

**ST MARY'S R.C.
PRIMARY & NURSERY
SCHOOL**

*Headteacher
Mrs. S. Geddis*



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Dear Parents

We hope that your Year 2 child has enjoyed eating free school meals over the last few years here in school. When your child moves up into the Juniors in September, you will have to pay for meals, unless your child has an entitlement to free school meals via a live claim with Rochdale Council. NOW IS THE TIME TO APPLY FOR FREE MEALS FOR SEPTEMBER if you haven't already got a live entitlement – a free school meal application form is available by following this link <http://www.stmrc.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/FSM-Application-Form-Template.pdf>. If you are not sure if you have a live entitlement or not, please call into the School Office. You will NOT automatically get Free School Meals just because you get benefits, you HAVE to make a separate claim for them. This caused some confusion amongst parents last year, some of whom assumed they did not need to make a specific claim for meals. Meals must be paid for UNTIL the Free Meal claim comes through – you will get a letter from Rochdale, and the claim will appear as a 'live' claim on the school's Rochdale Council page. We can then refund any money outstanding for meals now covered by your FSM entitlement – this makes sure that no large debt builds up against your child if your claim is rejected.

If your child is going to be having paid meals from September, they will cost £2.20 per day, £11 per week. This is payable weekly on Monday mornings, or monthly in advance by arrangement with the Office staff. If dinner money is not paid on Monday or unless a live Free School Meal entitlement exists, your child will NOT get a school meal. To help us with our catering, we also ask that children only change from packed lunch to dinners and vice-versa at the beginning of each half term.

We can take cash or bank transfers – if you wish to pay by online banking, please call into the School Office to discuss.

If you have any questions, get in touch with Office staff before the end of term. Thank you for your help in organising our school meals.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Geddis
Head Teacher



**DIOCESE OF SALFORD AND
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF ROCHDALE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE**