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3rd July 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian

From the beginning of next term, significant changes are happening to school food. There will be more cooking within the curriculum, every pupil in Reception, Year 1 and 2 will be eligible for free school meals and from January, new food standards are being introduced. These are three of the 16 actions in the School Food Plan, which aims to transform what children eat in schools and how they learn about food (see www.schoolfoodplan.com).

Good food and good food culture has been shown to lead not only to healthier, happier and more fulfilled children, but to improved educational attainment. Evidence from those areas that already provide universal free school meals is that children eat more healthily and perform better academically.

New standards for school food have recently been published and will come into force in January. Eden, our catering company, is already working towards these standards which will be in place well before January. By following them, we can be sure that our pupils will get the nutrition they need across the whole school day.

We believe that the school lunchtime is a great opportunity for all our children to sit down together and enjoy their healthy and tasty meal, while developing their social skills. We therefore hope that all parents will take up this offer of a free school meal for our infant pupils.

Registering for School meals

I wanted to explain these changes and, importantly, to ask **all parents** to fill in the attached school meals registration form please, so that the school can continue to receive extra funding through the Pupil Premium. The school is given Pupil Premium funding which is based on the number of children in the school who are entitled to free school meals on the basis of their family income. This is worth £1,300 a year per pupil for our school. These children will not be identifiable within the school and will not be treated differently. If you have any questions, please come and see me. A copy of this letter and the attached form can be found on our website at <https://stvincents.fluencycms.co.uk/SchoolLunches>.

I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity for your child to enjoy a healthy, balanced and nutritious meal every day.

Please return the form by 9th July 2014.

Yours faithfully

Deirdre Wright
Headteacher

