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Ref: HT/Sept1
Date: 05.09.2023

Dear RPPS Families,

Welcome back! I hope you had a lovely summer and are enjoying the warmer weather this week. It has been a fantastic first day back in school - what a pleasure it was to see the children interacting with their new teachers and enjoying time with all of their friends!

I have included some key information to start the year below.

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](#)

Schoop – Groups update

We have sent instructions on how to change the Schoop groups you are subscribed to. The new groups for the academic year 2023/24 were updated last week.

PLEASE ensure that you go to My Schoop > Roath Park > Settings > Change Groups and subscribe to the correct year group and teacher. Schoop is our platform for communicating with you so it is really important that you do this as soon as possible. For new users, our Schoop ID is 4303.

Universal Primary Free School Meals (UPFSM) rollout

- From today (5th September 2023) all Year 3 pupils were offered a UPFSM
- From 20th November 2023 all Year 4 pupils will be offered a UPFSM

Cardiff Council are planning to introduce a new primary menu after the half term break on the 6th November 2023 and are therefore delaying Year 4 until the 20th November.

Our new 2023-24 Reception cohort will have packed lunches for the first two weeks of September. This will enable us to help families move onto ParentPay and learn how to order meals online

England vs New Zealand cricket

We are delighted to announce that our school has been chosen to provide mascots for Friday's international cricket match between England and New Zealand. This decision reinforces the strength of our relationship with Glamorgan cricket and the England and Wales Cricket Board, demonstrating how we celebrate cricket in our local area.

“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>
Official Twitter: @roathparkprm



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The children selected will; have an opportunity to meet players and staff, form the tunnel for players to enter the pitch, receive tickets to watch the match, play cricket on the 'out-field' during the interval and have an opportunity to be interviewed. Letters were shared with Year 6 families this afternoon – we need permission slips to be returned by Thursday morning.

Welsh Government written statement about Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete

Please see the Welsh Government statement below. Due to the age of our school building (built in 1895), we do not expect this issue to affect us. However, we are awaiting a statement from Cardiff Council and will keep you up-to-date with any developments.

[WG statement - RAAC](#)

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.

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.

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.

School successes

Please let me know if your child has earned an award, certificate or achievement outside of school – my email address is L.Fitzgerald@roathparkprm.co.uk

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mr. L Fitzgerald
Headteacher

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