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

WELCOME BACK
I hope you have had a wonderful summer with your children.
Our diligent and committed staff look forward to another exciting and challenging year to ensure your children thrive and make progress.
A warm welcome to our new staff
Teachers:
Ms Crawford Year 4
Ms Enver Year 1
Mrs Dsouza Year 2

Teaching assistants:
Ms Jenny Year 1
Ms Olivia Year 6
Ms Tara Reception

Mrs Maharasingam
Head Teacher

OFFICE OPENING HOURS.
I would like to inform parents that the school office will be closed between the hours of 10.00am – 3.00 pm for general enquiries.

LATES / ABSENCES.
If your child is late please ensure they come into the office to collect a Late Card, this is to ensure they are recorded as ‘present’ for the day.
If your child is absent please ring the office in the morning so that we are informed of a reason.
ANY requests for absence (holidays etc) will need a form filled in and authorised by the headteacher.

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 those parents who are punctual - I do notice you!

NEW RECEPTION LEARNERS
A very, 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 settled in beautifully - Well done children and Early Years staff.

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.
- Respect each other
- Always question your best
- Take responsibility
- Help and care about each other
- Everyone Matters
On Monday the 10th of September we started bike ability. When I started, I was a bit nervous because I hadn't ridden a bike for a long time but after a while I got used to it. On the first day, we learned how to ride as a team and we demonstrated excellent collaboration. The next day we learned how to use our gears. The first gear is really good for going up hill because it makes it much easier on your legs. On the Wednesday, we learnt how to indicate, using one hand, which I must admit was not easy. Bike ability this week was an amazing experience for me and I hope I can continue cycling and training again soon.

Adonye

On Monday the 10th, I started the bike ability course at school. On the first day, we were in the playground training basic skills, which were preparing us to cycle carefully on the road. The next day, I found out that I was in the road group! I was so happy because I had really tried hard in the playground training. In the road group, we practiced indicating and looking over our shoulder for traffic. In this group, we also practiced cycling past a junction and cycling from a small road onto a main road. This course has been wonderful and I could not have become a confident rider without our trainers: David, Quentin and Paula.' Thank you

Matilda

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**Secondary Transfer**

Thank you to all parents who attended the Secondary Transfer meeting last night.

Here is the link for the information on the Lewisham website for sharing:
[https://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/schools/Pages/Secondary-school-improvement-programme.aspx](https://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/schools/Pages/Secondary-school-improvement-programme.aspx)

The twitter handle is @lewishamlearn
Please do contact ParentENgage_Lewisham@outlook.com for further information about Lewisham secondary schools.
Please do not forget to book you **one to one appointment** to discuss your child's needs and preferences for secondary school applications.
Year 5 Visit to Greenwich Observatory

Last Friday, Year 5 launched their space topic with a visit to the Royal Greenwich Observatory and Planetarium. In our workshop, children enjoyed learning about the earth, sun and moon using interactive resources and a series of games and activities. We also had a chance to explore the galleries, finding out fun facts about the galaxy. The highlight of the day, was our visit to the planetarium, we we blasted off into space and explored our Solar System. We landed on the moon, which was sadly not made of cheese, and were able to explore it's rocky surface. We then ventured millions of miles through the solar system to different planets. However, some of the children weren't sure which was longer: our voyage to Mars or our voyage up the hill through Greenwich Park to get to the Observatory!

GLP & RRS Global events

15th Sept
The International Day of Democracy.

The International Day of Democracy was established by the UN in 2007 as an opportunity to review the state of democracy in the world. In particular, the day celebrates the values of freedom, respect for human rights and the principle of holding genuine elections by universal suffrage.

Rights Link: Article 12: Respect for the views of the child

Date: 21 Sep
The International Day of Peace

The International Day of Peace was established by the United Nations in 1981 as a day ‘devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples’.

Rights Link: Article 38: War and armed conflicts
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 18th
Year 2: Geography trip to Ladywell Fields
Year 6: National Portrait Gallery - Forster Park & Mountsfield classes.
Year 3/4 Netball festival

Friday 21st
School photographer in school

Monday 24th
Year 6 School journey to Wales - Forster Park & Mountsfield classes.

Wednesday 26th
Year 6: National Portrait Gallery - Telegraph Hill Class

OCTOBER

Monday 1st
Year 6 School journey to Wales - Telegraph Hill Class

Monday 8th
Year 1 Visit to London – Big bus tour

ASSEMBLY DATES OCTOBER:

Year 1: Evelyn Class Thursday 11th 9.15am
           Ravensbourne Friday 12th 9.15am
Year 2: Manor Park Thursday 18th 9.15am
           Blackheath Thursday 18th 2.45pm
Year 3: Wells Park Tuesday 16th 9.15am
           Chinbrook Tuesday 16th 2.45pm
Year 4 Beckenham Park Wednesday 17th 9.15am
          Horniman Park Wednesday 17th 2.45pm
Year 5: Edith Nesbit Friday 12th 2.45pm
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<tr>
<th>Term Dates: 2018/19</th>
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**Autumn Term 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 3rd September</td>
<td>INSET DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 4th September</td>
<td>INSET DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 5th September</td>
<td>Children return to school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19th October</td>
<td>Last day of term</td>
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**Monday 22nd October – Friday 26th October 2018 - HALF TERM HOLIDAY**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 29th October</td>
<td>Children return to school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 21st December</td>
<td>Last day of term</td>
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**Spring Term 2019**

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 7th January</td>
<td>INSET DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8th January</td>
<td>Children return to school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 15th February</td>
<td>Last Day of term</td>
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**Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February 2019- HALF TERM HOLIDAY**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 25th February</td>
<td>Children return to school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 5th April</td>
<td>Last day of term</td>
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**Monday 8th April – Monday 22nd April 2019 – EASTER HOLIDAYS**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 23rd April</td>
<td>Children return to school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 6th May</td>
<td>MAY BANK HOLIDAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 24th May</td>
<td>Last day of term</td>
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**Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May 2019 – HALF TERM HOLIDAY**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 3rd June</td>
<td>Children return to school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19th July</td>
<td>Last day of term</td>
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**Monday 22nd July 2019**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 22nd July</td>
<td>INSET DAY</td>
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**Tuesday 23rd July 2019**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 23rd July</td>
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