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Dear RPPS Families

I hope you are well and enjoying the longer Bank Holiday weekend. I thought I'd write to you ahead of next week as we wanted to share important information and upcoming events ahead of the four days we have in school next week.

### **Message from the Headteacher**

Last week I was appointed as permanent Headteacher at Roath Park Primary. This is truly an honour and I wish to thank our Governing Body for placing their trust in me to continue and build upon the great work we already do. I'd also like to thank each of you for your continued support. I was completely overwhelmed by the response to this news as I received lots of messages, emails and calls.

I have worked at RPPS since 2018 and each year has brought new challenges but also a greater sense of belonging within our wonderful school community. My values and vision are centred around community, learning, leadership and well-being. I know we can achieve great things in the future and it will take all of us working together effectively in order to do this.

Diolch yn fawr iawn | Thank you so much.

### **Kitchen / School meals update**

We are delighted that Year 1 pupils could start receiving their **Universal Primary Free School Meal (UPFSM)** options last week. It was wonderful to see the children so excited and then enjoying the food and experience. On 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023 I shared a Cardiff Local Authority letter which confirms that the Year 2 rollout of **UPFSM** will now take place from June 5<sup>th</sup>. Other year groups will follow from the beginning of the next academic year.

Earlier this year I sent a survey to parents asking about the option of paid school meals. There was a very positive response to this survey and many of you have asked whether we are now in a position to start offering paid school meals. We are **not** in a position to offer the paid option just yet as we are waiting for a delivery of additional lunch benches for the school hall. I have been regularly contacting the Local Authority about this and I am awaiting a delivery update.

Once we have received the lunch benches, we will send details out about Parentpay which is the platform for ordering and paying for school meals. Please feel free to contact me [LFitzgerald@roathparkprm.co.uk](mailto:LFitzgerald@roathparkprm.co.uk) if you have any further queries on school meals.

### **Internet Safety – home / school partnership**

We have seen a slight rise in e-safety incidents at school. These have been low risk and resolved quickly by school staff. We have informed the relevant parents / carers about these incidents and suggested how

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to monitor at home. We would really appreciate your support in monitoring your child's use of mobile devices including games consoles, laptops, tablets and phones at home and we will continue to do so in school.

Mrs. Wright has asked me to share the following link with you as a starting place for you to discuss with your children: <https://hwb.gov.wales/keeping-safe-online> We are currently putting e-safety guidance together for families.

#### **Friends of RPPS – Springtime Treasure Trail**

We would like to say a HUGE thanks to our excellent Friends of RPPS committee who set up, shared and ran a great event during the Easter holidays. The 'Springtime Treasure Trail' was very well attended and enjoyed by so many.

We will meet with the Friends of RPPS again on Tuesday afternoon where we will be planning two more events for the Summer Term. Please keep an eye out for these in the near future.

#### **Year 4 Gallery Exhibition**

Many thanks to Year 4 families who attended the gallery exhibition last Friday. The children were so pleased with their feedback from yourselves. Well done to the staff and pupils for putting this together.

#### **Cinema Night**

Last Thursday's Cinema Night was very well attended. Staff and pupils enjoyed the film (Peter Rabbit 2) and snacks. We raised £232.00 which will be spent on future school events and resources.

#### **Upcoming Year 2 'Fabulous Finish'**

Year 2 staff have organised for families to come into school next Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May so the children can showcase their learning from this term. Please see the Year 2 newsletter for further details – this can be found on Schoop. Information has also been shared via Seesaw.

#### **Upcoming Coronation Tea Parties**

As communicated via Schoop on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023, we will be marking the King's Coronation by hosting tea parties at school during the afternoon of Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May. All food will be provided by school so there is no cost to parents. Please could all children wear red, white or blue to school on this day. Please **do not** feel it is necessary to buy a new costume or clothing for this event.

#### **Help for families\***

We have helped many families by offering support in a variety of different ways. Please contact [sivens@roathparkprm.co.uk](mailto:sivens@roathparkprm.co.uk) if you wish to discuss what help and support we can offer as a school.

Alternatively, further information and guidance is also available from the Welsh Government website: <https://gov.wales/get-help-cost-living>

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### **Attendance and punctuality\***

Where a child does not come to school and we haven't received a call, email or voicemail we will be contacting parents straight away as part of our 'first response' strategy. We urge all parents to contact us if your child is unwell or cannot attend school and we will assist you where we can.

It is also VITAL that you arrive to school on time. Our class registers will be shut at 9.05am meaning that any pupils who arrive after this time will be marked as absent. The benchmark for attendance across the school is 97% which equates to attending school on 189 days out of a possible 195 days.

### **School Successes**

**Senedd Parc y Rhath | Roath Park Senedd:** Nina, Yzen, Phia, Roisin and Faizan (Year 6) showed great professionalism and integrity last week as they played a part in recruiting our Headteacher. I can tell you that this was one of the more daunting tasks over the two-day process!

**Rights Respecting Committee:** Gwen, Bianca, Jessica, Dima, Lucie, Jasmine and Annalise (Year 6 - our RRS Committee) attended the Child-friendly Cardiff 'Rights Respecting Celebration 2023'. Miss James accompanied them and was extremely proud of the way they presented our successes as a Right Respecting Gold school. Mr. Howlett (Headteacher at Albany Primary) was also full of praise for the group.

**Kitchen team:** Our school cooks Kelly, Kristy, Louise and Jemma have been brilliant. They are now providing meals from two separate kitchens and are ready to increase the number of meals as soon as we can. We can't thank them enough for their kindness towards the children and the fantastic meals they provide.

**London Marathon:** I am aware of three parents who ran the London Marathon last weekend. Well done to you all and congratulations on achieving such fantastic race times.

A huge well done to each of you for your achievements – we are extremely proud of your efforts in school and outside of school. If I have missed anyone who has **recently** picked up **any** award, certificate or achievement outside of school please contact me with details [LFitzgerald@roathparkprm.co.uk](mailto:LFitzgerald@roathparkprm.co.uk)

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mr. L Fitzgerald  
Headteacher

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