



# SHARPS COPSE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Our ref: SCPN Census Day – October 2024

27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

**Re: Census Day – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**

**Please see attached flyer for meal changes next week for census.**

I am writing to ask, once again, for your help – as you will be aware we have three census days a year in school (once a term) when we are expected to submit our school data to the Department for Education (DfE), giving a 'snap shot' view of our school on a day of their choosing, that usually falls 3-4 weeks after the beginning of each new term. Some of the factors used are number on roll (children), ages of children, SEN provision, number of meals taken, how children travel to school, number of staff etc, all of which are linked to our school funding for the following years' budget share.

Part of this data includes our meal uptake on this day, and in particular children who have a free school meal (FSM) and a universal free school (UFSM), the latter being only available for our children in Years R to 2, and is a decider on how much funding we receive for our FSM and UFSM uptake on this day.

With this in mind, we have made a couple of changes to the menu next week, please can I ask you to support us by allowing your child(ren) to have a school lunch on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**, **please note that the meals for Wednesday and Friday have also changed, see flyer.**

The menu for **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October (Census Day)** is going to be as follows:

**Red meal = Battered Fish and Chips**

**Green meal = Margherita Pizza**

**Blue meal = Jacket potato with Beans**

This will help us boost our numbers so that we continue receiving our FSM and UFSM funding. Meals are to be ordered in class at morning registration in the usual way please with payment, if applicable, being made via your child(ren)'s Scopay accounts.

We are also required to identify all children who are adopted, under an SGO (Special Guardianship Order) and those under a CAO (Care Arrangements Order, previously known as a residence order). This provides school with additional funding to provide specific support to raise attainment and address wider needs of vulnerable children. I would be really grateful if you could notify the school office if there have been any changes since our last Census in May 2024 and this applies to your child by Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October, please.

My final request is regarding 'Service Children' – a 'service child' has parent(s) – or person(s) with exercising parental responsibility- who is or are service personnel serving:

- in regular HM Forces military units
- in full commitment as part of the full-time reserve service
- in the armed forces of another nation and stationed in England

Again, if you would please let the office know if this has changed and now applies to you.

Thank you in advance for your continued understanding and support; if you have any concerns or queries with the content of this letter, please don't hesitate to catch me on the playground at the start or end of day.

Yours sincerely



Mr Elsen  
Headteacher


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# CENSUS DAY

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
October 2024

Menu

### Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

Red Meal = Bubble Salmon

Green Meal = Vegetable Wellington

Blue Meal = Jacket Potato with Tuna

### Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October

Red meal = Battered Fish and Chips

Green meal = Margherita Pizza

Blue meal = Jacket potato with Beans

### Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October

Red meal = Beef Roast and Yorkshire Pudding

Green meal = Vegetable Lasagne

Blue meal = Jacket Potato with Cheese



# PARENTS & GUARDIANS

How you can help our school's funding?



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## CENSUS DAY, WHAT IS IT?

It's an important day in the primary school calendar, as the Government will use the numbers of children who eat school meals on this day to identify the level of funding each school receives. Put simply, the more children eating a school lunch on this day, the more funding our school can access.

Date for the diary

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
October 2024



SCHOOL LUNCH



WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO GROW OUR GOVERNMENT FUNDING... HERE'S HOW!

- 1 Ask what's on the Census Day menu.
- 2 Make sure you send your child for a school lunch on the day!
- 3 If your child is registered for a medical special diet on the Education Catering portal, please be assured that they will receive an option from their usual menu.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT



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