



# Rathfern News

Where everyone learns to learn

9<sup>th</sup> February 2018

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

The half term has flown by and we hope you have a restful and enjoyable week with your wonderful children.

Mrs Maharasingam Head  
Teacher

## HEADTEACHER TEACHER DROP IN

Don't forget I am available every  
Tuesday 9.15am-9.45am & 5.00pm -  
6.15pm

Please come and discuss any  
concerns or good news you may have  
with me. No appointment necessary  
just drop in and have a chat.

Thank you to those parents who have  
come and discussed their concerns  
with me I have found this  
communication extremely helpful.



**BIG RED BOX**  
Sharing hope this Christmas

## THE BIG RED BOX – THANK YOU

We would like to say a BIG thank you to everyone at Rathfern Primary for your incredible donations to the Big Red Box at Christmas. Thanks to your support we were able to pack and distribute 2,136 boxes to families in need at Christmas!!

We have already heard back from people who have received the boxes who were grateful for the gift and wanted to thank everyone involved.

Thank you again for all your support we could not have done it without the help of you guys.

We look forward to partnering with you again next Christmas.

Many Thanks  
Alicia Tibbert and the Big Red Box

**Rathfern Primary School**  
Rathfern Road, Catford  
London SE6 4NL

**E:** [admin@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk)  
**T:** 020 8690 3759



## GLOBAL CAFE 2018

Thank you all for making the Global Café such a great success. We ate delicious food from around the world, which was brought in by our wonderful parent community and made by our children, with help from teaching assistants and the EMAS team.

We also started our 'migration map' project, allowing parents and children to add their stories to our very own Rathfern Map. This will be on display in the foyer and you will be able to add to it throughout the school year.

We were also treated to some magical musical performances from the choir, drummers and dancers! Thank you so much for joining us for a wonderful evening! We hope you all enjoyed yourselves.

More to follow after the half term.



Miss Gok will be running 'The Big Half Marathon' on Sunday 4th March 2018.

She will be running to raise money for the UK's leading children's charity and hopes to raise £300. If you would like to support Miss Gok, please visit

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/ElifGok> and make a donation.

Every little helps. Thank you in advance!



### The Rainforest Workshop - Year 2

Dave from RaptorXotics came to visit our school to tell us about the rainforest. He brought a range of creatures and plants for us to see and touch. Our favourite part was when we touched the leech because it looked like a spring and felt a little bit slimy. First it was moving in circles in the water then when we held it, it moved really quickly across our hands. Favour and Lateef

The snake was scary because it was moving and I didn't expect it to be real. It felt smooth and not slimy and even though I was a bit frightened I still touched it.

**Eman**

# SCHOOL VISITS

## DEBATE MATE LEAGUE

'Rathfern attended the first urban debate mate league match on Thursday 1st. A team of 4 year 6s: Shade, Kay-Kay, Siphon and Paris and 2 year 5s: Melita and Xander were taken to Tidemill academy for their first competitive debate.

Their first debate match saw the children collaborating marvellously to create their points to debate in favour of the motion: to increase the price of sugary drinks. This led to the children winning convincingly against a team from Hasletine primary. All of the team spoke with excellent confidence and provided some outstanding points and rebuttals. The team then went on to compete with the experienced team from Tidemill, in their second match. Rathfern had the difficult task to oppose the motion of banning violent video games. However, the team collaborated well yet again and created a superb and varied argument. Despite the challenging competition, the Rathfern team were ultimately able to win the debate.'



## VISIT TO THE MAYOR

On Friday 2nd February a group of leading citizens chosen to represent our school to meet the Mayoress, Kris Hibbert and the Young Mayor of Lewisham.

It was a great opportunity to learn about what Lewisham Council does and ask both the Mayoress and the Young Mayor of Lewisham questions. The children visited the Council Chambers where they were given the opportunity to speak to the audience about issues they would address if they were chosen to be the Young Mayor of Lewisham.

"It was fun and exciting that we were able to speak about what we would do as a Young Mayor. I think it was a superb way to see how Lewisham works and where the decisions are made. I also thought that the Council Chambers were very impressive and cool".

**Xander Year 5.**

## Lewisham Swimming: Free top-up school swimming lessons.

Dear Parent,

In Partnership between Saxon Crown and Fusion Lifestyle free school top-up swimming sessions are available to students at Lewisham primary schools.

The sessions are provided to help swimmers towards achieving the National Curriculum standards in swimming. The National Curriculum requires children to be able to swim 25 metres and to tread water for 30 seconds.

