



# Northgate High School

*Inspiring excellence, fulfilling potential*

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Heads of School: Mrs Z Galley and Dr D Hone

December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

Over the past year, we, as a School Council have been looking to minimise our environmental impact. We have seen a rise in awareness in school of the effects of single use plastic, which has also been highlighted, in the press and on television. Our Environment Team and School Council members are always looking at how the school can be more environmentally friendly, not only raising awareness but also by taking direct action. You may already be aware of the two recycling schemes we have joined. Along with the help of local primary schools, businesses and the Dereham community, we have so far collected over 87kgs of crisp packets and over 96kgs of pens, which will now not end up in landfill but will be recycled.

We have worked closely with Edwards & Blake in recent months to reduce the amount of plastic in Café North and have removed all black plastic (which cannot be recycled) from the canteen and reduced the amount of plastic packaging our food is served in. Wooden cutlery has also been introduced to replace plastic cutlery. However, we want to take a further step and we need your support.

In a recent meeting we looked at the possibility of reducing the number of plastic bottles sold in Café North. As a result, from January, we will be introducing 'Bottle Free Friday' where no bottled drinks, cans or cartons will be sold in Café North.

We completed a number of tasks set by the team from Edwards & Blake to look at average sales of the various drink options and how much Café North would lose in earnings if we went bottle-free once a week. From our calculations, we can reveal that over the course of a year over 8700 fewer bottles would be sold, many of which are used just once and thrown away. This is a positive step to Northgate becoming a more environmentally friendly school, which is something we are striving for.

To balance the loss of income from the sale of bottled drinks, there will be some very small price increases on items in the canteen (please see prices at the end of the letter). Most of these small increases relate to the less healthy options available (including cakes, pizzas and pastries). We are very mindful of this increase and it is not a decision we have reached lightly. We have gone through the calculations with Edwards & Blake and can confirm that prices for items not included on this list will remain the same (this includes main meals and the daily meal deal). This will take effect on our return in January 2020.



In order to use the water fountains or purchase squash sold in Café North for 25p per 500ml, students will need to bring their own reusable water bottles. The school has 500ml bottles (plain or with the Northgate logo) available for sale at just £1.40. These can be purchased via Parent Pay and are also available for just 30 merits. The first 'Bottle Free Friday' will take place on **10<sup>th</sup> January**.

We hope we can gain support from students, staff and parents and show that everyone can do their bit to help the planet. After all, there's no **planet B!**

Yours sincerely



Abby (Head Girl)



Jimmy



Bonnie

Environment Team and School Council Members

| <b><u>Café North Prices from January 2020</u></b> |                         |                        |                         |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b><u>Product</u></b>                             | <b><u>Old Price</u></b> | <b><u>Increase</u></b> | <b><u>New Price</u></b> |
| Bacon Bap   | £1.15                   | £0.05                  | £1.20                   |
| Croissant   | £0.85                   | £0.05                  | £0.90                   |
| Chips   | £1.10                   | £0.05                  | £1.15                   |
| Cake slice  | £0.80                   | £0.05                  | £0.85                   |
| Pain au Chocolate                                 | £0.85                   | £0.05                  | £0.90                   |
| Tray Bakes & Biscuits                             | £0.80                   | £0.05                  | £0.85                   |
| Flap Jack   | £0.55                   | £0.05                  | £0.60                   |
| Pizza   | £1.10                   | £0.10                  | £1.20                   |
| Baguette  | £1.70                   | £0.05                  | £1.75                   |
| Simple Sandwich                                   | £1.10                   | £0.10                  | £1.20                   |
| Standard Sandwich                                 | £1.30                   | £0.10                  | £1.40                   |
| Premier Sandwich                                  | £1.60                   | £0.10                  | £1.70                   |
| Panini  | £1.50                   | £0.10                  | £1.60                   |
| Juice Carton                                      | £0.60                   | £0.10                  | £0.70                   |
| Radnor Fizz                                       | £0.85                   | £0.10                  | £0.95                   |
| Flavoured Water                                   | £0.90                   | £0.05                  | £0.95                   |
| Milkshakes  | £0.70                   | £0.05                  | £0.75                   |