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

Headteacher's Newsletter: 11th October 2023

Dear Ratho Primary School Community,

This is the final newsletter of the first term and we have reached the October holidays… It has been a very fast 9 weeks to start the session and as usual we have been busy! We have enjoyed welcoming families into the school for our new P1s getting started, for our Meet the Teacher evenings and many thanks to those who came along to join in our Harvest Festival which, as always, was a lovely opportunity for the school community to come together. Thanks to Mrs Brown and the Eco team for their efforts in putting it on! To finish the term, we look forward to welcoming in the P7 families to see the P7 Camp Assembly tomorrow and we break after school on Friday 13th October.

We have much to look forward to next term… We have the P6 & P5 Assemblies, Family Consultation Meetings, the whole school Christmas trip to see the Snow Queen at the Lyceum, the Christmas Fair, Nativity plays and Christmas Sing-a-longs… As well as the usual packed curriculum and great learning opportunities for the pupils!

I hope all our families have an enjoyable and relaxing break and we look forward to seeing all pupils when they return on Tuesday 24th October.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Gibb, Head Teacher.

Staffing update:

We have a couple of staffing updates at the end of term. Ms Mansur will be moving on from Ratho Primary after the October holiday and we wish her well for the future. She has asked to write a letter and poem to the school community, please see this attached.

In addition, Mrs Cox will also be moving on and again, we wish her well for the future. Further, Mrs Mitchell continues her absence and we wish her well for a speedy recovery. We will be adding to the Teaching, Pupil Support and Nursery staffing teams next term, I will announce appointments when details are confirmed.

Christmas Play Excursion – Payment Live today:

We are very excited to tell you that all our Primary 1 to Primary 7 pupils will be visiting The Lyceum Theatre on Wednesday 13th December for their Christmas show "The Snow Queen". **Please see the attached letter for full details.**

Many thanks to the Ratho School Voice for subsidising the cost of this excursion by paying for the coach transportation and providing a snack for pupils at the theatre.
Please pay and give permission for your child to attend via ParentPay… See letter!

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Learning Journals:

All Learning Journals for all classes will be updated by tomorrow… Please log in and see what your child has been learning here: Your Learning Journals

Reminder for pupils – Jackets & shoes:

Can all pupils please bring a jacket and have indoor shoes. With the season changing, children are more likely to be outside in cold, rainy or wet conditions… **Many do not bring a jacket to school!** Please remind your child to bring (and wear) a jacket and all children need to change into indoor shoes when inside the classrooms. Thank you! (We can help supply jackets / shoes if required. Please contact us if you need support.)

Reminder for drivers - School Car Park:

A reminder that parents/carers are requested not to use the school car park. Morning / breakfast club drop-offs can cause delivery/parking obstructions and or parking can prevent staff getting a space. Please park and stride. The best places for this are from the Bridge Inn car park or via the paths from North Street or Hallcroft. Many thanks to all parents/carers who show this consideration already.

Special thank you:

To one of our parents Mr Graeme Kerr, who responded to our plea for help following the vandalism of the Bikeability Bikes. From the 5 bikes that were vandalised, Mr Kerr gave a day of his time and managed to restore 2 to full working use – great work and many thanks!

P1 Open Day

We will hold our P1 Open Day on Thursday 2nd November. This is for families of prospective P1s next year to view the school. Pupils will be giving these parents/carers a tour through the school between 9.15-10.15am and 11.00-11.45am. Please see the poster attached.

Pupil Safety - P6 & P7 families opportunity @ B.H.S.

The Dean Park Primary School Parent Council have arranged three information evenings. The first information session is on **Internet Safety and Social Media,** the second is on **Vaping** and the third is on **Risk Taking Behaviour**.

They would like to invite our P6/7 parents and carers to these sessions, the first is on Monday 13th November from 7-8.30pm at Dean Park Primary School, Balerno… Just attend if you wish! Balerno High School may host similar sessions later in the year as well.

Dates for the diary:

For all dates, please refer to the school calendar, Calendar – Ratho Primary School, for all events and key dates for the whole session. Please save/print and refer to this to see dates for class assemblies, family consultations and events (dates subject to change).

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Internet/Online Safety:

We teach all pupils about online safety throughout the curriculum, through our digital leaders and at key points in the year.

We encourage all Parents & Carers to be vigilant of/for their children's safety online. We are able to monitor/filter online use in school appropriately however, as you know, it is the parent/carer's responsibility to monitor this outside of school hours.

You will no doubt be aware that children can face risks online from:

- Online bullying and harassment
- Inappropriate content
- Unwanted contact or advances
- Revealing personal information that can make a child vulnerable
- Scams, viruses, spyware, phishing, illegal file sharing, etc.

Please take time to review our mobile phone policy and view several guides on online safety for children via our webpage here: Online Safety – Ratho Primary School

Ratho School Voice (RSV), Calendar & Christmas cards

The RSV will postpone their meeting scheduled for tomorrow and will hold a Christmas Fair planning meeting instead. Please see the RSV Facebook page for details. In addition, they are also fundraising via their usual Christmas Cards and Calendars initiatives… Please support them and the school!

Christmas cards will be ordered by families via the form and pupils' artwork that will be sent home after the October break.

For the calendars, the RSV are looking for sponsors for calendar pages, please see the attached letter and get involved! The pupils have been creating their self-portraits in class for the following items which are now available for you to order:

- School Calendar (All kids, nursery to P7) £8 each
- Fridge Magnets (of your child's portrait) £3 each
- Keyrings (of your child's portrait) £3 each

Orders should be placed by **FRIDAY 27th OCTOBER**, so we have enough time to make and return everything to you before Christmas. Payments should be made by Bank Transfer at the same time as placing the order.

