

Lunch time Procedure in Pentland Primary School

In Pentland we are fortunate to have a designated dining hall with lovely catering staff that cook food on the premises. We have many children to feed and the dining hall routine is run to ensure that all pupils have access to their choice of meal in a timely fashion. In the morning the children sign up to their choice. Our younger children are helped until they get the hang of this routine. P1-3 are escorted to the dining hall and everyone eats their lunch inside.

The P4-7 pupils go out to play at lunch time until they hear the lunch time bells i.e P4 come into the dining hall when they hear 4 bells, P5 when they hear 5 bells etc. The system of the bells reduces the queue time and is on a rota to ensure each year group has a chance to be first for lunch. P4-7 pupils have the choice to eat packed lunch outdoors.

The school lunch hall has recently introduced a self- service salad bar which is proving very popular with the children.

School have recently purchased lunch box trolleys for the storage of lunch boxes.

The reasons the trolleys were purchased:

- to ease congestion in cloakrooms and to neatly store lunch boxes before and after lunch
- to give pupils the opportunity to eat with friends that may be having cooked lunch and vice versa
- to make fair the rota system which determines when P4 – P7 eat lunch
- to cut down on litter outdoors
- to make better use of food bins for waste inside and out

There has been no change to whether or not P4-7 pupils can eat outside, simply the time they can. However, I have spoken to the pupils of P4-7 pupils and reported the complaints I have received about litter as well as some undesirable behaviour. I have mentioned that I may have to make the decision to discontinue eating outdoors if litter and behaviour do not improve. This would be highly unlikely as it seems our children love eating 'Al fresco' even in cold weather.