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Ref: HT/Oct2  
Date: 16.10.2024

Dear RPPS Families,

Roath Park Primary wishes those who observed Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year) and are about to celebrate Diwali (Hindu / Sikh / Newar Buddhist festival) a wonderful time with their family and friends.

There is just over a week until the October half-term break. Please remember that **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024** is our second INSET day so school will be closed to all pupils on this day.

#### **School day – essential information \***

School starts at **8.55am** and ends at **3.30pm**.

School dinners should be ordered by parents through **Parentpay** at least a week in advance.

**Schoop** is our way of communicating with you. Ensure you have downloaded Schoop (Channel ID: 4303) and signed up to the relevant classes. Keep your notifications ON.

#### **Yearly Planner**

Our Yearly Planner for the 2024-25 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 - 2024/25](#)

#### **Family Consultations**

The Nursery, Reception and Year 1 ‘Stay and Play’ events and all Parents Evening meetings have been very well attended. We appreciate your cooperation in booking the times, meeting with us and providing feedback following the events.

You can still provide feedback via this questionnaire: [PARENT / CARER QUESTIONNAIRE - OCTOBER 2024](#)

The main focus for this meeting was to discuss how your child has settled into the new year group. Family consultation events in March will focus on attainment and progress to this point in the school year. You can, at any time throughout the year, email your child’s class teacher about their attainment or progress. Email addresses can be found on the Yearly Planner – please email during working hours and allow time for teachers to reply.

“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  
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**Year 4, 5 and 6** Parents Evening meeting will continue tonight - **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023** in the school hall.

Please enter and exit via the double gates on Pen-Y-Wain Road (near 'The Corner').

### GLOW Discos

Our annual Glow Disco will take place in the school hall on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024**. A flyer for the event will follow this newsletter.

**Years 1, 2 and 3** will be from **3.45pm** until **4.45pm** (parents should collect children as normal at end of school day and transport them to school hall)

**Years 4, 5 and 6** will be from **5.00pm** until **6.00pm** (children should return to school in time for the disco).

Cost of entry to the Glow Disco will be £2 per child which will include a snack and a drink. The children can wear any bright, colourful items of clothing they wish to. Collection will be from the double gates on Pen-Y-Wain Road (near 'The Corner').

### Christmas Concerts

You will notice that the evening performance for Years 3 & 4 and Years 5 & 6 are set at the earlier time of 4pm this year. We have changed this in accordance with feedback received through the Parent / Carer questionnaire last year. It will be trailed this year and reviewed in the Spring Term.

We appreciate the earlier start time in the evening may cause some issues with your work commitments. The main reasons for change are;

- Children were not returning for the evening show at 6pm
- Children access paid after-school clubs and activities
- Children attend places of worship in the evening

At 3.30pm on the evening of the performance (specific dates can be found on the Yearly Planner) we ask for all children to remain in school and get ready for the performance. These will begin at 4.00pm and will finish by 5.00pm at the latest.

### Governing Body Annual Report to Families

Dr. Richard Harris (Chair of Governing Body), Dyfi Allen (Vice-Chair of Governing Body) and the Senior Leadership Team at school wrote and recently published our Governing Body Annual Report to Families. This reflects on the 2023-24 academic year, reflecting on the school's performance throughout the year.

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You can find it here: [2023/24 Governing Body Annual Report to Families](#)

### **Class newsletters**

A reminder that the weekly Class Newsletters on Schoop and Seesaw are a really useful way of you knowing what your child is learning in class. These also contain notifications of upcoming events and trips so please remember to check them regularly.

### **Friends of RPPS**

Our Governing Body, school team and Friends of RPPS (PTA) are asking for volunteers to help with events throughout the school year. Please email [PTA@roathparkprm.co.uk](mailto:PTA@roathparkprm.co.uk) if you'd like to find out more.

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

You may have noticed that we are starting to plan experiences and trips across the school. We will do our very best to ensure the trips are financially viable for all families and impactful in terms of learning.

Our school minibuses are used for local trips which helps to keep trip prices low. We ask families to contribute £1 for local trips (within Cardiff) and £2 further afield to cover the cost of fuel.

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

School starts at 8.55am. 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.

### **Holiday leave during term time**

I have received a number of notifications of holiday leave. Thank you for these – it is useful to know your intention to travel during term-time just in case we are asked by the Local Authority. We require your dates of travel, how many school days not attending, location and reason for travel.

Please remember that Cardiff Council policy states that you cannot be absent from school for more than 20 school days. Doing so would result in the Local Authority asking us to remove your child from the school register and admitting a child who is on our waiting list.

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### School successes

**Rugby:** Harri (Year 5) was awarded Man of the Match playing for St Albans RFC under 10's. Coaches noticed his tackling, forward play and great improvement.

**Running:** Elsie (Year 3) took part in the Cardiff Half junior race on Saturday 5th October and really enjoyed it. We are also aware that lots of other children and adults ran in the junior race and half-marathon. Well done to you all!

**Hockey:** Lizzie (Year 3) and Lucy (Year 1) played in their first hockey tournament representing Cardiff Met under 8's. Lizzie scored 4 goals in her debut!

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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