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Ref: HT/Sept2  
Date: 26.09.2025

Dear RPPS Families,

I hope you have enjoyed this week's beautiful weather. We have capitalised on every opportunity to take learning outdoors; embracing early Autumn and changes to our natural environment.

This term all children across the school are exploring the concept: 'Identity and Belonging'. We hope your child has been sharing their learning with you - discussing family, community and our place in the wider world. There are also many trips and visits being planned and some children have already enjoyed these experiences.

#### Yearly Planner - UPDATED

We noticed that the email address for Mrs. Watts (Year 1 Teacher) was incorrect on the Yearly Planner. I have corrected this and updated the version on our website. It can be found here: [YEARLY PLANNER 2025-26 NEW](#)

#### Flu vaccinations

Nasal spray vaccines and flu jabs will be administered by the NHS school nursing team. This is just for children from Reception to Year 6 whose families have given consent on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025**.

#### School photographs

We recently surveyed all families regarding school photographs provided by Colorfoto. 56 families replied to this survey and I have shared the results below.

*Would you support the school to explore cheaper ways to provide school photographs? E.g. group digital photographs.*

Yes – 80.8%, Maybe – 15.4%, No – 3.8%

*Would you support the school's choice to look at other options for school photographs?*

Yes – 96.2%, No – 3.8%

*Do you think Colorfoto's school photographs are good value for money?*

Yes – 9.4%, No – 90.6%

*Do you think Colorfoto take / provide photographs of a high standard?*

Yes – 34.6%, Sometimes – 48.1%, No – 17.3%

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Headteacher | Pennaeth: Mr. Lewis Fitzgerald  
Deputy Headteacher | Dirprwy Bennaeth: Ms. Jane Marker  
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*How frequently do you buy WHOLE CLASS school photographs under the current arrangement with Colorfoto?*

Always (every year) – 30.8%, Sometimes – 34.6%, Never 34.6%

*How frequently do you buy INDIVIDUAL / SIBLING school photographs under the current arrangement with Colorfoto?*

Always (every year) – 46.2%, Sometimes – 40.4%, Never 13.5%

Individual / sibling photographs will be taken by Colorfoto on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025**. This is likely to be the last time we work with Colorfoto and we will look at new providers for next year. Whole class photographs will be taken and shared by ourselves – these will be available in the Spring or Summer Term.

#### **Remarkable Women in Wales - Irene Steer**

Our Year 6 Senedd Leaders and Sports Ministers helped to unveil a new, blue plaque dedicated to the first Welsh woman to achieve an Olympic gold medal. Irene Steer was born in Cardiff and secured gold at the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm.

Well done to Lily and Husna who spoke incredibly well and to all Sports Ministers for representing our fantastic school.

#### **Breakfast Club**

We will be sharing a survey to capture interest and thoughts about Breakfast Club. If we are able to, we will extend our provision but we have to ensure that we can do this safely.

#### **Building Update**

Our colleagues at Cardiff Council visited the school earlier this month and have provided positive news about the works required to repair the roof, masonry and brickwork. The project is currently with architects who are drawing up plans and a schedule of work. The building is Grade II listed so specialist contractors will be required to complete the necessary repairs.

#### **Volunteers**

We want to continue providing excellent learning experiences such as trips and visits throughout the year. Teachers may be required to ask Parents / Carers or known family members to help us on school trips. We would really appreciate your support here.

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**Recurring information – marked with \***

**\* Notification of absence due to illness**

All notifications of absence due to illness need to be reported to the School Office. This can be done via email [roathparkprm@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:roathparkprm@cardiff.gov.uk) or call 02920 499549 (option #0). If there is no answer, our Office Team will be busy attending to something else so please leave a voicemail.

**\* Attendance and Punctuality**

School starts at 8.55am and finishes at 3.30pm. We thank you for arriving at school on time and have noticed a big improvement in lateness / punctuality.

Any families arriving after 9.05am will be asked to come into the school office and sign their children into school. Additionally, families will be asked to sign children out if they are collected within the school day e.g. appointments. These measures help us to know the whereabouts of pupils.

**\* ParentPay – ordering meals**

School meals should be ordered through the ParentPay website - please note that there is not a Parentpay app. Meals should be ordered at least a week in advance and are **free**.

