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Ref: ActingHT/October2
Date: 13.10.22

Dear RPPS Families,

It's been another busy week or so at school with Year 1, 2 and 3 Family Consultations returning as face-to-face meetings in the school hall, Reception pupils attending Forest School at Forest Farm, Year 6 attending Brecon Museum and lots of exciting learning taking place.

Next week will see our Year 4, 5 and 6 Family Consultations take place on Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th in the school hall, Year 2 will be out visiting Castell Coch on Thursday 20th and Friday 21st and individual / sibling photographs will also take place on Friday 21st.

On behalf of the whole team at RPPS, I just wanted to say a huge thank you for your support towards our Stay & Play and Family Consultation events so far. We've had a fantastic turn out to these and the feedback has been tremendous.

Covid – rules at school*

From 1st August 2022, it was no longer a formal requirement for self-isolation and testing reduced in Wales. The latest guidance from Cardiff Local Authority for pupils can be found below;

- Any pupil who tests positive for COVID-19 should be asked to not attend school.
- COVID-19 infection will be treated like any other communicable disease (e.g. Norovirus) and a school can recommend certain measures to protect the health and safety of other pupils and staff.
- Families should follow Welsh Government Self-Isolation guidance.

What are we doing to mitigate risk in Autumn / Winter?

- Using HEPA filters in every classroom and communal spaces
- Encouraging and promoting clean airflow by opening windows
- Promoting / encouraging good hygiene e.g. hand washing throughout the day
- Making hand sanitiser available in all communal spaces
- Allowing anyone to wear a face covering without feeling like they should explain their choice to do so
- Avoiding large gatherings e.g. whole-school assemblies

Help for families*

We fully understand that the rising cost of fuel, food and other daily essentials has and will continue to put an enormous strain on families in our learning community. We want to help anyone who is affected by the rising cost of living by offering discretionary guidance and support. So far, we have done this by; taking families to food cooperatives, providing pre-loved school uniform and essentials and liaising with local charities / organisations to obtain vouchers and other goods.

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Acting Headteacher | Pennaeth Dros Dro: Mr. Lewis Fitzgerald
Acting Deputy Headteacher | Dirprwy Bennaeth Dros Dro: Ms. Jane Marker
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We will be publishing a strategy on how we can support you in the near future. It is important that you let us know if you require some help with accessing food or reducing costs in your home. Mrs. Ivens's email address is sivens@roathparkprm.co.uk

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

School meals*

We are delighted that Universal Primary Free School Meals are being offered to all Reception and eFSM pupils across the school. This is working really well and the children are enjoying the experience. To help us in school, we would like families to discuss with their child what they are having for lunch each day and support their child to correctly use a knife, fork and spoon when eating at home.

We are **not** in a position to offer School Meals to any other year groups just yet. This is because; our existing kitchen is currently undergoing a refurbishment, we are currently working with the LA to launch Parent Pay as a form of online payment / meal selection and our position of cooking meals from a temporary kitchen unit.

Thank you to those families who have requested further information and updates on school meals – we appreciate your patience and hope we can start offering hot meals to your children as soon as possible.

RSE (Relationship and Sexuality Education) meeting dates*

We are going to hold two RSE meetings with our school community this side of Christmas. I urge anyone who is interested in this topic or has questions for us as their child's school to do their best to attend. Dates and meeting details can be found below;

Monday 24th October at 4pm: This meeting is to share the RSE Code and discuss talking points as a school community. Children will not be able to attend this meeting so please ensure you have alternative childcare arrangements in place. We will not be able to offer a solution in school as many of our staff will be taking part in the meeting and we expect many families to attend.

Monday 5th December at 4pm: We hope to share resources and tell you more about our school's approach to teaching RSE during this meeting. Children will not be able to attend this meeting so please ensure you have alternative childcare arrangements in place. We will not be able to offer a solution in school as many of our staff will be taking part in the meeting and we expect many families to attend.

INSET Day – Friday 28th October 2022

Our next staff training INSET day is on Friday 28th October 2022. Please see the Family Planner (link below) for other important school dates.

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Family Planner*

I've sent this out a couple of times already but here is a link to the Family Planner for 2022/23. Please follow the link to download it and refer to it throughout the year. Dates and events are subject to change but we will resend the document if changes are made.

<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/roathparkprimaryschool/UploadedDocument/5c3fdcc0-a156-4952-9311-fa354c3bf19c/family-planner-2022-23.pdf>

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.

Parent / Carer Questionnaire

We would love some feedback from you regarding what is going well and what can be improved at RPPS. Please follow this link to a short questionnaire:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScAzeCs783V-5u00lZoT4vu-RxomPrjwmEy6LfsBgWH0pd5bg/viewform>

School Successes

Play Street (Inverness Place) - Many of our children have been enjoying Inverness Place's Play Street which occurs monthly. Ada, Amelia and Mathilde have baked brownies and brunch bars to sell for 50p each. All proceeds go to their selected charity.

Cardiff Fun Run, 10k and Half Marathon - George ran the 'Fun Run' with some friends and many parents ran Cardiff 10k and Half Marathon.

Well done to everyone mentioned above.

Kind regards,

Mr. L Fitzgerald
Acting Headteacher

*NB: * shows regularly communicated items*

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