gets extra money.

***No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.***

***Please talk to us about registering your child today.***

Yours sincerely,

Anne Southgate  
Headteacher

## **Do you qualify?**

You can register your child for Free School Meals if you get any of these benefits:

- 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 Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Pupils can also register for Free School Meals if they get any of these benefits themselves. **Come and talk to us if you're not sure.**