



October 2025

Dear Families

Catering Update

We have had some great feedback from pupils about new food and menu changes this half term. Impact Food, our catering company, have confirmed that meal deal prices will continue at £2.61 next half term.

Click here for [School Menus](#) , [Tariff September 2025](#), [Theme Day Calendar](#), [Main Meal & Free Dessert](#), [Mac My Day](#) and [Peri Good](#)

After the October half-term break, St. Mary's Catholic College will be introducing a **£10 overdraft limit** for all canteen accounts. This means that if a student does not have sufficient funds on their account, they will be able to continue purchasing food and drinks up to a maximum of £10 in arrears.

Our priority is always the wellbeing of our students. We never want a child to go without a meal or feel embarrassed at the till if their balance is low. Many schools do not offer any form of overdraft facility, so we are pleased to provide this service as part of our commitment to supporting students and families.

We understand that family life can be busy, and it's easy to forget to top up accounts from time to time. This overdraft system provides a little extra flexibility for those occasions, ensuring that students can still enjoy their meals while giving parents time to make any necessary payments.

Payments for school meals will continue to be made via ParentPay. If you have not yet activated your ParentPay account, please contact the school office for your activation details.

What's Changing?

- Any outstanding debt currently held with our catering provider (Impact Food) will be transferred into Arbor.
- This means that individual minus balances will now be visible within your Arbor Parent Portal account, and will become the direct responsibility of the relevant parent or guardian.

Wallasey Village, Wallasey, Wirral, CH45 3LN

T: 0151 639 7531 F: 0151 201 4514

E: schooloffice@stmaryswallasey.com

W: www.stmaryswallasey.com

Headteacher: Mr. K Maddocks *BSc and QTS*



Proud to be part of Holy Family Catholic Multi Academy Trust, an outstanding provider of education

Registered Office: St John Plessington Voluntary Academy Old Chester Road Bebington CH63 7LF. Company number 08269066



This change is being made to:

- Improve clarity for families regarding their balances.
- Give parents direct access and control over payments.
- Strengthen the school's ability to monitor and manage school meal debt more efficiently.
- Alleviate the historic build-up of debt by working with families directly through a more transparent system.

Next Steps

- Once the system has cleared and invoiced final balances, these amounts will be uploaded into Arbor.
- You will receive a notification when your Arbor account has been updated.
- We kindly ask that any outstanding balances are settled as soon as possible to avoid disruption to your child's access to school meals.

To support this change, we will:

- Increase the frequency of communication about low balances
- Continue to provide access to real-time balances and top-up option via Parent Pay
- Provide a meal equivalent to Free School Meal if a student exceeds their overdraft .

We kindly ask that any overdraft amounts are repaid promptly so that the system remains sustainable for all families. If your family is experiencing financial difficulties, please do get in touch with us in confidence, we are here to help and want to work together to support every student.

Thank you for your continued support in working with us to care for our students. If you have any questions about this change or need assistance with your child's canteen account, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

Kind regards

St Mary's Catholic College

Wallasey Village, Wallasey, Wirral, CH45 3LN

T: 0151 639 7531 F: 0151 201 4514

E: schooloffice@stmaryswallasey.com

W: www.stmaryswallasey.com

Headteacher: Mr. K Maddocks *BSc and QTS*



Proud to be part of Holy Family Catholic Multi Academy Trust, an outstanding provider of education

Registered Office: St John Plessington Voluntary Academy Old Chester Road Bebington CH63 7LF. Company number 08269066