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: 26th June 2023

Dear School Community,

The session is at an end. It has been a very busy, exciting and successful session for Ratho Primary School and huge thanks and appreciation go to the pupils and the staff for all their efforts in making it such a great year!

Highlights have often been when we have been able to share our learning and activities with the school community, thanks to all our families who have supported the school this year. In particular, it is worthy to note:

- Our 40th Anniversary celebrations, showcase, dance, decorations and activities
- The P5-6 "Spring Show – Twist" at the Ratho Parish Church hall
- Sports Day and the RSV BBQ
- The charity football match
- The Harvest Festival
- Our Nativity plays at Christmas time
- Our Christmas and Easter celebrations at Ratho Parish Church
- The "Meet the Teacher" events at the start of session
- The very well attended Family Consultations in November and March.
- The Glee Choir performances and practices
- Our Inter-scholastics, Netball and Football teams participating across the city
- All individual stages hosting their stage assemblies for parents/carers to attend
- The deployment of ipads giving all P6 & P7 pupils a 1-to-1 ipad and a spread of shared ipads across all other classes
- The whole school attending the Lyceum at Christmas to enjoy an Edinburgh Christmas Carol
- Another successful P7 school camp at Lagganlia in the Cairngorms
- All classes/stages going on many, many excursions and trips
- And so many more fantastic learning opportunities for all our pupils…

At the end of such a busy session, I hope all our families can enjoy the summer holidays and the pupils can take some well-deserved time to relax, rest and play.

Please see below for some final announcements and information we have been asked to share with families.

We look forward to welcoming all pupils back for next session on Wednesday 16th August 2023! Very best wishes to all in the School Community for a great summer break.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Gibb, Head Teacher.

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Staffing News

The class structure and staff organisation for next session was announced on 16th June. The Primary 5/6 Class Teacher at that time was 'TBC', however following interviews on Friday, I can confirm that Caitlin Brownlie will remain on secondment for next session and therefore I am pleased to announce that Mrs Yvonne McColm will be the full-time class teacher for P5/6 next session. Mrs McColm has worked with the school for a few years now, has a wealth of experience having taught for many years prior and already knows all the children. She even took the class for the 'Meet the Teacher' session last week! Congratulations to her on her re-appointment.

As announced last week, we wish Mrs Masterson (P7 teacher), Miss McGivern (P2 teacher) and Mrs Robinson (PSA) all the very best as they move onto new endeavours next session. Thanks to them for all they have done for our pupils!

Rights Respecting Schools: Silver Level

We are delighted to receive the Silver Level Accreditation of being a Rights Aware School. Charlotte Bennet, one of the UNICEF RRSA leads for Edinburgh conducted a visit and in her observations, findings and feedback, she was delighted to report: **Congratulations to all the pupils and adults of Ratho Primary. You are now officially recognised as a Unicef UK Silver: Rights Aware school.** Well done to all the Rights Knights and Mr Anderson for this wonderful achievement!

Ratho Action Group - Defibrillator

Congratulations to the Ratho Action Group for all their good efforts improving the school this session. Their final tasks were to bury the 40th Anniversary time-capsule in the secret garden and also to receive the very kind donation of a defibrillator and housing for the whole of Ratho Community. The contractors building the new Library and Early Years Centre were approached about the need for a defibrillator in the community and have purchased and donated one! The defibrillator is a wonderful contribution to the village… Many thanks to Clark Contracts on behalf of the whole community! They will mount it on the outside of the new building so as it can be accessed 24/7. Here are phones of the RAG burying the time-capsule and receiving the defibrillator.

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Ratho School Voice – Our Parent Council

Massive thanks to the Ratho School Voice for their support of the school this session. At their AGM they detailed all their fundraising, activities and spending on the school this session… We couldn't achieve all the successes listed above without their support!

At the AGM some current office-bearers have stepped down: Many thanks to the following for all their time and efforts for the good of the school and our children!

- Leanne Chalmers – Co-Chair
- Debby Smith – Treasurer
- Charlie Roy – Secretary

Thanks and welcome aboard to Emily, Nadee and Lindsay who will replace them… We will publish a full list of RSV office bearers and class reps at the start of next session.