The Lewisham Swimming Volunteer Programme provides training opportunities for volunteers in Lewisham. The Sessions will be run by fully qualified coaches with additional assistance from volunteers working towards attaining swimming qualifications.

- The sessions are for Lewisham primary school pupils in year 3 and above.
- The sessions will be running at Glass Mill Leisure Centre during the February Half Term, from Monday 12 – Friday 17.
- To register your interest please email: [Lewishamswimming@gmail.com](mailto:Lewishamswimming@gmail.com)
- You can only book via this email not through the centre directly.
- **There are 4 sessions: 9.00 – 9.45, 9.45 – 10.30, 10.30 – 11.15, 11.15 – 12.00**

After you apply you will be assigned a time slot. The sessions times are based on pupil ability, so it is important to attend the session you are allocated. You need to attend the same time slot daily for each session.

Please include the following:

- Your child's name,
- School attended,
- Year group
- Stage level of swimmer – ASA stages 1 – 7 or equivalent (if known).
- Any medical information or special requirements.

If swimming ability is unknown, state the most appropriate description from below

Confident – can swim lengths (25m) comfortably on their front and back and in deep water on all strokes.

Improver – can swim on their front and back for 10m +

Beginner – is comfortable in water but cannot swim on both front and back unaided.

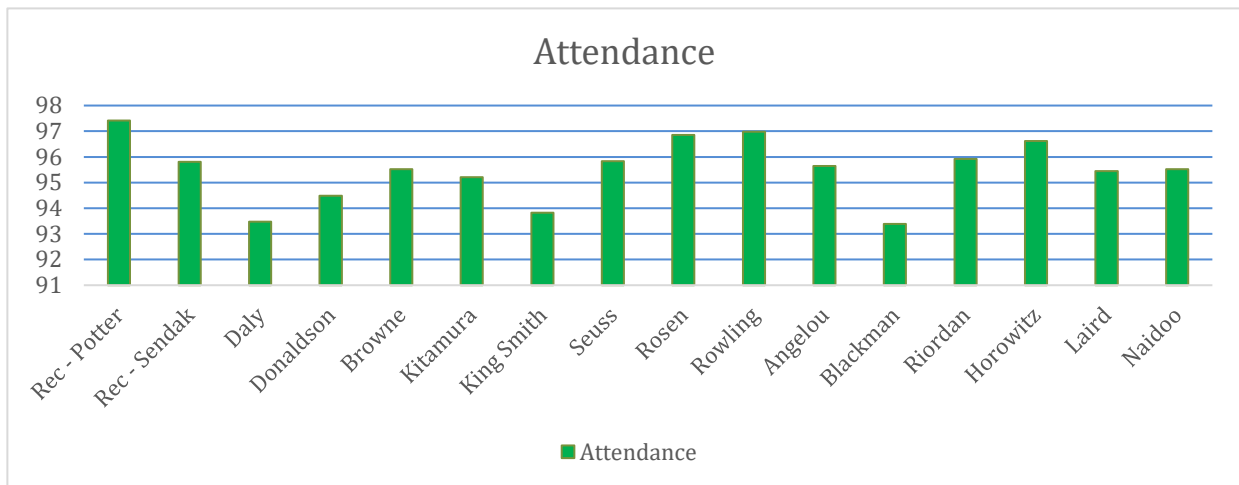
Non-Swimmer – no or limited previous swimming experience.

Michael Griffin,

[Lewishamswimming@gmail.com](mailto:Lewishamswimming@gmail.com)

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

*Outstanding achievement is linked with outstanding attendance.*



## Attendance Statistics for period 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan – 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018. Whole School Attendance 95%

It has been a slow start to the year due to a lot of illness. Congratulations to Potter class for this half term, achieving the highest 97.41%, followed by Horowitz and Rosen class being above 96%.

## FOOTBALL NEWS

Well done to all the pupils, parent and carers who attended our second friendly football fixture against Adamsrill last Sunday. We look forward to welcoming Adamsrill again after half term (see picture attached)

Congratulations, once again to the year 6 football team who progressed into the LYG borough finals on Tuesday afternoon after finishing first place in their group. Convincing wins against Tidemill, St Georges and St Margaret's was enough to see us through. **Man of the Match: Joshua D**

Well done to the year 5 and 6 football teams who will play in the champions cup after half term finishing runners up and 3rd place in their groups

And finally good luck to the year 4 football team who need to win their next two games to stand a good to win their league

**Please parents and carers encourage your child to practice their ball skills every day with a 10-15 minute jog.**

Change 4 Life Sunday sessions starts back Sunday 24th February



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – 2018

## HALF TERM

Monday 12th Feb – Friday 16th Feb

Half Term school for Year 6 students:

Monday 12th, Tuesday 13th & Wednesday 14th - 9.30am – 1.00am.

