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**Headteacher:** Mr J Parr BA Hons

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are pleased to announce that Church Stretton School will be installing a cashless catering system in April 2020. This system will allow us to improve our school meal provision, and will provide a more efficient and improved quality of service, as well as a number of clear benefits for students and parents.

#### Benefits of the Cashless Catering System

- Increased speed of service reducing queuing times
- Anonymity on Free School Meals
- Facility to pay online
- No need to carry cash preventing loss/theft
- Automatic alerts to stop pupils purchasing allergy trigger items
- Students learn about important lifestyle control by monitoring their own accounts
- Reporting facilities help decrease wastage and improve the overall efficiency of the meal service

The system incorporates the latest technology and eliminates the need for pupils to carry cash throughout the day. It is also biometric (see FAQ's) so there is no need for pupils to carry a card as the system will recognise the thumb of your child at the revaluation pay point and at the tills. Biometric registration does not store fingerprints but translates it into a set of encrypted code, a unique digitally encrypted biometric code, to identify each students' cashless catering account at our catering tills.

We will commence operating the system on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April** and as such no cash will be accepted at the till points after this date. All students and staff will be given training on how to use the system.

Any amount of money can be paid into a pupil's account, and any money spent on food & drink will be deducted on a daily basis. We use Parent Pay, a secure online payment portal to enable parents to credit money to their child's cashless catering account for school dinners, snacks or to pay for trips. Parent Pay enables parents to credit money to their child's cashless catering account or top it up at any time, 24/7 online by credit or debit card. Please note that from 21<sup>st</sup> April, coin and note payments will not be able to be accepted at the cashless till points, however cash will be able to be loaded at the Revaluation pay-point to pay the cash into their cashless catering account. All payment options are explained within the FAQ's attached.

As per current legislation we will be operating an 'Opt In' policy and therefore require you to complete the attached form. If you choose not to have your child registered on the Biometric System a 4 digit PIN code will be allocated on request. Please note that PIN codes do not have the same level of security and it will be your child's responsibility to remember the code and keep it secure at all times.

The attached information should answer any questions you may have but if this is not the case, please contact school to speak to a member of staff.

Yours sincerely,



John Parr  
Headteacher

**Executive Headteacher**  
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