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Dear Parents/Carers,

I am Mr Smith, the Director of Learning for Design & Technology. I am very much looking forward to welcoming your son/daughter back to our department at Wildern, for their final year of KS3. We have a very exciting curriculum planned for Year 8, which we are very much looking forward to sharing with your son/daughter. In Year 8 students will use a wide range of materials, including; timbers, polymers, boards, textiles, and electronics. In addition to this your son/daughter will have one Cooking and Nutrition lesson each fortnight.

As a department we pride ourselves on the high-quality outcomes made by our students. One of our core values as a department is for all students to complete practical tasks to the highest standard possible, and from the best quality materials/ingredients possible. We also believe that all students should take everything home with them and value what they have created. Previous experience has taught us that this leads to high student engagement and most importantly pride.

In D&T we provide all materials for students to be able to complete each project which they undertake. Students have ownership over these and take them home upon completion. In Cooking and Nutrition lessons there is a blend of school provided ingredients and some home provided ingredients. However, in Year 8 the majority of ingredients are provided by school.

Each year we ask parents to very kindly contribute towards the costs of these materials. This is a single payment of £10 that would cover the whole of Year 8, for both D&T and Cooking & Nutrition. Over the last 7 years of rising costs, we are proud that we have never increased the amount that we ask for parents to contribute towards each year. Our goal is that by completing this in a single payment, we would commit to not asking for further contributions during the year. We have set this up on Parentpay and I would be most grateful if payment could be made by 30 September.

Many thanks for your continued support.

**Mr J. Smith**

Director of Learning for Design and Technology