## February

**Sunday 24th** Change 4 Life Sunday sessions restarts.

**Target Setting meetings.** Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

## March

**Thursday 1st** All of school - World Book Day

**Monday 5th** Year 6 – Wide Horizons

**Tuesday 6th** Year 4 – Bank of England

**Wednesday 7th** WE Day

**Thursday 8th** Debate mate league at Tidemill

Choir performance at the Broadway theatre

**Monday 12th – 16th** Science week

**Monday 19th** Sports Relief

**Wednesday 28th** Community Ambassadors to meet with HEC

**Thursday 29th** Last day of term

**Easter Holidays** -Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April

## Assemblies:

**Year 5: 2.45pm – 3.15pm**

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February - Angelou Class

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April -Riordan Class

## NURSERY TIMINGS

We would like to make parents aware that in order to safeguard our children, parents are requested not to enter the school until 11.45 for collection and 12.45 drop off.

**It is our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all our children.**

## READING RECORDS

Please remind your child to bring in their reading record -well done to those children who are reading so regularly.

THANKYOU if you are ensuring your child is reading every night. Just 10 minutes listening to a child or reading to a child can make a huge difference.

## OUTSTANDING LEARNERS

- **Carle** (Nursery) – Elise Zheng & Iman Houssein
- **Potter** (Reception) – Oveya Prapagaran & Rayan Rakik
- **Sendak** (Reception) – Stephanie Okoes & Samuel James
- **Daly** (Year 1) – Harry Roll & Elsie Younger
- **Donaldson** (Year 1) – Markiyon Terletskiy & Ariana Bettingyte Reid
- **Kitamura** (Year 2) – Aisha Ahmed & Dejon Owusu - Ansah
- **Browne** (Year 2) – Keshikan Mohanarajan & Glory Moodie - Brown
- **King Smith** (Year 3) – Miracle James & Stacey Cupi
- **Seuss** (Year 3) – Adam Loudiyi & Rebekkah Johnson
- **Rowling** (Year 4) – Kadiatu Diallo & Hong Zhau Kamau
- **Rosen** (Year 4) – Emohitae Olufemi & Kacper Borkowski
- **Blackman** (Year 5) – Kie Purnell & Lucy Bushell
- **Angelou** (Year 5) – Jimmy Sheridan McNicholas & Casey Best Bedeau
- **Riordan** (Year 5) – Devine Anglin & Isaac Forde
- **Horowitz** (Year 6) – Suviththa Kanesalingam & Leila Issoufou
- **Naidoo** (Year 6) – Mamadou Barry & Bridget Corcoran
- **Laird** (Year 6) – Mykaela Soori & Yusuf Olabiyi

## LEADING CITIZENS

- **Carle** (Nursery) – Reuban Thurstans & Cjay Robinson
- **Potter** (Reception) – Fatima Nafere Toure & Rayan Rakik\*\*
- **Sendak** (Reception) – Shakira Owolabi & Shamsheer Singh Roadh
- **Daly** (Year 1) – Iman Yong & Injeera Rostas
- **Donaldson** (Year 1) – Isaac Drummond & Kelvina Aidoo
- **Kitamura** (Year 2) – Bulut Yesibulut & Javari James Richards
- **Browne** (Year 2) – Leo McMaster & Kisara Manavalagan
- **King Smith** (Year 3) – Stacey Cupi & Joshua Orumbie
- **Seuss** (Year 3) – Thierry Ramlal Henry & Rio Singh Dacres
- **Rowling** (Year 4) – Cara Crabtree & Laila Hansali
- **Rosen** (Year 4) – Robert Ladd & Khadija Konie\*\*
- **Blackman** (Year 5) – Jessie Gambling & Sophia De Pantaleone
- **Angelou** (Year 5) – Tanaya Joseph – Batson & Karla Ogbeifun
- **Riordan** (Year 5) – Akia Stewart Hinds & Anna Benefo
- **Horowitz** (Year 6) – Ethan Fagan & Shanna Gayle
- **Naidoo** (Year 6) – Elena James & Kawther Hammoud
- **Laird** (Year 6) – Jumana Rakik & Raudhat Saleh