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Ref: HT/Nov1  
Date: 10.11.2023

Dear RPPS Families,

It was brilliant to welcome our Year 6 families into school this morning for Year 6's Celebration Assembly. This term Year 6 have been learning about 'Conflict & Peace'. This morning's assembly was a celebration of their learning but also provided an excellent insight into Remembrance Day which falls on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November.

Diwali – the Hindu festival of light – will also be celebrated on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November. Classes have been learning about Diwali and we have turned our festoon lights on inside the building to mark the occasion.

#### **Yearly Planner**

Our Yearly Planner for the 2023-24 academic year can be found below – please print this off or save it as it contains all key dates for the next school year. If we amend the dates, we will publish a new Yearly Planner on our website and circulate this via Schoop.

[YEARLY PLANNER 2023/24](#)

#### **Active Travel**

We are delighted to share that 88% of you travelled to school either by; cycling, scooting or walking this week. This is outstanding and places us 4<sup>th</sup> in Wales for the number of pupils who are using active methods of travel to get to and from school. Please keep this up through the colder and wetter months as it makes a huge difference to the safety of our pupils and families during morning drop-off and afternoon collection.

#### **'School Street' consultation with community**

Thanks to our families and residents of Tyn-Y-Coed Place and Diana Street who attended the School Street proposal meeting on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October. Our school staff and Cardiff Council's Active Travel officers were able to gather views and answer questions.

Further information about the Active Travel entrance and School Street proposal will be shared in the future.

#### **Year 5 'Victorian Day' – 16<sup>th</sup> November**

Year 5's Victorian Day is next Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November. Details are on this week's Year 5 newsletter. Miss Evans and Miss James have talked through costumes with children and have explained there is no requirement to buy anything new.

“Living Together, Learning Together, Growing Together” | “Byw Gyda'n Gilydd, Dysgu Gyda'n Gilydd, Tyfu Gyda'n Gilydd”

Headteacher | Pennaeth: Mr. Lewis Fitzgerald  
Deputy Headteacher | Dirprwy Bennaeth: Ms. Jane Marker  
Website: <https://www.roathparkprimaryschool.co.uk>  
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### **Children In Need – 17<sup>th</sup> November**

Next Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November we will be raising money for Children In Need. If you would like to make a cash donation, we will collect this on the day.

The 'Roath Park Kind Hearts' who work with Mrs. Richards have planned lots of activities for classes. Further information will be shared on Schoop.

### **Universal Primary Free School Meals (UPFSM) rollout**

From 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 all Year 4 pupils will be offered a UPFSM.

We will provide Parentpay activation codes to all Year 4 families next week which will come with instructions on how to order school meals.

The UPFSM rollout will continue for Year 5 and Year 6 – we envisage this taking place after Christmas but are awaiting a firm date from Cardiff Council.

### **School trips, experiences and visits**

You may have noticed that the number of experiences and trips across the school is increasing. We are doing our very best to ensure the trips are; financially viable for all families and impactful in terms of learning.

Our school minibuses will be used for local trips which will assist in keeping costs low. We ask families to contribute a small amount for local trips to cover fuel costs. Please let us know if this is not achievable and we will help you out where possible.

### **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 your child arrives 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.

### **Requesting holiday leave**

Requests for holiday leave should be made to me via email. Please include the following details; purpose of visit, location of visit, dates of visit. My email address is [LFitzgerald@roathparkprm.co.uk](mailto:LFitzgerald@roathparkprm.co.uk)

Where Roath Park Primary and Cardiff Council do not know the whereabouts of your child, we will investigate. Cardiff Council regulations state that if the pupil is absent for over **20 school days** and hasn't returned from their holiday and is not back in school on day 21 then the regulations permit schools to remove the child from their register.

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#### School successes

**Piano:** Ada (Year 5) achieved a Distinction in her Grade 2 Music Theory piano exam last week.

**Karate:** Noor (Year 2) was awarded the 1st place as Kata champion of the Welsh Karate League season 2023 and won the finale League trophy.

**Scouts:** Omar (Year 6) and his Scout group travelled to Lee Valley Athletics Centre in London on Saturday 28th October 2023 to compete against 26 other scout groups from MSF South in the Olympics. His scout group were the first and won the trophy.

A huge well done to each of you for your fantastic achievements – we are extremely proud of your efforts in school and outside of school. If I have missed anyone who has recently picked up an 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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