**\* Notification of holiday leave**

The school does not 'authorise' leave for holidays. As per Cardiff Council policy, holidays during term-time count as an unauthorised absence from school.

If you are planning on travelling during term-time, we kindly ask that you notify me ([L.Fitzgerald@roathparkprm.co.uk](mailto:L.Fitzgerald@roathparkprm.co.uk)) of your plans including your child's name, their class, dates of travel and location. I will acknowledge your notification with a generic response.

It is important to note that per Cardiff Council policy, children cannot miss more than 20 school days per school year. If this rule is not followed, the school may need to offer your child's place to those on our waiting lists.

It is also important to acknowledge the importance of good school attendance and its impact on your child's learning. The benchmark for attendance across the school is **97%** which equates to attending school on 189 days out of a possible 195 days.

**\* Parentpay – other transactions**

Experiences, trips and visits are paid for through Parentpay. All experiences, trips and visits require a voluntary donation from families. We try our best to keep costs low and manageable throughout the school year.

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However, if the school does not receive enough money to cover the costs associated with the experience, trip or visit, this may result in cancellation.

Breakfast Club fees are just about to be moved over to Parentpay and we are working with Cardiff Council to bring about change to our Breakfast Club offer. I will share more information with you once I have it.

#### \* School uniform

Our school uniform colours are;

- We'd prefer all children to wear dark shoes/trainers
- Dark trousers / shorts / skirt / jogging bottoms (black or grey)
- White or royal blue polo shirt
- Royal blue jumper / cardigan / hoody / fleece

Uniform with the school logo is available to purchase from the school office – please see Mrs. Wellbeloved. Polo shirts without the school logo can be bought from local supermarkets or clothing outlets. We understand the cost associated with buying school uniform so we offer 'pre-loved uniform' for a voluntary donation. Please check whether you are eligible for support to purchase school uniform and essentials here: [Cardiff Council - School Essentials Grant](#)

#### \* School uniform – PE/Games

On days where the children have PE/Games, they should wear appropriate clothing to school.

Summer / warmer months – shorts, t-shirt, light jumper, light jogging bottoms

Winter / colder months – hoody, fleece, thicker jogging bottoms, gloves

We do not expect children to wear sports kits or activewear to school on any other days than when they have PE/ Games lessons. Teachers will communicate if there are trips / days where this is permitted.

#### \* Application for 'Free School Meals' status

Free School Meals status should not be confused with the Universal Primary Free School Meal offer in Wales.

\* **Free School Meals** – I would advise **all families** to check eligibility and apply for FSM status for your child(ren) here: [Cardiff Council - Apply for 'Free School Meals' status](#)

As well as free school meals (see below), there are a number of benefits associated with applying for FSM status.

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\* **Universal Primary Free School Meal offer** – this applies to **all** pupils from Reception to Year 6. It is a Welsh Government-funded initiative which is not means-tested. Therefore, all pupils are eligible under the current Welsh Government offer. The offer only covers school meals.

### School successes

**Climbing:** Jacob (Year 5) has received his Level 1 award as part of the National Indoor Climbing Award Scheme.

**Charity walk:** Lilly-Mai (Year 5) completed the 'For Our Stars - Memory Walk 2025' and raised funds in memory of a family member.

**Cymru Unleashed:** Nadia (Year 5) and her family were chosen for a marketing campaign to mark Wales qualifying for the UEFA Women's Euro 2025 competition.

**Swimming:** Alex (Year 6) competed in the Cardiff Swimming Club championships. Alex won 6 silver medals and 1 bronze medal. He also improved his time in all events.

**Swimming:** Theo (Year 5) took part in the same swimming championships as Alex. Theo won 3 gold medals and 2 bronze medals. He improved his time in all events.

**Swimming:** Lizzie (Year 4) took part in the same swimming championships as Alex and Theo. Lizzie won 3 gold medals. She improved her time in front crawl.

**Greener Planet:** Ruby (Year 1) and Huey (Year 3) have recently shared their commitment to recycling with BBC news reporters. The family were nominated by WRAP Cymru (Waste and Resources Action Programme).

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. Thank you to parents / carers who have shared these achievements – I look forward to reading more as the year goes on.

Many thanks for your continued support,  
Mr. L Fitzgerald

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