

Welcome to our new School Meals Blog!

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Introducing our first ever School Meals Blog from Jessie!

Any questions please do feel free to contact me on to j.john-brown@ststephensce.lbhf.sch.uk

Hello everyone and welcome to the St Stephen's School Meals Blog! I am thrilled to share the latest updates to our kitchen and school dining experience. Our goal is to make lunchtime not only nutritious but add to the enjoyment of dining in the school hall for all our pupils. Here's a sneak peek at what's new:

Meet the Kitchen Team

We are delighted to introduce our wonderful kitchen team at St. Stephen's:



Chef Aris: A huge welcome to chef Aris who is excited to share lots of his new meal ideas with the team.

Sous Chef Sharon: A huge welcome to Sharon, whose daughter once attended the school. Sharon plans to introduce lots of dessert ideas to complement the fruit trolley on offer every day.

Autumn Term 22nd November 2024

Kitchen Veterans Tracy and Nurta: Tracy and Nurta have been with us for many years, ensuring that our wraps and salad bar are fully stocked every day. Their experience and commitment help keep our kitchen running smoothly.

Introducing new Salad Bar

We are delighted to unveil our brand-new salad bar, which features a variety of seasonal salads daily. Whether you're a fan of crisp greens, hearty grains, or colourful veggies, our salad bar has something for everyone. Plus, for those days when you prefer something different, we also serve wraps or pasta as alternatives to the main meal.



New Trolley System for Waste Disposal

As part of our ongoing efforts to promote sustainability we have introduced a new trolley system for waste disposal. This system will help pupils dispose of their waste more efficiently, making our dining area cleaner and more organised. It's a small change that will make a big difference in maintaining a pleasant environment for everyone.

We are fully committed to sustainability and responsible waste management. All of our food waste is collected and placed into designated food waste bins. Once collected, this waste is transported to a nearby recycling facility where it undergoes anaerobic digestion or composting. This process not only helps to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill but also transforms our food waste into valuable resources like biogas and compost. By doing so, we are not only minimising our environmental footprint but also contributing to a greener, more sustainable future.



Autumn Term 22nd November 2024

Packed Lunches

I am keen for all pupils to access school dinners, including our children with allergies/food intolerance. With this in mind I have been busy devising some exciting menu changes. We will be organising a taster evening for all parents and carers to try out our new meal ideas in the New Year.

Looking for new Lunchtime Angels

Some children love to have roles and responsibilities in the school day and so we are now looking to recruit Lunchtime Angels to help in the lunch time hall. If your child is interested in helping out during lunchtime, they can collect an application form from the reception. This is a great opportunity for pupils to get involved and make a positive impact on our school community.

Introducing Foodies of the Week

We are also launching a new initiative called **Foodies of the Week**. Each week, we will select four pupils who have been eating their food and showing kind gestures during our lunchtime service. The winners will be announced and awarded every Friday. This is our way of recognising and celebrating good behaviour and healthy eating habits.

Pupil/Parent Voice- Input and Ideas

At the upcoming School Council meeting, we will be inviting pupils to share their input and ideas for the Spring Term Menu. This allows children to have a voice in deciding what they would like to eat, ensuring that our menu reflects their preferences and tastes, whilst remaining healthy and nutritious. We have been tapping into children's responses already and have been pleased to learn from one child; - 'The new salads are great- avocado and feta salad is my favourite' and from another 'I love that we now have bread with our meals at lunchtime'.

We value the input of our parents and carers too, so if you have any meal suggestions or ideas, please feel free to email them

Important Kitchen Dates

Next Wednesday Caroline Waldegrave will visit the school to meet with Chef Aris and work alongside the kitchen team. to further develop some new dishes

Finally, the **Christmas Menu** has been finalised and will be on the school website shortly- we will be enjoying our Christmas Lunch on **Friday 13 December**.

Thank you for all your support



Jessie John-Brown