8th January 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

**Registering for free school meals can benefit your child and the school.**

**Your child could be entitled to:-**

**● £1300 worth of extra support and opportunities** as well as—

**● Free school trips and**

● Free school meals, worth up to £400 per year.

**Make sure you have registered for Free School Meals by the 15th January 2018**

Please take the time to read this letter about registering for free school meals. It could really help the school and the opportunities and support we offer your child.

If your child is eligible for free school meals, please register now to ensure your child does not miss out.

**Reasons for registering**

* Your child will have access to a varied menu, providing nutritious food and it represents a saving of about £400 per year

and/or

* In addition, the school receives an extra payment from the government, based on its numbers of Free School Meals Pupils.

Please also register, even if your child is currently entitled to Universal Free School Meals (i.e. in Foundation Stage or Key Stage 1), as the school only receives funding from the government for each child registered for Free School Meals.

**Does my child have to eat a school meal if I register?**

While it is recommended your child eats a school meal, due to the nutritional value it provides, this is optional – we would ask though that you register regardless of whether or not they want a meal so we can receive this funding.

**What is the Pupil Premium?**

We will receive approx. £1300 for every child registered for Free School Meals from the Government, providing us with a very important boost to school funds. This will allows us to provide extra support such as extra tuition, learning assistants or after-school clubs. If you register this year then we will receive the Pupil Premium next year.

**How will this benefit my child?**

Although the school as a whole will benefit from receiving this extra funding, we will use this funding to provide targeted support and provision to individual children who we know will benefit from additional provision.

**How do I know if I qualify?**

Please log onto the GCC website and complete the application form for free school meals.

*No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.*

**How do I apply?**

This will take you to the homepage for Glos County Council, where you will be able to click the link to register online.

<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

Should you not have access to the internet, we can organise a time for you to come into the school office and use the internet.

Thank you for reading this letter. If you need any confidential advice or have any questions, please speak to the school office or to myself.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Moss

Head teacher