@Ratho_Primary Ratho Primary Learning Links

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Ratho Primary School

A Curious, Creative Community

Head Teacher Newsletter

December 11th 2020

Acting Head Teacher: Chris Welander

Contents

Christmas plans 1
Christmas finishing times 2
Keeping our school safe: COVID-19 2
Management of Positive Cases of COVID-19 over the holiday period 3
Home Learning 3
Ask your kids about… 3
Additional Support for Learning 4

Christmas plans

Christmas is in full swing at Ratho Primary School! Please see below for the remaining key dates for your children.

Christmas Party Week All children will have a party in their class bubbles this week. Children can come to school in party clothes and there will be country dancing, games and refreshments!	Week of Monday 14th December Monday 14th – P7b, P3/4, Nursery Tuesday 15th – P3, P5 and P4 Wednesday 16th – P7a, P5/6 Thursday 17th – P1, P1/2, P2 Friday 18th – P6
Virtual Santa Visits Santa will be visiting Nursery to Primary 2 via the medium of Microsoft Teams on the same day as the children's party. He will have delivered presents in a COVID-secure way earlier in the day and will then broadcast to the children from his grotto!	Week of Monday 14th December

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Christmas finishing times

Below are the finishing times for classes on **Tuesday 22nd December:**

Tuesday 22nd December finish times		
Class	Group	Time
P1, P1/2 and P2	A-L	11.35
	M-Z	11.45
P3 – P7	A-L	11.50
	M-Z	12.00

Keeping our school safe: COVID-19

In light of increasing winter illness, I'd like to remind you of the following NHS and Scottish Government guidelines on isolating and testing:

- If you, or anyone within your household, develops ANY ONE of the following symptoms, your whole household must isolate, and you should arrange a coronavirus test for the symptomatic person:

1. A new continuous cough (defined as coughing for more than an hour OR 3 episodes of coughing within 24 hours OR worsening of an existing cough

OR

2. A temperature of 37.8 degrees or above

OR

3. A loss of, or change in, sense of taste or smell

If your child (or anyone within your household) has any one of these 3 symptoms, please do not assume that they just have a cold or a vomiting bug. A case of coronavirus could easily be missed in these circumstances.

Further, if your child has vomited or had diarrhoea, please keep them home for a minimum of 48 hours after their last episode.

Your support with this is hugely appreciated.

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Management of Positive Cases of COVID-19 over the holiday period

As much as we all take the greatest care to keep ourselves and our loved ones safe from COVID-19 there is still the chance that some of us may test positive for the virus. If this happens to someone, a child or adult, within one of our bubbles in school then during term time you would receive a message from school asking you to check our website and/or your email and close contacts of a positive case would be advised to self-isolate for a period.

During the school holidays, school staff will not be on hand to carry out this responsibility, so this will be done by an 'Incident Management Team' at the City of Edinburgh Council who will be on call over the festive period. As Acting Head Teacher, I would be informed by the Incident Management Team that there had been a positive case in the community, but the procedures would be carried out by the team on call. Health Protection Lothian would be looking at the close contacts of the positive case for the previous 48 hours.

Home Learning

This week was the final week of home learning for this term. Home Learning will be set again on the week beginning **Monday January 11th 2021**.

Ask your kids about…

This term our classes have been focussing on literacy, numeracy and health and well-being after the school closure before the summer. Below is a brief summary of some of the wonderful learning happening in our school this week!

Nursery	Nursery are feeling festive! We have acted out the Nativity story and are making Christmas decorations
Primary 1	P1 Christmas decorations for the big tree and our Christmas plates for our party!
Primary 1/2	P1/2 are learning that routines and events in our world link to times and seasons. We are exploring ways to record time and are starting with understanding and reading the analogue clock.
Primary 2	Primary 2 have been working on our number bonds - testing speed and accuracy by playing Hit the Button.
Primary 3	P3 have been measuring each other's height in m and cm We have also been using digital and analogue scales to weight different food products.
Primary 3/4	P3/4 have been learning about the different features of a comic strip and will soon be making their own!
Primary 4	P4 have been learning that relationships are important for our mental health as part of our Keep Connected topic. We enjoyed reading The Boy who Built a Wall Around Himself.
Primary 5	Primary 5 are practising different types of questions, for example the use of inferential questions that help us 'read between the lines' when

	understanding different texts. Everyone has been able to come up with a range of questions and work with a partner or an adult to practise this skill.
Primary 5/6	P5/6 have been learning about the features of a newspaper report
Primary 6	P6 have been considering what it means to be both physically and mentally active for this SHANARRI indicator.
Primary 7a	P7a have been brushing up their dancing skills during PE ready for our Christmas party on Monday!
Primary 7b	This week P7b are revising and building on their knowledge of fractions and percentages
Art and Design	P3-5 classes have been using their collage skills and techniques previously learned, to create beautiful Christmas/winter themed cards. P6 and P7b have been creating mixed media snow globes using black pen and water colour paints.
STEM	We are developing our Science investigation skills, such as planning a fair test and recording observations carefully. P3-P5/6 have been investigating the chemical reaction between vinegar and bicarbonate of soda and finding out how to catch the gas produced. P6-P7 have been investigating how many drops of different liquids fit on a penny, averaging results to record more reliable data.

Additional Support for Learning

Doorway Online is a collection of free and highly accessible educational games that learners will find easy to use independently. Each activity has a range of accessibility and difficulty options.

https://www.doorwayonline.org.uk/

Have a lovely weekend everyone,

Chris