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

Learning at Rathfern continues to inspire and engage our children. All of our children are learning and making progress.

Secondary Transfer

Thank you to those parents who have come and discussed their final choices for schools next year. If you haven’t attended please book a date via the school office

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.

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!

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

PARENT DROP IN –DON’T FORGET
Tuesdays  9.00-9.20 a.m.
Tuesday 5.30-6.00 pm
Please come and discuss any concerns or good news you may have with me
On Tuesday the 25th of September, ten Year 3/4 children attended a Change For Life Festival. There were fun and competitive activities to take part in, such as basketball relays, bowling, and parachute games. We learnt about keeping fit and healthy, and met new friends from other local primary schools.

“Change for Life helps me to be healthy, and I feel I could help lots of people of all different ages with my knowledge. At the festival, my favourite activity was the bowling.”

Cyanne Yr 4
Year 3 – Museum of London Stone Age Workshop

Year 3 travelled back in time to the Stone Age. We explore various artefacts from the Stone Age through to the Iron Age. We played a survival game to see if we had the skills and resources to thrive within the Stone Age era. Take a look at what we’ve been doing!

Drama Workshop

We had a drama workshop with Benjamin from PERFORM where we were part of a circus. We had to try and cheer up a sad clown.

"It felt really good! We had to eat all his pizza up to make him laugh. It was really funny. EVERYONE had to dive into the pizza to eat it." Harry - Year 2

"I had to make funny faces because the clown lost his smile and I had to make him happy."

Injeera - Year 2

Secondary Transfer

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

Please do contact ParentENgage_Lewisham@outlook.com for further information about Lewisham secondary schools. The twitter handle is @lewishamlearn

Please do not forget to book you one to one appointment to discuss your child’s needs and preferences for secondary school applications.
1. Celebrating International Day of Peace at Rathfern:

Children at Rathfern embraced the International Day of Peace by taking part in a Peace Breathing Activity that will help us defuse stressful situations before they escalate.

We also read a message from the Secretary-General about why this day is celebrated.

**Rights Link: Article 38: War and armed conflicts**

**SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**

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**Macmillan Coffee Morning Charity Event:**

Rathfern took part in a cake sale this afternoon to raise money for Macmillian cancer charity. The pupils made posters on the importance of supporting health and health services emphasising that health provides the stability every family needs to grow and be productive.

**Rights Link: Article 24 Health and Health Services**

**SDG 3**
Key dates linking with Rights for next 2 weeks:

Global History 365.
Rights Link: Article 30: Children from minority or indigenous groups

International Day of Non-Violence Date: 2 Oct
Rights Link: Article 19: Protection from violence, abuse and neglect

World Teachers Day Date: 5 Oct
Rights Link: Article 29: Goals of education

World Mental Health Day Date: 10 Oct
Rights Link: Article 24: Health and health services; Article 25: Review of treatment in care

International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction Date: 13 Oct
Rights Link: Article 27: Adequate standard of living

World Food Day Date: 16 Oct
Rights Links: Article 6: Life, survival and development; Article 24: Health and health service.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER

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

Thursday 4th
EYFS Breakfast for Nursery & Reception Parents, Carers and Siblings
7.45am – 8.30am – Infant Hall

Monday 8th
Year 1 Visit to London – Big bus tour
KSI Breakfast & ESafety 7.45am

Tuesday 9th
KS2 Breakfast & ESafety 7.45am

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
UK’s ONE AND ONLY MAYA ARCHEOLOGIST VISITS RATHFERN

On Wednesday 26th September 2018, Year 4 had a special visit from Dr Diane Davies, a working Maya archaeologist. We found out that she isn’t just a Maya Archaeologist, but the ONLY archaeologist in the United Kingdom to specialize in the Ancient Maya Civilization.

Both classes had a 90-minute presentation where Dr Diane Davies spoke about her life as a working archaeologist and her work on the Maya in the Guatemalan jungle. We were very privileged to see such amazing photos and videos (taken by Dr Diane herself) and even heard real sounds of the animals that lived there.

We found out that although the Maya civilization had come to an end many, many years ago, Maya people, the tradition and culture and even the Mayan language still exist today! Interestingly, we learnt that women who live in Guatemala today wear different coloured and patterned shirts to show which part of the country they live in. (A little bit like school uniform.) What really brought this to life was when we got the opportunity to see these items of clothing and try them on!

After the presentation, we got the opportunity to carry out activities of historical enquiry by exploring and handling a large collection of Mayan artefacts. From jade to flint, codex to death mask, these delicate yet precious artefacts were a breath taking, once in a lifetime experience.

It was a truly remarkable day and certainly one to remember!

Comments from the children:

“It was an awesome experience because we got to touch the artefacts and we got the opportunity to speak to a real life archaeologist!” (Patrycia Year 4)

“It was a really fun morning. We got to taste dark chocolate, which was not very pleasant. At the end of the session, some of us even got Dr Diane Davies autograph!” (Chajettha, Year 4)

“My favourite part was handling all the objects, especially the jade knife.” (Abdul, Year 4)

“My favourite part was hearing the sounds of the animals in the Guatemala jungle, especially the jaguars roar!” (Ashton, Year 4)