Ratho Primary School

1 School Wynd, Ratho, EH28 8TT

Tel: 0131 333 1293 **E-mail: admin@ratho.edin.sch.uk**
Website: https://rathoprimary.org.uk **Twitter @Ratho_Primary**
Head Teacher: Peter Gibb

Head Teacher Newsletter: 13th January 2023

Dear School Community,

The school feels very much back to normal following the excitement of Christmas preparation in December and of course the holidays. For the final time, well done to all staff, the RSV and everyone who contributed to all the great activities and fun had by all last term.

We have had a different start to this term with only 2 days in the first week and a school closure for Industrial Action on Tuesday this week. However, the children have definitely settled back into their learning, homework schedules are back on and the plans for the term are well underway: All P5s & P6s are off to New Lanark next week for a Victorians based excursion; our Netball team led by Miss Ogilvy are competing in the ESSPA Netball tournament at Meadowbank on Monday; P6s have been told all about their School Camp in August; P7s are booked for 'Art of Listening' in town; Glee club are practising twice a week; P1 & P1/2 are planning 'Stay & Play' sessions; NYCOS will be singing with P3 & 4s from next week… and much, much more! In addition, the building works at the new library and Nursery seem to be progressing well!

I intend to continue a fortnightly newsletter where possible from today, as always there will be a need for class specific or whole school communications as they arise, but I will try to keep information as concise as possible on a fortnightly basis where possible.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Gibb, Head Teacher.

Curriculum Information Leaflets:

Curriculum information leaflets for all classes have been issued today, please see the paper copy and these will also be on the class webpages on the school website as well. These give information on all intended learning for the term and are accompanied by an information flyer on this term's Building Resilience unit: Have a Goal.

Ratho Primary School 40th Anniversary Planning:

Our School (in the current building) turns 40 this March! We are hosting a school community meeting next week on Wednesday 18th at 6.30pm and encourage attendance from anyone that has any offers of help, ideas for activities or who otherwise wants to get involved. Please see the attached flyer listing possible ways to help.

Desk & Chair / Furniture collection on 20th or 23rd Jan:

Could any Van owners/drivers be able to help collect 10 desks and chairs for the school? They are available to collect next Friday/Monday at 11am in the West end of town. Please get in touch if you think you (or someone you know) can help. Many thanks!

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Driving to/from school: Concerns from neighbours:

We have had some of our neighbours contact the school to raise concerns regard parent/carer driving around the school. Specifically, 'speeding'/ inconsiderate parking in Hallcroft Park and also parking in/obstructing disabled bay markings on North Street.

Please also note that there will continue to be heavy vehicle movement around the new library/nursery site as they excavate the site and subsequently, we have increased need for staff parking in the School car park since building began. Can we please request that drivers avoid School Wynd where possible?

Please can drivers be mindful of the above, our neighbours and especially safety for all children and wider school community. Many thanks for your support with this.

Travel survey / Junior Road Safety Officer WOW campaign:

I previously issued this parent travel survey, I've been asked to issue again for a final time… please have your say below. Here's what the Council are asking:

- *We would like to know what you think about your route to school - could it be better?*
- *Help us to find out what the barriers are to walking, scooting and cycling to school in your area.*

Click the link: https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/18d68d65

In addition the JRSOs have launched their WOW travel tracker campaign at assembly this week. This is a campaign that encourages daily physical activity. This video will provide further info https://youtu.be/op0zWJw1Hs0.

There are badges to be won for those that log their activity and travel to school sustainably at least 3 times a week!

School Nurse Drop In sessions:

Our School Nurse, Elizabeth Scotson will be available for drop-in sessions on some Thursday mornings. Please see the attached flyer or click on the link / QR code to access a booking form.

https://forms.office.com/r/3rGj9G8Sh4

Teachers' Industrial Action:

Please be aware, there is further Industrial Action anticipated on 25th January 2023.

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Healthy Eating, Water & Water Bottles

We are a health promoting school and encourage all parents to send their child to school with a healthy snack and water. We do not allow nuts or snacks that contain nuts as some of our children have nut allergies… Please ensure we keep everyone safe.

Also, please remember that children should have water throughout the day, **not juice**. We do not permit soft drinks or 'energy' drinks and the promotion of such sends a mixed message to the children. Parent/carer support in this regard is much appreciated.

All children should have a water bottle to have their own water throughout the day… If you cannot provide your child with a water bottle, please contact us and we can help. 'Normal' water bottles are encouraged, we have seen several pupils with expensive 'scent pod' water bottles which seem to be the latest source of distraction in the classroom. These are discouraged. The school is not responsible for loss or breakage of these expensive bottles if parents/carers choose to have children bring them to school.

