Roath Park Primary School
Ysgol Gynradd Parc Y Rhath

Pen-Y-Wain Road
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Dear RPPS families,

We've enjoyed a great first week back in school following the October half-term break.

I have provided as many dates and as much information as I can in this newsletter. This is a very busy half-term with religious festivals such as Diwali and Christmas celebrated over the coming days, weeks and months.

Happy Diwali to those celebrating on Sunday 8th November! As per all celebrations across the school year, we will be turning our festoon lighting inside the building on. This time it will be to celebrate the festival of light. Classes will also be learning about Diwali as part of our RVE (Religion, Values and Ethics) teaching.

Year 6 Remembrance Assembly – Monday 9th November
Families of children in Year 6 are invited to attend our Remembrance Day assembly on Monday 9th November at 9.30am. Please arrive at the double school gates on Pen-y-wain Road for 9.15am. We are delighted to be hosting veterans from the Royal Naval Association – this link was established over 25 years ago and remains an integral part of our service.

Cold weather
Please ensure that your child is wearing appropriate clothing to school. A hat, gloves and warm coat may be suitable on colder days. All clothing MUST be labelled or clearly marked with your child's name.

Individual / sibling photographs
Last year we began offering our own class photographs across the school. This was very well received – we provided great photos and generated additional income for the school.

Individual and sibling photographs will be taken after Christmas. We have switched to an alternative provider as their costs are cheaper and you will also be able to choose between multiple backgrounds. Overall cost and the quality of photograph are key factors behind this decision.

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Miss Smith has taken photographs of children in the Early Years and these will be available to order very soon. All profits made from these prints will go towards resources across the school.

Children In Need – Friday 13th November
On Friday 13th November we will celebrate Children in Need. The BBC's theme for Children in Need this year is 'Challenge Yourself' so our day at school will consist of fun activities and tasks. All children are welcome to wear silly / funny costumes or anything they feel comfortable in.

We kindly ask for a voluntary donation of £1. Part of the day will also consist of the children making a huge Pudsey out of coins, so we'd love for any spare change to be brought into school – 1p and 2p coins are ideal for this. All contributions will be counted and added to our overall total.

Key dates and information (November 2026)
You can find key dates and information throughout the year here: YEARLY PLANNER 2026-27

Please continue to read Class Newsletters (sent via Arbor to your email address) as class teachers share additional information with you.

Monday 9th November: Year 6 Remembrance Assembly (9.30am – school hall), Gruffalo Granny (Nursery, Reception and Year 1 collaboration week)
Tuesday 10th November: Year 3 trip to Cardiff Story
Wednesday 11th November: Year 3 'Into Film Festival' trip to see Toy Story 5
Friday 13th November: Children in Need – see paragraph above

Wednesday 18th November: Year 1 'Into Film Festival' trip
Thursday 19th November: Victorian Day in Year 5
Friday 20th November: Smoothie Bike for Year 4, 5 and 6 in school hall

Tuesday 24th November: Years 4, 5 and 6 'Into Film festival' trip to see Kangaroo
Thursday 26th November: Cinema Night at RPPS (Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6)

Monday 30th November: Year 4 trip to Tretower Court

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Christmas concerts
Dates for the Christmas Concerts in December were set back in July – these can be found on the Yearly Planner. Here is a reminder of the dates and times for each year group;

Tuesday 1st December (at 10am and 2pm) - Year 1 and Year 2

Friday 4th December (at 10am and 2pm) - Reception

Monday 7th December (at 10am and 2pm) - Nursery

Wednesday 9th December (at 10am and **4pm**) - Year 3 and Year 4

Friday 11th December (at 9.30am) - Rocksteady Christmas Concert
Pupils who attend Rocksteady ONLY - families of those welcome to attend (free of charge)

Wednesday 16th December (at 10am and **4pm**) - Year 5 and Year 6

Tickets will be available to buy very soon. They will be capped to 2 tickets per child, per performance due to space restrictions in the school hall. We are currently looking into digital payments through ParentPay.

School lunches
Some parents / carers are still paying for school lunches on ParentPay which is not required. School meals are free as part of the Welsh Government *Universal Primary Free School Meal* offer. Please ensure that you do not use the 'set up auto top-up' function on ParentPay or set up direct debits.

One-off payments for experiences and trips are made through the ParentPay website.

Staff departures
Mrs. Power, who has worked at Roath Park Primary for 28 years, will retire from her duties towards the end of this month. Mrs. Power has always worked as a midday supervisor but has also been a cleaner and cleaning supervisor. She has been an outstanding member of our team, and we will miss her at Roath Park. Thank you for your service, Mrs. Power!

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Our wonderful school cook and kitchen manager, Kelly, leaves Roath Park Primary next week. We are fortunate to have worked with Kelly over the past 4 years. In that time, we had temporary kitchen pods installed and various changes were made to our menu. None of which would've been as successfully implemented without Kelly.

Kelly has successfully been appointed to work within the NHS – a role that she will thrive in due to her hard work, positive mindset and outstanding interpersonal relationships. Kelly, we will miss you and would love for you to visit in the future!

School successes
I do not have any new out of school successes to share this week. Please could you email me LFitzgerald@roathparkprm.co.uk if you'd like to share your child's achievements – these could be community, charity, learning or sport related.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mr. Lewis Fitzgerald
Headteacher