GAWSWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Teacher: Mr MJ Shaw BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH

Longbutts Lane
Gawsworth
Nr Macclesfield
SK11 9QU

Phone: 01625 426547
E-mail: admin@gawsworth.cheshire.sch.uk
Website: www.gawsworth.cheshire.sch.uk
Twitter: @Gawsworth_PS

Friday 23rd September 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Re. Free School Meals and Pupil Premium

I would like to share this really important information with you so we can access more funding for school.

From September 2014, all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in state-funded schools in England became eligible for free school meals. This scheme is called Universal Infant Free School Meals. The government is funding schools in England to provide every child in these year groups with a nutritious meal at lunch time. The aim is to improve academic attainment and save families money. School meals meet strict nutritional standards and research has shown that healthy school meals help to improve children's learning and productivity. The current entitlement to Free School Meals (FSM) also continues to be available to all pupils (including infants) whose parents receive certain benefits and who are registered to receive one. However, in common with most schools, it is likely that a number of parents/carers whose children attend our school fail to claim FSMs, even though they are entitled to them.

As the school will receive additional funding based on the number of children who receive FSMs, I am writing to all parents and carers to ask them, if they believe that they may be entitled to claim FSMs for their children and do not already do so, to make a claim.

Extra funding for our school

It is very important that if your child is entitled, you still register for Free School Meals under the current scheme. This will mean that the school will benefit from £1,320 extra funding per child from central Government each year via the Pupil Premium and also that they will continue to receive free meals when they are in years 3 – 6 (if you continue to be eligible). This money can be used by the school to fund valuable support like extra tuition, teaching assistants or after school clubs. Even if you don't want your child to receive a free meal at present, we strongly encourage you to register for them so that our school receives as much funding as possible! As I am sure you will agree, the children at our school can only benefit if we are able to attract additional funding.

Not only that…

Did you know that if you are eligible for and claim FSMs, you will also be provided with other services by the school, such as:

- ✓ Financial support for Educational Trips
- ✓ Access to additional support for your child's learning and/or well-being

Healthy Schools CHESHIRE EAST

ACTIVEMARK 2008 REWARDING COMMITMENT

food for life PARTNERSHIP BRONZE

GAWSWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Teacher: Mr MJ Shaw BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH

Longbutts Lane
Gawsworth
Nr Macclesfield
SK11 9QU

Phone: 01625 426547
E-mail: admin@gawsworth.cheshire.sch.uk
Website: www.gawsworth.cheshire.sch.uk
Twitter: @Gawsworth_PS

In order to claim FSMs a parent/carer must be claiming one of the following benefits:

- ✓ Income Support
- ✓ Income-Based Job Seekers Allowance
- ✓ Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance
- ✓ Support from NASS (National Asylum Support Service) under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- ✓ The guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- ✓ Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190
- ✓ Working Tax Credit run-on
- ✓ Universal Credit

If you think that you are eligible to apply for FSMs for your child, or if you are not sure, you may want to contact Cheshire East Council on 0300 123 5012 or you can apply online at:

http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/free_school_meals.aspx

Yours sincerely

Mr MJ Shaw
Head Teacher