

Welcome to our Winter term parent update. We circulate these newsletters once a term via your school, here we aim to provide you with information about our healthy nutritious school lunches as well as useful updates from behind the scenes and things to keep an eye out for.

## Are you or is someone you know looking for work?

Barnsley schools catering are hiring! No experience is necessary, and all training will be given on the job. Receive competitive rates of pay, term time work and working hours during the school day – perfect for dropping off and picking up children at school! We have various vacancies located across the borough, apply now at <https://barnsley.engageats.co.uk/>

## Parents Evenings

Did you know that we attend your children's parents evening to showcase the work we do and support we offer in schools.

When Parents evenings take place why not come and say hello.

## Did you know

When creating meals and looking at products we use, where possible we obtain these from local butchers and suppliers.

Where this is not possible we look to utilise and work with brand names such as Harry Ramsdens, Quorn, Birdseye and Wafflemeister, which are popular household names and tastes children will be familiar with.

On our social media pages we share information relating to our meals and the accreditations we hold which is maintained by upholding to such standards.

## Social Media

Barnsley Schools Catering provide updates, celebrations and fun food facts each week via our social media platforms. You can find us on Facebook, Twitter (X) and Instagram at the pages below.

So why not give us a follow!

 @barnsleyschoolscatering

 @barnsleyschoolscatering

 @BarnsleySC

## Theme Days

Throughout the Year we like to provide fun theme menus for children to celebrate. Take a look at the calendar below that showcases what's on offer over the next 12 months. Keep your eyes peeled with communications from your school so your child can get involved.

Barnsley Schools Catering Theme Days 2024/2025			
	October Harry Potter		March Red Nose Day
	December Festive Feast		May VE Day 80 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
	December Party at the North pole		June International Picnic Day
	March World Book Day Paddington Bear		July Fun Fair

## National School Meals Week

In November, all across the country caterers and schools will be celebrating National School Meals Week, during this time each day has a specific theme that is celebrated with fun tasty food and resources so school can take part in activities with the children. Keep an eye on our social media pages where we will be bringing the occasion to life!

## Have you checked to see if your child is eligible for free school meals?

Could your child be eligible for free school meals? Applying is important, even if your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2 and currently gets Universal Infant Free School Meals. When you apply, your school receives extra funding to support your child's education. Check if you are eligible now over at [www.barnsley.gov.uk/free-school-meals](http://www.barnsley.gov.uk/free-school-meals). Free school meals are a great way to ensure your child eats well at lunchtime.

The below highlights some of the wider benefits of accessing school meals:

- Meals are packed full of goodness, with at least 2 of your child's 5- a day
- Helps to develop your children's social skills and table manners
- Evidence demonstrates that regular consumption of school dinners can improve educational attainment
- Saves you time (and money)! No shopping for sandwiches or preparing packed lunches
- Peace of mind knowing your child is getting a healthy nutritious cooked meal