

24th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Autumn Census Day Lunch

On Thursday 1st October, we will be celebrating Autumn Census Day with a special Street Food Party Day lunch and some exciting activities for all children.

Census Day is particularly important because schools receive valuable funding based on the number of school meals taken on this day. The more children who enjoy a school lunch on Census Day, the more funding our school receives. This additional funding helps us continue to provide enriching opportunities and resources for our children.

We would greatly appreciate your support by encouraging your child to have a school lunch on this day and join in the fun.

Menu

Loaded Hot Dogs – Fried Onions, Ketchup & Wedges
Cheese Pizza Baguette Slice & Wedges
Loaded Mac 'N' Cheese

BBQ Beans or Vegetables

Pantry Brookie
(Half Vanilla Cookie, Half Chocolate Brownie)

Hot Tomato Pasta, Jacket Potatoes, Packed Lunches, Fruit & Salad Bar all available as normal

Children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 are entitled to a Universal Free School Meal, so a lunch will automatically be booked for them (logged as Loaded Mac'n'Cheese, however they will be able to choose what they want from the 3 hot options on the day). Even if your child usually brings a packed lunch, they will still have the opportunity to sample the special Census Day meal that has been booked for them.

Children who are entitled to means-tested Free School Meals, along with any other paying children wishing to have a school dinner on the day, can book their meal through the Pantry Portal as normal. Please can we also ask that if you haven't yet completed the free school meal re-check or applied for a new claim to see if you are eligible, that you do so by Monday 28th October.

Please be assured that children with allergies or specific dietary requirements will have their meals adapted to suit their needs.

To make the day even more memorable, Poplars will be holding a **whole-school Street Dance session**, giving every child the chance to take part in a fun and energetic celebration. In addition, there will be a **Golden Ticket Prize Draw**. One child from every year group will have the chance to discover a golden ticket and win a special prize! **You've got to be in it to win it!**

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a fantastic, fun-filled Census Day and to seeing as many children as possible enjoying a school lunch.

Yours sincerely,



Mr A Cunningham
Headteacher