

Pasties with Flaky Pastry: Cheese and Vegetable



Ingredients for Flaky Pastry:

- 300g Plain Flour
- 150ml (approximately) Cold Water
- 113g Butter
- 112g Lard or Trex
- 3 Teaspoons Lemon Juice: School to Provide
- 1 Teaspoon Dried Mixed Herbs / Chilli Flakes
- Pinch Salt: School to Provide
- Milk and Egg Wash: School to provide



You will need a container to take your pasties home in.

Filling Ingredients:

- 1 Small Onion: Finely Cut
- 1 Small Potato: Peeled and Diced
- 50g Cheese e.g. Cheddar, Red Leicester
- 15g Butter / 1 Tablespoon Vegetable Oil
- Pinch of Black Pepper: School to provide



Optional Filling Ingredients:

- 30g Swede: Peeled and Diced
- 2 Mushroom: Finely Cut
- 1 Celery Stick: Finely Diced
- 1 Small Carrot: Peeled and Diced
- ½ Pepper: Finely Cut



Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 200°C or Gas Mark 6.
2. Weigh and measure out all the ingredients accurately.
3. To make the filling: Peel and cut the vegetables into small even size pieces.
4. If you are using onions, peppers, mushrooms or any other soft vegetables, add these to a frying pan and sauté in the butter or oil. This should be done on a low heat. Sauté for 5 to 10 minutes, until soft.
5. Fill a saucepan 1/3rd full with warm water. Bring to the boil. Add the potatoes, carrot and any other hard vegetables. Boil until just tender, this will take approximately 10 minutes. Drain the water using a colander.
6. Grate the cheese onto a plate.
7. Mix all the vegetables together and add the grated cheese. Season with pepper. Allow to cool on a white plastic tray, while the pastry is being made.
8. To make the flaky pastry: Mix fat together on a plate until soft, use a fork to do this. Divide the fat into four portions using a knife.
9. Sieve flour into a large bowl and rub in a ¼ fat, the mixture should resemble breadcrumbs. Add in the dried mixed herbs or chilli flakes.
10. Add the lemon juice and enough cold water to mix to a soft dough.
11. Knead and roll out into a rectangle shape.
12. Dot a quarter of the fat over the top 2/3rd's and fold the bottom 1/3rd up over the middle 1/3 and seal the edges and fold the top 1/3rd over the middle 1/3rd and firmly seal the edges.
13. Quarter turn the pastry, so the long seal is on the right.
14. Repeat step 12 twice more.
15. Turn once more and fold in half.
16. Chill to allow fat to set (you can chill between each addition of fat if time).
17. Once chilled, roll the pastry out carefully. Remember to always roll forward to ensure there is an even pressure on the pastry.
18. Use a pastry cutter to cut the pastry out into even size pieces.
19. Place some of the filling mixture in the centre of each of the pastry circles. Dampen the edges with water and fold and seal the edges together. Neaten the edges by pressing them with a fork or using your fingertip to 'flute' them into a wavy line.
20. Place the pasties on a baking tray and glaze with beaten egg and milk wash.
21. Bake in the oven for 12 – 15 minutes until crisp and golden.

