Dear Mums, Dads, Carers, staff, governors, friends & colleagues

WELCOME BACK

I hope you have had a wonderful summer with your children. I am delighted to see the children back safe and ready to learn.

I am sure you will have noticed all the changes at Rathfern over the Summer:

- New flooring to 7 classrooms
- New classroom for York class
- New ICT suite
- New music room
- New water fountains for back playground
- Decorations to halls in main block, Reception, Early Years stairwell and dining hall
- Artificial grass to games pitch
- Artificial grass to designated quiet area in the back playground
- Refurbished outside Nursery area
- Painting and plastering to outside walls

Our diligent and committed staff look forward to another exciting and challenging year to ensure your children achieve their very best.

A warm welcome to our new staff and children.

Mrs Maharasingam
Headteacher

CORE VALUES

Core values underpin all that we do at Rathfern, they enable all members of our community to feel safe and valued. Please discuss our core values with your child, they are vital to enable your child to learn effectively at Rathfern.

- Every individual matters
- Take responsibility
- Help and care about each other
- Respect each other
- Always exceed your best

UNIFORM

Please remember that trainers are NOT permitted in the school.

All children must wear black school shoes.

PARENT DROP IN - DON’T FORGET

Tuesdays: 9am - 9.20am
Tuesdays: 5.30pm - 6pm

Please come and discuss any concerns or good news you may have with me.
FRIENDS OF RATHFERN

Welcome back to school! Just to let you know what's coming up over the next few weeks:

**Ice Lolly Fridays** - every Friday in September (weather permitting) - crew needed so please get in touch if you can spare an hour. It's fun and our kids absolutely love them.

**New Reception Parents/Carers Breakfast** - **Friday 25th September** - a lovely welcome for our new parents/carers and children. Please do lend a hand if you are able to, it may be a slightly earlier start but you get a free breakfast thrown in! All new Reception parents/carers and children, please join us!

**Cake Sale** - end of October - get baking or donate something gorgeous to help raise funds for our school.

**FoR Treasurer** - nobody has come forward and FoR *is not able to exist without one*! Don't forget we can also co-opt people onto the committee so if you know anyone outside our school community who may be interested in doing some rewarding voluntary work, please let me know.

**Easy Fundraising** - we've raised more than £270 this way - don't forget to shop online via [easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofrathfern](http://easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofrathfern)

You can find out more about our events and how you can get involved:

Online at: [friendsofrathfern.com](http://friendsofrathfern.com)
On Facebook at: [facebook.com/friendsofrathfern](http://facebook.com/friendsofrathfern)
Join our mailing list at: [forathfern@gmail.com](mailto:forathfern@gmail.com)
Check our notice boards at school.

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**EFFORT (Beatrice the Bee)**

**PERSISTENCE (Sally the Spider)**

We are encouraging children to think about how much effort they make with their learning and how hard they persist when learning is tricky. Please discuss effort and persistence with your child.

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**NEW RECEPTION LEARNERS**

A very special warm welcome to all our new Reception pupils and their families.

We are confident your children will have a wonderful learning adventure at Rathfern.

They have already settled in beautifully - well done children and Early Years staff.

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**PUNCTUALITY AND ATTENDANCE**

Lost learning time has a detrimental impact upon your child’s learning progress. Effective schools have excellent attendance and punctuality.

Thank you to the MANY parents who are consistently punctual - I do notice you and salute you!

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**VOICEMAIL**

Due to technical difficulties we have had to switch off our school voicemail. We can still receive calls but if you would like to leave a message you can do so by emailing the school email:

admin@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk

**Wraparound issues:**

w.glenn@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk

**Club issues:**

h.fennell@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk

**Attendance issues:**

h.brewer@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk

**Dinner issues:**

r.nogal@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk

Please be patient with us, we’ll do our best to get back to any messages as promptly as possible.
OUTSTANDING LEARNERS

