



Telephone | Ffôn: 02920 499549 📞
Email | Eboost: roathparkprm@cardiff.gov.uk ✉

Ref: HT/Jan2

Date: 28.01.2025

Dear RPPS Families,

Many thanks to the Year 4 families who came along to see the children present their learning in last week's assembly. Their topic "Kings, Queens and All Things Mean" explored everything from history, art, drama, Welsh and everything in between – it was a pleasure to witness them show what they've understood and learnt whilst having so much fun.

Swimming – Year 4

Year 4 will take part in swimming lessons at Cardiff Metropolitan University over the next two weeks. This year two of our parents at school are delivering the lessons after completing training at Cardiff Met. Well done to you both and thanks for supporting our learners with swimming.

We're delighted that all children will get this opportunity and the uptake and support from yourselves has been brilliant. Swimming is an essential life skill and also a component of the curriculum.

Mrs. Lark and Mrs. Jones

After 38 years of being connected to the school as a parent, Governor and wonderful member of our staffing team, Mrs. Lark will leave Roath Park in March 2025. Mrs. Lark's daughter, son and grandchildren all live in London so she and her husband will be relocating to London to be closer to them.

Words cannot describe how much we will all miss Mrs. Lark. She is Roath Park through and through and her absence will leave an enormous gap in our school and community. However, this is a carefully considered move for her and one we support wholeheartedly.

Alike Mrs. Lark, Mrs. Jones (Teaching Assistant in Reception) is a very busy Mother and Grandmother with family in England and Wales. Mrs. Jones will be retiring at the end of March in order to free up some time to support her family.

We all wish Mrs. Lark and Mrs. Jones the very best in the next chapter of their lives. They are not only wonderful people but a credit to our school community.

School dinners – Parentpay

This week alone 33 families have not ordered school meals for their children. This causes huge disruption for our school kitchen who need to know how much food to cook. Please order school meals at least a week in advance and call us if you need help with this.

“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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Parking around the school

As mentioned many times before, we have a problem with parking around the school site at drop off and collection times. Parking dangerously creates unnecessary hazards for pedestrians and cyclists. In the past we have had near misses which could be avoided if we chose to park further away from school and walk to the school gates. This week alone I am aware of two families reporting dangerous parking to Cardiff Council.

On days when it is windy and raining the parking issues are worse. Please consider the safety of our community before the weather – we will keep your children safe and dry if you are running slightly late at collection time. If you have very young children, we do understand the urge to park closer to the school. Trial leaving your home earlier or walking / cycling to school. The safety of our community is paramount.

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 2025/25 – UPDATED Nov 2024*

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 - UPDATED](#)

School building – update

Works to remove the buddleia and other vegetation at the front of the school building are complete. The next stage is to re-point and repair loose items of masonry and brickwork – we are awaiting a date for this to start. The lean-to-roof in the middle playground is currently fenced off as we await of programme of works from Cardiff Council.

I will communicate further updates with you as and when I receive them.

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.

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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.

School successes

Theatre: Finn and Ada (Year 6) have recently auditioned for parts in upcoming 'Kinetic Theatre' and 'Actors Workshop' shows. Finn was cast as Gaston in Beauty and The Beast and Ada was cast as Cinderella in Into The Woods.

Karate: Eleanor (Year 6) competed in Liverpool last weekend and brought home silver medal in kumite.

Charity: Together we all raised a fantastic a fantastic £822 for City Hospice's Rudolph Run (Dance-a-thon) last term.

Charity: Together we have donated enough crisp packets for Cyfle Cymru to make 7 foil blankets for the homeless. That's 1.050 bags of crisps!

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

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mr. L Fitzgerald
Headteacher

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