

Richmond Park Community Primary School
Priory Street
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Carmarthenshire
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Ysgol Gynradd Gymunedol Parc Waundew
Heol y Prior
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= Richmond Park
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5th February 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to make you aware of the new arrangements we've made for lunchtime supervision at our school.

As of tomorrow, most teaching assistants will be on duty for the whole hour during lunchtime. This will considerably increase the staff:pupil ratio on all yards, thus reducing any behavioural incidents, increase pupil engagement in activities, etc. To facilitate this, we've decided to move our assembly from the morning to after lunch. Therefore, this will not have an impact on the class provision and support for the children as they'll be in assembly whilst the teaching assistants have their lunch.

We have always complied with the county guidance of 1 adult with up to 75 pupils between years 3-6 by having at least 2 members of staff on yard and hall duty during lunchtime (approximately 1:50 pupils for years 3-6). However, this new system will considerably increase this to 5 members of staff on duty with years 3-6 throughout lunchtime (approximately 1:20). In addition, having met with our pupil voice groups last week, we've decided to implement 4 lunchtime clubs for KS2 pupils, which will include sports/games, reading, top trumps and Sumdog/Epic, as well as general free play at lunchtime. This will allow children to choose different activities, vary their routines, learn/develop new skills and engage with different children and adults. These clubs will vary on a termly basis to maintain pupil engagement, as well as result in a more fun and positive lunchtime experience for our pupils.

In order to support this new programme, we kindly request pupils to **not** bring in their personal sports equipment (e.g. footballs, rugby balls, etc) from home as we'll have activities set up for our sports club and free play with the use of school equipment. This will also minimise the chances of pupils who are not actively engaged in the sports club being struck by balls. A separate sports rota with different sports each day will be in place, which Y3/4 pupils will follow one day, Y5/6 pupils the next, etc. This should minimise any accidents which can easily happen when children of different physical stature play with each other, e.g. when year 3 pupils play rugby with year 6 pupils, etc.

We will monitor how this new system works over the next term, but we anticipate that this will be a positive step as far as minimising accidents on the yard, improve pupil behaviour, fun and engagement during lunchtime.

Thank you for your continued support and please feel free to contact us if you'd like any further information.

Kind regards,

Mr D Cooper
(Acting Headteacher)

