@Ratho_Primary Ratho Primary Learning Links

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Ratho Primary School

Head Teacher Newsletter: 24th March 2022

Dear Ratho Primary School Community,

It's been another busy fortnight here at Ratho and one that has been really great for most pupils! We are delighted that spring has sprung and the children are able to access the pitch and all the grounds again as the ground/mud has dried over the past week.

We have continued to organise some fantastic experiences for the children to supplement and enhance the curriculum and we will continue to do so as the session progresses.

Today sees our monthly Dress Down Day dedicated to supporting the crisis in Ukraine and all proceeds will be donated to the D.E.C. (Disaster Emergency Committee) appeal for Ukraine. We have discussed the conflict and crisis in Ukraine with pupils over the past month and, as well as wearing the colours of the Ukraine flag, pupils will also participate in a whole school art project on the day.

Please see below for details of some of the activities that have taken place recently and also activities, events and information relevant to the school community.

Many thanks for your continued support of the school.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Gibb, Head Teacher.

Letter from Jason Leitch & Covid 19

Please see an attached letter from National Clinical Director, Jason Leitch. This has been written to all parents, carers and young people to explain reasoning and clarification of how the Scottish Government continues to respond to the Covid pandemic.

In our local context of Ratho Primary and Nursery, we continue to experience positive cases of Covid-19 amongst many pupils and staff and therefore we haven't moved to in-person assemblies and we have been cautious about mixing of classes in enclosed environments. We continue with hand-washing, sanitisation and staff wearing masks whilst moving around the building. All external partners and visitors continue to follow our infection control protocols to ensure the safety of all.

We hope that next term will see the return of in-person assemblies and we are hoping for a much more normal 'Sports Day' where we can welcome parents/carers into the school grounds to spectate and enjoy the day in person next term. However, we will continue to hold Parent/Carer consultations via telephone calls with teachers as planned on May 23rd-25th.

Regarding children being unwell with Covid, we have noticed a pattern that children report feeling generally unwell, which can include sickness and diarrhoea,

then test positive in the following days. Please be vigilant. It is essential that your child does not attend school if they have symptoms of COVID-19. You can access advice here: Covid19 Information – Ratho Primary School. You can access the Home Learning page here: Stuck@Home Learning – Ratho Primary School

Events at Ratho Primary School

We continue to enjoy lots of successful events and activities. The big highlights this fortnight have been the visit of the Royal Observatory and their Inflatable Planetarium and the Love My Bus team from Transform Scotland.

The planetarium will return on Thursday April 7th to see remaining classes and we have a collection of meteorites to explore in classes… Yes, we have 931million year old space rock in school!

We were delighted to welcome the Love My Bus team to the school. We are proud to be an 'Eco-School' and the visit linked well with our learning for sustainability across all classes. It was a great opportunity to educate and enthuse the children about environmentally friendly practices and the options available to them (and families) for sustainable transport in Edinburgh. To host the bus in the school playground and allow the children on to explore it as part of their learning was a lot of fun too! Thank you to Stacey and the Transform team for your good work! Stacey sent the following statement to share:

I was so proud to launch the new #lovemybus youth initiative for Schools & Youth groups in Ratho Primary School this week. We had lots of fun learning about all the benefits of travelling by bus and our partners First Bus jumped on board and sent one of their fabulous low emission buses for the children see and learn about. We were lucky to have a professional photographer to capture the event too, so look out for these soon via our website: https://lovemybus.scot/youth or our FB page https://www.facebook.com/lovemybusscot/

For those wishing to apply for the new NEC bus pass for their child, please see links on our website and helpful tips for applying. Many thanks from Stacey & the #lovemybus team

Please see some photos below:

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Left to Right: Eco-Warriors, Junior Road Safety Officers, Primary 5, Primary 2, P1 entering the planetarium and P7. We will make more photos available on the website and Twitter for parents and carers to view and enjoy!

RSV Easter Plates, Walk&Wheel, Eat them to defeat them!

We continue with the above all next week.

- Ratho School Voice Easter Plate Competition. Plates are available from class teachers… Please see the flyer attached.
- Big Walk and Wheel. The Junior Road Safety Officers continue to monitor and record pupils walking, scooting or cycling to school. Please do your bit to help promote by leaving the car and walking/wheeling in. Please see the flyer attached.
- We continue the 'Eat Them to Defeat Them' campaign to encourage children to eat more vegetables. Next week, give peas a chance!

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RSV – Ratho School Voice

Huge thanks to the Ratho School Voice for all that they do to support the school! They are always available through their Facebook page; "Ratho School Voice RSV" and have class reps for each class who parents/carers can link in with.
For the rest of this session, the Ratho School Voice will be having their meetings on the following dates. All parents/carers are encouraged to attend.

- 7th April
- 19th May
- 23rd June - AGM.

Football!

School Football

Children's football in the village has traditionally been available through Ratho United FC… More on them below. However, we are exploring the possibility of creating a school football team for children from Primary 4 up to Primary 7. Potentially, we could run training sessions on a Tuesday after school on the field/kick pitch and there may be the possibility of friendly matches against other school teams on Saturday mornings. If successful we would consider entering the team into the Edinburgh Schools league/competitions in the future.

What we need to do first is determine the interest in pupils to attend training on Tuesday afternoons after school and matches on Saturdays. We are well aware that many children already attend Cubs, Brownies, Scouts, Guides, Dance, Glee club, football training with Ratho United and many, many more! There may not be space for more extra-curricular activity!

However, if your child is interested and can commit to regular Tuesdays/Saturdays, can you please send in a note of interest in joining a school football team stating the child's name and class. Either a written note signed by a parent or email to Admin is fine. Also, if parents/carers are willing to volunteer to assist supervision of the pupils please also state this on the note of interest. Many thanks!

Ratho United Football

Ratho United have asked me to share the following: Ratho United is a community football club for boys and girls aged between 5 and 11. We were established in 2020, with a clear vision:

- To promote and develop health and fitness in children
- To promote sportsmanship, fair play, respect, and self-discipline
- To promote community spirit and the development of friendships within Ratho and the surrounding areas.

We have over 120 children and 14 SFA approved coaches taking part in football across multiple leagues in Edinburgh. We are currently recruiting across the club for boys and girls, and in particular for our 2012 and 2016 age groups.

If your child is interested in joining, please register here

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Reminders

- Can we please request any donations of suitable infant joggers and even underwear for Primary 1 and 2 pupils. Sometimes children need changed whilst at school and our supplies of changes of clothes are low. Thank you.
- Can we please request any donations of clean, good condition Christmas jumpers and School Uniform. It will be great to give these to pupils who do not have them. Thank you.
- The Edinburgh Science Festival takes place over the Easter Holidays from 9-24th April. Programmes were sent home with all pupils but we have some spares at the office if anyone needs another copy. We hope the children can get involved and enjoy something on offer!

Dates for Session 2021-2022… and beyond!

Please note that we will break for the Easter Holiday on Friday 8th April at normal Friday times 12.15pm/12.25pm.

February 2022

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28					

March 2022

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April 2022

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May 2022

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June 2022

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July 2022

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Many thanks for your continued support of the school… Please contact us via admin@ratho.edin.sch.uk or 0131 333 1293 if you have any queries, concerns or need assistance.