Tempest Photography

The vote on the timeframes of Tempest photographs currently is for individuals and siblings in term 1 and class photos in term 4. **Do you want these timeframes? Have your say!** Make your preferred choice of timeframe here, we will instruct Tempest according to the majority vote (closes end of session):
https://forms.office.com/e/6KqmfEKmrQ

Next session:

Many thanks to all parents/carers who encourage their children to wear uniform. We want to see all children wearing School Uniform next session… We have many good condition 2nd hand items of uniform if anyone wishes to have them. Just ask at the office and we'll see if we have the sizes required. Otherwise uniform is available through http://www.border-embroideries.co.uk/ Read here: Uniform – Ratho Primary School

Pupils will also require P.E. kit indoor shoes and a water bottle… We can provide everything else! Pupils in P6 & P7 will have a 1-to-1 iPad… If you have spare headphones or even a compatible stylus/pencil (non-brand versions are relatively cheap); these will be far more useful for your child than a new pencil-case or 'gel-pens', etc. Please do not buy specifically though… this is just for your information.

School day times for P1 & P2

P1 & P2	Start	Break	Lunch	Finish
Monday -Thursday	08.50	10.30-10.45	12.00-13.00	14.55
Friday	08.50	10.30-10.45	N/A	12.15

School day times for P3 – P7

P3-P7	Start	Break	Lunch	Finish
Monday -Thursday	08.50	10.30-10.45	12.30-13.15	15.15
Friday	08.50	10.30-10.45	N/A	12.25

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Dates for next session:

Parents/carers will be invited to 'Meet the Teacher' at our initial reporting opportunity in the new session on Wednesday 6th September at 4.30pm in the classrooms. All other dates will be announced next session.

2023-2024 School Calendar

August 2023

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September 2023

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October 2023

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November 2023

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December 2023

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

March 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

School Closed/Holidays

Teacher In-Service Day (closed for pupils)

Eco-Schools Green Flag Award Holder Since 2010

EDINBVRGH THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Rights Respecting School UNICEF

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Ratho Community Centre

The Community Centre have asked that we share the following with all families. Please also see their programme/flyer attached.

Ratho Community Centre is offering a great range of activities and trips during the school summer break. Please collect a booking form from Centre Office. As these are always extremely popular booking will be in strict rotation. The booking schedule is as follows:-

Youth Club members only booking session:
Wednesday 28th June - Ratho Community Centre, 6pm – 7pm.

All current members the centre's youth clubs (Monday Club, Tuesday Club, Junior and Senior Youth Clubs) can book activities from the summer programme at this time, **children currently in P7 can book activities in both the under 12's and youth programmes.** No forms will be accepted from the children themselves and no forms will be accepted without CASH payment. **Bookings for the family trips (Blair Drummond, Craigtoun Park and M&D's) will also be accepted at this session from youth club members.**

Open booking session:
Wednesday 28th June - Ratho Community Centre, 7pm – 8pm - all welcome.

At this session all remaining places for the summer programme can be booked on a first come first served basis. All family trips can also be booked.

No forms will be accepted without payment and no forms will be accepted from children. **Please do not book multiple children/teens on one booking form.**

Please note after these two sessions any remaining places on the summer activity programme or the summer family trips can be booked via the community centre office in person (no telephone bookings). You can book from Thursday 29th June; the office is manned Monday – Thursday 9.30am-12.00pm. **No forms should be left in the mail box.** In the event of any booking forms found in the mailbox, they will be returned and no space will have been booked/allocated.

Ratho Library

Please see attached an information flyer for Ratho Library and their 'Ready, Set, Read' summer challenge!

What's On For Families

Please see attached a guide: *What's On for Families Summer 2023*

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Other Opportunities over summer

Eoin Swan Tennis provided taster tennis sessions to pupils this year. Summer camps are available at Hatton, Balerno and Corstorphine. All details can be found here Eoin Swan Tennis / Camps (lta.org.uk) All camps are open to non-members as well as members at any of our venues.

Currie Chieftains Rugby provided taster rugby sessions to pupils this year. Summer camps are as per their flyer here: https://rathoprimary.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Summer-Rugby-Camp.pdf .

Active Schools https://rathoprimary.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/ASN-Summer-Swim-Camp-2023-final.pdf

Active Schools are running Additional Support Needs swimming lessons (P4-S3) over the summer break for pupils with Autism and/or learning disabilities. We are currently working with several clubs to provide club links for these sessions should families be interested in further lessons. These sessions are not appropriate for pupils with a physical disability due to facility limitations.

Venue and dates:
Royal High School Dates/times: Tues 4, Wed 5 and Thurs 6 July. 10.00am-12.15pm
Leith Academy Dates/times: Tues 11, Wed 12 and Thur 13 July 10.00am-12.15pm
Leith Academy Dates/times Tues 25, Wed 26, Thurs 27 July 10.00-12.15pm

Parents/carers can sign up via Microsoft Forms https://forms.office.com/e/pWbkCzNneZ

ASN Tailor Education have also published a summer guide - See their guide on our website here. https://rathoprimary.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/ASN-Summer-Guide-23-Tailor-Ed.pdf

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