

Delicious grub for schoolchildren with their new star chef



TASTY Head chef Steve Cross, 31, with a Park Community Healthy Eating Meal Deal

Pictures: Malcolm Wells (150511-9447)

by **ELISE BREWERTON**
The News
elise.brewerton@thenews.co.uk

FROM Spanish roasted vegetable fritata to shoulder of pork with sage and onion stuffing – everything on the menu at Park Community School is a mouth-watering slice of deliciousness.

And it is thanks to the school's new healthy eating plan which puts concrete chips and soggy semolina well in the past.

Under the direction of new head chef Steve Cross, who has cooked for the Queen at Buckingham and Windsor palaces and at Michelin-starred restaurants, the Leigh Park school has seen a transformation in its food.

A group of 12 pupil food ambassadors work alongside Mr Cross to ensure the menus reflect healthy food pupils want to eat.

They are put together three weeks in

Food ambassadors ensure only the tastiest and healthiest food is served up to fellow pupils

advance using only healthy ingredients, including fruit and vegetables from the school's smallholding where there are also pigs, goats and chickens – which all the children can visit.

Mr Cross emails the day's menu to every pupil each morning and the recipe is available for them to take home and try themselves.

He said: 'The government put the food plan in place after Jamie Oliver broadcast his programme on school food.'

'We wanted to get the children involved, get them trying different things. The easiest way of us spreading the word about healthy food was through food ambassadors.'

'It gives people the opportunity to try

things they've never eaten before and have a say in what they eat.'

Year 9 pupil Houssam Althahaine said: 'The food is really nice. My favourite is the pizza.'

And Frances Raistrick, also in Year 9, said: 'The food is much better now than last year.'

'We never used to have a choice, it was the same things over and over again.'

'We get to try out lots of different food and it's much more interesting.'

'I like the leek and cauliflower bake and sweet potato fries.'

Janice Norman, the school sports co-ordinator, said: 'It's about giving the children a voice and helping them understand the link between healthy body, healthy mind and exercise.'



TEAM
The Park Community School food ambassadors, and right, spicy fish finger sandwiches for £1 (150511-9438 and 9424)



Hit-and-run accident leaves woman injured

POLICE are hunting for the driver of a car who failed to stop after hitting a pedestrian at a crossing.

The 54-year-old victim was crossing the junction of St Mary's Road and Fratton Road with her husband when the car ploughed in to her.

The driver failed to stop and continued down St Mary's Road.

She suffered a fractured pelvis along with other injuries. It happened at 10.45am on Saturday, May 2. Police have just released details.

Sergeant Wayne Voller, of the Havant roads policing unit, said: 'It appears the car was being driven south along Fratton Road and turned left

into St Mary's Road, not in the correct slip road, but in the wrong place between the traffic islands.

'I would like to hear from any driver or anyone who may have witnessed this incident and can identify the car, which may have slight damage to the nearside.'

The couple were unable to identify the make and model of the vehicle involved in the collision.

Anyone with information should call Havant Roads Policing Unit on 101 quoting 44150148275.

Alternatively contact the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 where you can leave information anonymously.

A scene of devastation - firefighters' account

FIREFIGHTERS said it was a 'privilege' helping a country recover from a devastating earthquake.

Ten people from Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service flew out to Nepal to help rescue people.

Lee Giffard, who was deployed as part of Hampshire's urban search and rescue team, said: 'When we arrived it was a scene of devastation. There were lots of people who were injured

and so many who had lost their homes.

'Our first priority was to search for and rescue anyone we could - you live in hope that you might find someone. We met local people who were very welcoming, and took comfort in us being there. They were extremely humble and seemed to be resilient.'

The team included Phil Clack, who lives in Fareham. Colleague Tim Marsh added: 'It's such a privilege.'



THE ROYAL OAK Re-opening After Major Refurbishment



FREE GLASS OF WINE

When purchasing a main meal from the main menu Monday to Thursday. Bring this advert with you to receive the offer.

THE ROYAL OAK

19 Langstone High Street, Langstone, Havant, PO9 1RY
Tel: 02392 483125 Email: 7955@greeneking.co.uk

Offer valid Monday 4th until Thursday 7th and Monday 11th until Thursday 14th May. Offer not valid in conjunction with any other offer, discount or set menu. Receive one 175ml glass of our El mazo wine. One per customer, per voucher. Managers decision is final.