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Ref: ActingHT/September2
Date: 16.09.22

Dear RPPS Families,

It's been an absolute joy to watch your children re-settle into another school year. Our school is always a busy, lively place to be but so many staff and visitors have commented on the tranquility around the school as learning is taking place. We are really proud of this as we wanted to start the year as we mean to go on – with a focus on children understanding the purpose of what they are learning and leading this learning in a confident, calm way.

I've included some useful information and dates below. Please see the [Family Planner \(click to open\)](#) for all important dates throughout the year.

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.

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. Some children are unsure and others try to change their mind last minute.

We are **not** in a position to offer School Meals to any other year groups yet for the following reasons;

- 1) Our school is not currently fully set up to use Parent Pay – this is the portal that families will use to select and pay for school meals
- 2) Our temporary kitchen can only accommodate the current number of hot meals
- 3) We only have two Local Authority catering staff working from our temporary kitchen

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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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- 4) We will need to change the structure of the school day as we only have one lunch hall and will require more sittings

Relationships and Sexuality Education

I have Schooped information on this topic recently and have received some correspondence from families. Next week we will be sharing a date for meeting with our community to discuss the [RSE Code \(click to open\)](#)

It's really important that all families read the RSE Code carefully and then bring questions to us in school. We are the team responsible for ensuring the correct the language and resources are used to support learning in RSE. The workshop we organise in school will provide an opportunity to ask questions and see the resources.

Attendance

We have seen a great improvement in attendance over the last two weeks. To remind you, the school gates open at 8.55am and close at 9.05am every morning – arrival after this time will be marked as LATE.

If you have not informed us that your child will be absent and they do not attend school on that day, we will call you to gather further information. This is part of our 'first response' strategy. This is aimed at safeguarding all pupils and ensuring that they do not miss out on essential learning time.

If your child misses school regularly, you may be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN).

Parent Governor position

We have a vacant position on our Governing Body for a Parent Governor. This role would involve around 5/6 meetings on a Wednesday evening from now until the end of the academic year in July. It's a great opportunity to find out what's happening in our wonderful school. Our staff present on topics such as Finance and Resources, Curriculum, Standards and Health & Safety.

I would love to be in the position where we are voting to appoint a Parent Governor in the future. I believe our school community should have the opportunity to appoint someone into this role who is going to provide solid support and challenge to the School Leadership Team. Please contact me if you are interested in this position and I can forward further details to you.

Names on clothing

PLEASE can you ensure your child's name is clearly marked on all items of clothing. With the ever-changing weather, children are taking clothing on and off and leaving it around the school. If it doesn't have a name on it, they are very unlikely to get it back as it will go into our lost property.

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NB: We hold regular yard events where pre-loved uniform is available to buy for very low costs.

Thank you for continued support.

Mr. L Fitzgerald
Acting Headteacher

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