To order please fill out the online form:
https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLScvLLSLltptiY.../viewform

Any problems, please contact the team at rsv.rathoschoolvoice@gmail.com

Thanks,
RSV calendar team

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See attachments:

We have a bumper selection of attachments to this newsletter to finish the term.
Please see attached:

- Christmas Show information and payment letter.
- Ms Mansur's leaving letter and poem.
- New School Library appeal flyer.
- P1 Open Day information.
- Edinburgh Learns Play for Learning in P1 information letter.
- Currie Chieftains Girls' Rugby flyer.
- National Sleep Helpline flyer.
- RSV Calendar Sponsor information flyer

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.

City of Edinburgh football coaching programme letter:

Dear Parent/Carer,

We still have limited spaces on our football coaching programmes between now and Christmas.

We run a variety of sessions for boys and girls aged 3-12 years from our Forrester / St Augustine's Community Sports Hub on Fridays and Saturdays. The sessions are fun, engaging and developmental for all players, regardless of experience level and are delivered by our Scottish FA accredited coaching staff.

If you would be interested in booking a space or finding out more, please see the below links for the various classes:

Friday
5-8 years Friday Football 5-8 Years | Edinburgh Sports Unit (spydus.co.uk)
9-12 years Friday Football 9-12 Years | Edinburgh Sports Unit (spydus.co.uk)

Saturday
3-4 years Mini Kickers 3-4 Years | Edinburgh Sports Unit (spydus.co.uk)
4-5 years Mini Kickers 4-5 Years | Edinburgh Sports Unit (spydus.co.uk)

Thanks, Jack Beesley, Football Development Officer, Sports and Outdoor Learning Unit.

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October 2023

- Black History Month
- ADHD Awareness Month

1 Su			
2 Mo	HL		
3 Tu		Libraries Week	
4 We			
5 Th			National Poetry Day
6 Fr			Learning Journal Entries Ready to View
7 Sa			
8 Su			
9 Mo			
10 Tu			World Mental Health Day
11 We			
12 Th			2:00 P7's Camp Assembly Ratho School Voice Meeting
13 Fr			
14 Sa			
15 Su			
16 Mo		Holiday	
17 Tu			
18 We			
19 Th			
20 Fr			
21 Sa			
22 Su			
23 Mo			In-Service
24 Tu			
25 We			
26 Th			
27 Fr			Dress Down Day
28 Sa			
29 Su			
30 Mo			Home Learning
31 Tu			

November 2023

- Non-fiction November

1 We			
2 Th			2:00 P6's Assembly P1 Open Day -tbc
3 Fr			Curriculum Leaflets to parents
4 Sa			
5 Su			Bonfire Night
6 Mo		CPM Week	Home Learning
7 Tu			Individual & Sibling Photos
8 We			
9 Th			Ratho School Voice Meeting
10 Fr			World Science Day
11 Sa			Remembrance Day
12 Su			Diwali
13 Mo		Interfaith week Antibullying Week National Recycling Week	Home Learning
14 Tu			
15 We			Family Consultations
16 Th			Family Consultations
17 Fr			Children in Need
18 Sa			
19 Su			
20 Mo			Home Learning
21 Tu			
22 We			
23 Th			
24 Fr			Dress Down Day
25 Sa			
26 Su			
27 Mo			Home Learning
28 Tu			
29 We			2:00 P5's Assembly
30 Th			St Andrew's Day

December 2023

1 Fr			
2 Sa			Christmas Fair
3 Su			
4 Mo			Home Learning P7 Learning Community Ceilidh
5 Tu			
6 We			
7 Th			
8 Fr			
9 Sa			
10 Su			
11 Mo		Hanukkah	Home Learning
12 Tu			
13 We			P1-P7 Lyceum Theatre Trip – The Snow Queen (am)
14 Th			
15 Fr			Learning Journal Entries Ready to View
16 Sa			
17 Su			
18 Mo			
19 Tu			
20 We		Christmas Parties	1:30 Nativity
21 Th			2:00 P3&P4 Christmas Sing-a-long
22 Fr			Whole School at the Church
23 Sa			
24 Su			
25 Mo			Christmas Day
26 Tu			
27 We		Holiday	
28 Th			
29 Fr			
30 Sa			

January 2024

- Big Schools Bird Watch

1 Mo		Holiday	
2 Tu			
3 We			
4 Th			
5 Fr			
6 Sa			
7 Su			
8 Mo			In-Service
9 Tu			
10 We			
11 Th			
12 Fr			
13 Sa			
14 Su			
15 Mo			Home Learning Martin Luther King Day
16 Tu			
17 We			
18 Th			World Humanitarian Day
19 Fr			
20 Sa			
21 Su			World Religion Day
22 Mo			Home Learning
23 Tu		Scot's Week	National Handwriting Day
24 We			
25 Th			Ratho School Voice Meeting
26 Fr			Dress Down Day
27 Sa			Holocaust Memorial Day
28 Su			
29 Mo			Home Learning
30 Tu		National Storytelling	
31 We			

February 2024

1 Th			2:00 P4's Assembly
2 Fr			
3 Sa			
4 Su			
5 Mo		Children's Mental Health Week	
6 Tu			Safer Internet Day
7 We			
8 Th			
9 Fr			
10 Sa			
11 Su			
12 Mo		Holiday	
13 Tu			
14 We			
15 Th			
16 Fr			
17 Sa			
18 Su			
19 Mo		P7 Transition CPMs - tbc	
20 Tu			
21 We			
22 Th			Ratho School Voice Meeting
23 Fr			Dress Down Day
24 Sa			
25 Su			
26 Mo		Fairmade Fortnight	Home Learning
27 Tu			
28 We			
29 Th			2:00 P3's Assembly