- St Albans AM (Nursery) - Chika Michael
- St Albans PM (Nursery) - Khadijat Olabiyi
- Edinburgh (Reception) - Naomi Nwanedo & Logan Fierro
- Carlisle (Reception) - Lateef Correia & Joseph Temple
- Canterbury (Year 1) - Zephon Bourne & Franki Pink
- Hereford (Year 1) - Rena Hugh & Mustafa Ozyurt
- Manchester (Year 2) - Kacper Borkowski & Nithilia Johnson
- Bath (Year 2) - Melissa Clayton-Bainbridge & Mylca-Audrey Koffi
- Colchester (Year 3) - Reuben Forde-Simpson & Soraya Cumberpatch
  - Inverness (Year 3) - Bilal Abrahimi & Raven Pink
- Chichester (Year 3) - Harisana Kantheepan & Jimmy Sheridan-McNicholas
  - Exeter (Year 4) - Valon Hajrizaj & Isabelle Gordon
  - London (Year 4) - Ethan Fagan & Zara Nding'uri
- Brighton (Year 4) - Gaveran Uthayakumar & Kay-Kay Tassie
- York (Year 5) - Amari Campbell & Musa Sumareh Touray
- Liverpool (Year 5) - Rihana Harvey-Clarke & Adam Bouhenniba
- Oxford (Year 6) - Harmony Chuter-Clarke & Cam’ron Taylor
- Cambridge (Year 6) - Donas Vilkoncius & Eric Cornish

LEADING CITIZENS

- St Albans AM (Nursery) - Zhong-Hao Kamau
- St Albans PM (Nursery) - Hareem Adnan
- Edinburgh (Reception) - Davina Oruma & Tomas Barriball
- Carlisle (Reception) - Esther Akande & Clinton Amadi
- Canterbury (Year 1) - Eshe Hibbert & Ashton Mclean-Elliot
  - Hereford (Year 1) - Leo Davenport & Kejsi Salkurti
  - Manchester (Year 2) - Iris Kinnaird & David Ijaopo
  - Bath (Year 2) - Micah Coward & Elijah Benjamin
  - Colchester (Year 3) - Tofarati Obilade & Lucy Bushell
  - Inverness (Year 3) - Jaida Benjamin & Himayel Adnan
- Chichester (Year 3) - Cillian Farrell-Bryan & Naomi John Odutuyo
  - Exeter (Year 4) - Kawthar Hammoud & Mamadou Barry
  - London (Year 4) - Omari Hibbert & Suiviltha Kanesalingam
    - Brighton (Year 4) - Pooja Kaur & Ashley Edwards
    - York (Year 5) - David Uyiekpen & Marques Walker
  - Liverpool (Year 5) - Holly Whittington & Tiara Swaby
  - Oxford (Year 6) - Aline Kibalabala & Zainab Olabiyi
  - Cambridge (Year 6) - Quadir Shabazz & Saskia Green
**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- **MONDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER - FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER**: Secondary transfer meetings for Year 6 parents/carers
- **THURSDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER**: Cancer Macmillan own clothes day and cake sale
- **THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER**: Cancer Macmillan cinema event
- **FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER**: Children in Need sleepover for Year 2 and Year 6 children
  - **FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER**: Last day of term
- **MONDAY 26TH - FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER**: Half term
- **MONDAY 2ND NOVEMBER**: Children return to school
- **FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER**: Last day of term

**SCHOOL TRIPS**

An annual charge of £30 is required by the end of September 2015. Children entitled to Free School Meals (FSMs) are exempt from this charge. You may pay by ParentPay, cash or cheque. If you would like to arrange a payment plan, please speak to the school office.

We will calculate the exact amount before the end of the academic year and refund any excess amount.

It is important to note that parents are not subsidising children who qualify for FSMs. Every child who qualifies for FSMs attracts £1,320 funding to the school. This money is used to target support and resources.

Our school received £255,520 Pupil Premium Grant last year. The Governing Body believes this is vital funding for the school and has agreed to fund the annual school trip charge for children eligible for FSMs.

Please refer to our school web-site for further information on the use of the Pupil Premium Grant.

**COFFEE MORNINGS: 9.05am - 9.25am**

- Monday 14th September: Years 5 & 6
- Tuesday 15th September: Years 3 & 4
- Wednesday 16th September: Years 1 & 2
- Friday 18th September: Reception