



I hope this finds you keeping well.

As we approach the end of this half term, we feel as though we're headed towards a more stable future and a school day that can revert to some sort of normality; the need for large numbers of absent students and staff will hopefully be something we can put behind us.

However, we are now facing the challenge of an exceptional period of inflation, which has hit the food supply chain extremely hard, as we've all seen across the media in recent weeks, with the current rate at around 5.6%. In addition to this, we will be paying our teams more and paying the Health and Social Care Levy implemented by the government.

While an averaged inflation figure is the one we're most familiar with, we all know how uneven these impacts can be (for example, the current energy crisis). Unfortunately, some of our most popular items have been subject to steep price rises from our suppliers, with a 25% increase on chicken being the most notable.

Each year at around this time, we review our tariffs in line with supplier price increases in time for a September relaunch of our menus and prices. Having now analysed the existing tariffs and considering the extraordinary pressures we are facing, we will be implementing a small tariff increase from after the February half term break, negating the need for a larger rise in September.

As part of this review we have maintained the price of our main meals, which is best value for money and kept static or healthier products. We're also going to be re-engineering our menus to ensure we include several affordable meal deals.

The overall rise is less than half the current rate of inflation and sees an average increase of 5p per product across the menu range.

This was not an easy decision to take but we hope you understand the situation we're in and our dedication to continue serving great food for children to enjoy.

Kindest regards

Ken Navin

Client Relationship Director

