INFLATION

School supplies are 10% more expensive, but sales remain the same

The tendency to recycle books is increasing among parents and the purchase is more controlled

Paper is the product that has risen in price the most, with four variations this year

EL PERIÒDIC ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

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ack to school this year has been marked by an increase of approximately 10% in the price of school supplies, according to the manager of the Carlin store, Helena García. Paper is the most affected, as it has increased its amount four times only this 2022. However, some products have not suffered any variation. For his part, the manager of Ofijet, Josep Maria Cornella, explained that «above all, all articles containing paper, plastics or derivatives have increased». However, bookshops and stationers value that sales similar to last year are expected, although «these four or five days until school starts are very strong», Cornella assured. As for the impact of inflation on business, the clerk at La Trenca bookstore, Pepa Vives, pointed out that «we have noticed it especially in the transport of goods, because the price was already high enough, and now the situation it has worsened with the rise in fuel prices».

On the other hand, and in terms of spending, the average ticket is around 150 euros for the purchase of material, but «in some schools, such as Sant Armengol or Janer, they ask for textbooks», expressed Vives and, therefore, the price of these «will depend on the school year, starting from 50 euros that can cost a whole lot for a three-year-old child, up to 300 euros if you take all the books of the ESO or Baccalaureate», asserted the manager of Ofijet. The clerk at La Trenca also explained that «the amount of textbooks that come from Spain and Catalonia is higher than the French ones», and added that «with respect to school reading books, the prices are quite affordable».

Even so, parents tend to recycle last year's product, a «difficult to manage» alternative for stores, due to the constant modification of the



▶► A section of school supplies and backpacks from a bookstore and stationery store in the Principality.

syllabus year after year. «We also notice that the customer's purchasing power is lower, because the prices of the products are increasing, but the wages are the same», said the manager of La Llibreria Lluís Canal. In this sense, Cornella assessed that «many people come with a list made, which maybe a few years ago they didn't

do, and they already know what they have to buy».

Reservations are also maintained, and web ordering has increased with the pandemic, but «now it has stabilized, and most parents prefer to come and look and choose the material on site», reported Cornella. Regarding the current trend, the

person in charge of Carlin Gil Jordi observed that «there are more and more reservations via WhatsApp, where parents send us a message with the list, we prepare it for them and then they come to collect it».

To finish, Cornella recalled that almost two years ago, the price of books dropped between 20% and 30%

and, therefore, «now it has balanced out». At the moment, the sales campaign has not yet closed, and it is difficult to compare exactly with the previous year the increase caused by inflation in the unit. However, «people will compare more, look more at prices and take more advantage of the material», he indicated. ≡



PEPA VIVES

CLERK OF LATRENCA

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JOSEP MARIA CORNELLA

OFIJET MANAGER

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LLUÍS CANAL

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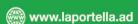


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FOOTBALL ► MULTISEGUR LEAGUE

«Galactic» signing

UE Santa Coloma signs goalkeeper Carlos Kameni, former player of Málaga CF and RCD Espanyol in the First Division

EL PERIÒDIC ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

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he Liga Multisegur (First Division of Andorran football) will compete with a new star on the grass of the different fields of the Andorran Football Federation (FAF), and that is that UE Santa Coloma has signed goalkeeper Carlos Kameni. The Cameroonian is known by many of the fans of this sport for having played (including being captain) in Spanish First Division teams, such as RCD Espanyol or Málaga CF.

However, Kameni managed to lift one of LaLiga's most prestigious trophies, such as the Copa del Rey (winning with Espanyol against Real Zaragoza in the final that was played at the Santiago Bernabéu Stadium in April 2006), as well as a runner-up in the UEFA Cup (lost against Sevilla FC in the final played in Glasgow on May 16th 2007). He also emerged champion of the Afri-

The Cameroonian was champion of the African Cup of Nations and Olympic gold in Sydney 2000

can Cup of Nations with the Cameroon team and, finally, Kameni also includes an Olympic gold medal in Sidney 2000, with the same national team.

AN ELITE CAREER// After having made his debut in the elite of professional football with French Le Havre A.C., the goalkeeper made a qualitative leap, being very young, to A. S. Saint-Étienne, which allowed him to sign for RCD Espanyol in the 2004-2005 season. He played a total of 222 games with the Catalan team, becoming one of the leading players and one of the best goalkeepers in LaLiga. He debuted in the league with a 1-1 draw between RCD Espanyol and Deportivo de la Coruña, and just that same year, Kameni was the goalkeeper who saved the most penalties in the entire championship, to kicks from players like Ronaldo, Fernando Torres or Júlio Baptista.

Kameni was at Espanyol for a total of eight seasons, and in the 2012-2013 season he ended up leaving for Málaga for two million euros, a team with which he played 78 matches. Despite being condemned to ostracism by the coach at that time, Mauricio Pochettino, Kameni spent the best years of his sporting career in the Andalusian team. He started out as the substitute goalkeeper, but his prominence increased considerably after the departure of Willy Caba-





▶▶ Above, Kameni saves a ball in front of Real Madrid striker Karim Benzema. Below, Kameni celebrates a move with Málaga CF.

the profile

Carlos Kameni

PLAYER UE SANTA COLOMA

A professional candidate to be principal

Kameni arrives at UE Santa Coloma with the clear purpose of once again enjoying the prominence he has not had in recent years. Since leaving Andalusia for the Turkish league, the Cameroonian has missed the playing minutes that, in his time, made him one of the most outstanding goalkeepers in the Spanish topflight. Fast, agile and brave. He was like that when he played for

llero for Manchester City, as he be- with the then Málaga coach, Míchel came a starter until becoming one of the best players in the club's history. For the record remain anthological performances against worldclass teams such as FC Barcelona and Real Madrid CF, destroying a multitude of opportunities for their respective stars, Leo Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo, consecrating themselves as an idol for the Malaguista fans and as one of the most loved players in the club.

world cup goal // Finally, after five seasons in Andalusia, the Cameroonian signed for the Turkish Fenerbahçe S.K. after maintaining a dispute RCD Espanyol and Málaga CF. Now, at 38, and after suffering this lack of focus, it remains to be seen what form he arrives in, although from past experiences with other players, they tend to maintain the level required to become standout men for their respective teams. in the Multisegur League. It is clear that Kameni is not coming to be a substitute, he has the goal of being one of the members of the definitive list of the Cameroon selection for the next World Cup in Qatar, even if it is as the third goalkeeper. If nothing turns around, Kameni will be a colomenc player until the end of the season.

(ex-Real Madrid), where he played 16 games, to end up leaving for Djibouti (a small country in Africa) where he was competing with A. S. Arta/Solar 7. Now, at the age of 38, Kameni begins his adventure in the Principality in the ranks of UE Santa Coloma, with the clear aim of being part of the Cameroon selection to compete in the next World Cup in Qatar. The goalkeeper joins other names of the football elite who have passed through the country, such as Joan Capdevila (World Champion with Spain) or Dani Benítez (former Primera Division player with Granada). **≡**

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