For all other school 'need to know' information, please see the school handbook:

http://rathoprimary.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/RPS-School-handbook-2022-2023.pdf

Active School Clubs volunteer request

Please see the attached flyer and below request from our Active Schools Co-ordinator, Neil Russell:

> Dear Parent/Carer
>
> As part of our mission to get more children, more active, more often, Active Schools are currently on the lookout for new volunteers to help make a difference to young people's lives through sport and activity.
>
> Would you be interested in leading or assisting at an activity or sports club at Ratho Primary? We can support you with ongoing training and give you all the assistance you need to get you started.
>
> If you are interested, or would just like to have an informal chat to find out more, then please get in touch with me at:
>
> Neil.Russell@ea.edin.sch.uk
> 07825 782585
>
> Thanks
> Neil Russell
> Active Schools Co-ordinator for the Balerno Learning Community

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Dates for the diary:

For all dates, please refer to the school calendar, available on our website. It shows all key dates for the session (subject to change). http://rathoprimary.org.uk/calendar

January 2023	February2023	March 2023	April 2023	May 2023	June 2023
1 Su Holiday	1 We	1 We	1 Sa	1 Mo Holiday	1 Th Health Week
2 Mo Holiday	2 Th 2.30pm P3's Assembly	2 Th World Book Day	2 Su	2 Tu InService	2 Fr Sports Day
3 Tu Holiday	3 Fr	3 Fr	3 Mo Holiday	3 We	3 Sa
4 We InService	4 Sa	4 Sa	4 Tu Holiday	4 Th 1.30pm P2's Assembly	4 Su
5 Th	5 Su	5 Su	5 We Holiday	5 Fr	5 Mo Home Learning
6 Fr	6 Mo	6 Mo Home Learning	6 Th Holiday	6 Sa	6 Tu
7 Sa	7 Tu	7 Tu School's 40th Anniversary Week	7 Fr Holiday	7 Su	7 We
8 Su	8 We	8 We	8 Sa	8 Mo Home Learning	8 Th
9 Mo Home Learning	9 Th	9 Th	9 Su	9 Tu	9 Fr New P1 Parent Presentation
10 Tu	10 Fr	10 Fr	10 Mo Holiday	10 We	10 Sa
11 We	11 Sa	11 Sa	11 Tu Holiday	11 Th	11 Su
12 Th	12 Su	12 Su	12 We Holiday	12 Fr	12 Mo Home Learning
13 Fr Curriculum Leaflet 3 to parents	13 Mo Holiday	13 Mo Home Learning	13 Th Holiday	13 Sa	13 Tu
14 Sa	14 Tu Holiday	14 Tu	14 Fr Holiday	14 Su	14 We
15 Su	15 We Holiday	15 We	15 Sa	15 Mo Home Learning	15 Th
16 Mo Home Learning	16 Th Holiday	16 Th 2.10pm P4's Assembly	16 Su	16 Tu	16 Fr
17 Tu	17 Fr Holiday	17 Fr	17 Mo	17 We	17 Sa
18 We	18 Sa	18 Sa	18 Tu	18 Th	18 Su
19 Th	19 Su	19 Su	19 We	19 Fr	19 Mo
20 Fr	20 Mo ECO Week Fairtrade fortnight	20 Mo Home Learning	20 Th	20 Sa	20 Tu P7 Transition Day
21 Sa	21 Tu	21 Tu	21 Fr	21 Su	21 We P7 Transition Day Pupil 'Meet the teacher'
22 Su	22 We	22 We Family Consultations	22 Sa	22 Mo Holiday	22 Th P7 Transition Day
23 Mo Home Learning	23 Th	23 Th Family Consultations	23 Su	23 Tu	23 Fr Progress Reports to parents Dress Down Day
24 Tu	24 Fr Dress Down Day	24 Fr Check Learning Journals	24 Mo Home Learning	24 We	24 Sa
25 We	25 Sa	25 Sa	25 Tu	25 Th	25 Su
26 Th	26 Su	26 Su	26 We	26 Fr Dress Down Day	26 Mo
27 Fr Dress Down Day	27 Mo Fairtrade fortnight Home Learning	27 Mo	27 Th	27 Sa	27 Tu 1.30pm P7 Leaver's Show
28 Sa	28 Tu	28 Tu	28 Fr Curriculum Leaflet 4 to parents Dress Down Day	28 Su	28 We 9.30am Awards Ceremony @ the Church
29 Su		29 We	29 Sa	29 Mo Home Learning	29 Th Holiday
30 Mo Home Learning		30 Th 1.30pm P5-P6 Show	30 Su	30 Tu Health Week	30 Fr Holiday
31 Tu		31 Fr Dress Down Day		31 We	

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