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: 30th January 2023

Dear School Community,

January has been busy! The pupils have had a good start to the term and to 2023. It has also been a month of reminders! Thank you to those who have responded to messages about pupils adhering to our school policies and reminders regarding:

- Pupils wearing uniform.
- Pupils bringing water (not juice) and appropriate water bottles.
- Pupils' safe/appropriate use of social media (outside of school).
- Parent/carer driving & parking.

These messages are shared as we want the best for all pupils, our school and the school community. Your support is much appreciated.

A final reminder is a plea to ensure children have indoor shoes in school. As the school grounds have thawed, all grassed areas are incredibly muddy. For those pupils who do not have indoor shoes to change into, the mud is spread throughout the school; obviously unsightly and unsanitary for all (not least, the extra work for the cleaners!).

As always, if required we can help support with second-hand uniform and we can support with indoor shoes. Please enquire if you'd like us to help in any way and the office, Mr Riley-Morrison (Pupil Support Officer) or myself will do our best to help.

The Ratho School Voice (Parent Council) also offer uniform recycling support, contact them through their Facebook page to find out more.

Please see the latest info and reminders below.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Gibb, Head Teacher.

Ratho Primary School 40th Anniversary Planning:

Our School (in the current building) turns 40 this March!

We are planning a variety of events to celebrate. These include whole school photos, a new mural, a football match, visits from former pupils, a whole school dance performance and creating/burying a 40th anniversary time-capsule. In addition, each stage will be learning about a different decade from the past 40 years!

We will issue a specific newsletter/flyer soon but encourage anyone that has any offers of help, ideas for activities or who otherwise wants to get involved to get in touch.

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Teachers' Industrial Action:

Due to Teachers' Industrial Action, there have been 3 days of City of Edinburgh Council-wide school closures that have closed Ratho Primary and Nursery to pupils so far. Please be aware that, at present, there are further Industrial Action days anticipated on 28th February and 1st March 2023.

Scots / Burns celebrations

We have had a great time celebrating Robert Burns and our Scots heritage in general throughout January. The culmination was our assembly on Thursday – well done to all pupils who participated in a recital! Alongside the poetry, we've also had Cranachan Making, Tartan designing and Kilt making, Thistle Artwork and heritage walks round the village for P1s / P2s and their P6 / P7 buddies! Well done everyone… Here are some P4s making Cranachan and some photos of the P5 & P6 trip to New Lanark:

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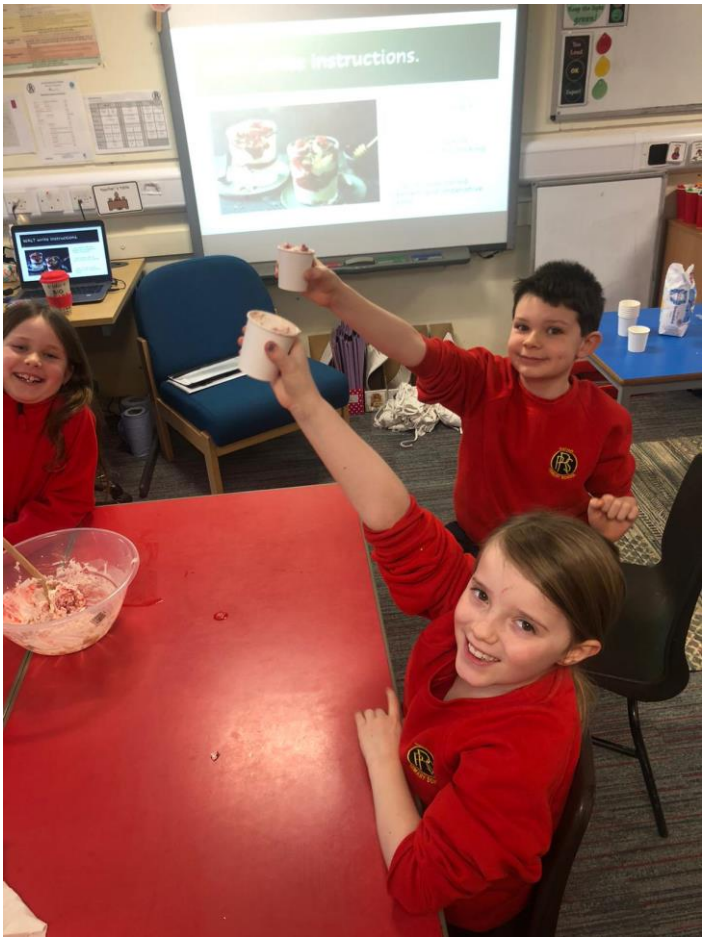

School Information, Website and Handbook

We will send emails for class specific information… Please ensure you have the correct email and phone numbers registered with the office. For all other school 'need to know' information, please see the school website Ratho Primary School – A Curious Creative Community where you can also find the school handbook:

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

School Nurse Drop In sessions:

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

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

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Green Pencil Writing Winner!

Huge Congratulations to Zara Shaw in P6 for being a Highly Commended Winner in the 2022 Green Pencil Awards! These awards are for a creative writing competition run by Edinburgh City Libraries each year. This year's theme – Year of Scotland's stories –children were challenged to write a poem, piece of prose or story on the theme.

Zara has had her poem published and read out at Assembly and had her medal presented to her on Friday! You can hear a recital here:

Green Pencil Award 2022 Finalist - The Difference We Can Make for Climate Change by Zara Shaw - YouTube

School attendance

The City of Edinburgh Council is encouraging all schools to have an increased focus on improving attendance for all pupils. A reminder that school starts at 8.50am every day. If a child is going to be absent from school, the parents or carer should phone/write to the office with an explanation of absence for every day of the child's absence. The Council expects all pupils to have an attendance of 95% or better.

Alongside all schools in our Balerno High School Learning Community, we will be issuing letters to parents/carers of all pupils whose attendance is of concern. Please see the attached flyer.

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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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