Dear Mums, Dads, Carers, Staff, Governors, Friends & Colleagues

Over the last two weeks at Rathfern we were visited by record numbers of prospective parents and carers keen to see Rathfern in action on Open mornings. Our Y6 Head Boy and Head Girl talked about their learning journey and received much praise from our visitors. In particular, they were impressed by the children talking so powerfully, about their role during the learning process

Best wishes for a restful weekend.
Mrs Maharasingam
Head Teacher

Christmas Lunch

We will be having our Christmas Lunch on Tuesday 11th December. Children who normally have a packed lunch will be allowed to change to school dinners for this day only by booking at the school office.

If your child would like to have a Christmas school dinner, you will need to arrange this by Tuesday 4th December. The cost is £2.20

**Please note – if your child normally has packed lunch, they will only receive a school dinner on Tuesday 11th December.**

---

Dear Parents

I would like to apologise profusely for any emails you are receiving from ParentMail. They are being sent directly from ParentMail due to a technical fault.

If you are trying to subscribe and receiving error messages, I have been advised that by downloading the FREE app will help. This is especially for those of you who didn't have 'connection' problems before the summer. Contrary to what has been said we do have your child's correct date of birth and we do have your correct details.

Please feel free to come and see me if you are still experiencing problems. I am determined to get ParentMail running smoothly by mid week. Apologies once again for an inconvenience caused.

Gail
Attendance Matters

Thank you to parents who are sending their children to school every day and on time. Did you realise that children who attend school regularly make much better progress in school? If you want your child to do well keep their attendance high!

Our top attenders this week is:

**Attendance – is your child in school every day?**

Top classes for attendance this week are:

- Mountsfield Park  99.6%
- Friendly Gardens, Blackheath & Forster joint 99.3%
- Wells Park 98%

![Present %](chart.png)
Right Respecting and Global Learning request:

As we are all aware the Festive Season is fast approaching. The weather is colder which makes life for vulnerable and homeless people within our local community even more challenging.

At Rathfern Primary we can make a difference by supporting the Red Box Appeal. This is a voluntary gesture and only for those families who want to take part. Each item brought in will be added to the individual classroom boxes that we hope to have full before we break for the holidays.

An item added to the box a day would be a daily Act of kindness leading up to Christmas. Participation in a scheme such as this, promote active and global citizenship and underpin the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Global citizenship and the UNCRC are at the heart of our school ethos and practice where children are globally aware of the rights and relationship of everyone in the school and wider community (Article 24 UNCRC).

If you would like to take part in this scheme please support it by sending in one item of dry goods to be added to your child’s class box.

We would like to thank you for your continued support and commitment to vulnerable members of our community.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Henderson Vieira
The sports hall athletics festival was hosted by Sydenham secondary school in their amazing sports hall. We welcomed a number of young leaders from Sydenham who assisted in organising the events that included javelin, basketball chest push, speed bounce, long jump and then a host of different running events.

The field events were first and it was amazing to watch all of the pupils mixing together and helping each other from the different schools.

Next up were the track events and the atmosphere was electric! All schools were really cheering on their team and the noise was so loud.

The winners received a gold medal each and a trophy for their school. The runners up were presented with silver medals. Every child went home with a certificate.

Well done to all schools who represented themselves extremely well.

1st Haseltine
2nd Rathfern
3rd Dalmain
4th St Michael’s
5th Perrymount

Rathfern

Dave McLaren & Graham Curtis
Sports Coordinator’s
Bronze Medal Position Achieved at the Lewisham Borough Sports Hall Athletics Competition!
13/11/18

Congratulations to our Year 3&4 Athletics Squad who came 3rd place at the Sports Hall Athletics Lewisham Borough competition! A squad of 18 children participated in the competition on Tuesday the 13th of November at Prendergast Ladywell School. Children participated in a range of track and field events including relay sprints, hurdle races, the long jump and the javelin throw. It was wonderful to see the team supporting each other and sharing words of encouragement with their peers and pupils from other schools.

“It was good to meet other children who like athletics from other schools. I feel that I did very well at the competition today, my favourite event was sprinting in the relays. I would like to take part in this competition again next year!”
Christopher Yr 3
On Tuesday the 16th of October a group of nine Year 4 children attended a High 5 Netball Festival at Sydenham High School. It was very exciting visiting a school with great sport facilities, and meeting other children who are interested in Netball from other local primary schools. The team rotated around three learning stations that aimed to develop key skills used in Netball. All of the activities were fun, yet challenging. We started at the Footwork Station, then moved on to the Shooting, and finished at the Ball Skills and Passing. The children enjoyed putting their learnt skills into play at the end of the festival, when we competed against other schools in umpired matches. It was difficult to remember where different positions were allowed to go, and remember not to move our landing foot when we had the ball. We did however manage to make many successful passes, and were able to defend well against some of the opposing teams attacking play. The team intend to continue practicing back at school so that they become more confident as the year goes on.

“It has been the best day ever and I really want to keep playing Netball now. I can’t believe that I managed to score a goal, that was my favourite part” (Blessing, Yr 4)
**Key dates linking with Rights for next 2 weeks**

**International Day of Persons with Disabilities**
What is it: The International Day of Persons with Disabilities is a day to celebrate and acknowledge the experience and capabilities of people with disabilities, and also a chance for people and organisations all over the world to focus on measures to support greater integration and equality for people with disabilities.
Date: 3 Dec
Rights Link: Article 23: Children with a disability

**Human Rights Day**
What is it: The date was chosen to honour the United Nations General Assembly’s adoption and proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) on 10 December 1948 – the first global enunciation of human rights.
Date: 10 Dec
Rights Link: Article 4: Implementation of the Convention

**Friendship Friday**
To raise awareness of the importance of being kind to one another and having respect for each other, Rathfern children participated in a Friendship Friday event. The event aimed to raise awareness of bullying of children and young people in schools and to highlight ways of preventing and responding to it. To make the day special, the children got to wear their pyjamas on the day, as this is something they requested, and enjoyed a cup of hot chocolate with marshmallows too.

Kindness was the theme for the day which was demonstrated further where children who wore their pyjamas donated an item of food for the local Foodbank. It was a wonderful day with a very important message shared by all.

Rights Link: Article 2: Non-discrimination
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER

Tuesday 27th  Migration Museum – Telegraph Hill
Wednesday 28th  Madagascar the Musical visiting Years 2-4.
Thursday 29th  Migration Museum – Forster Park

DECEMBER

Monday 3rd  Year 4 - Museum of London
Tuesday 4th  Year 3 - British Museum
Thursday 6th  Reception Nativity 2pm
Friday 7th  Reception Nativity at 10 am (repeated)
Tuesday 11th  Christmas Lunch for the whole school
Wednesday 12th  Nursery Festive performance
   9.00 am morning session
   1.00 pm afternoon session
Wednesday 12th  Year 3/4/5/6 Choir ‘Turning of the Year Concert’
                   6pm Royal Festival Hall – Free

Year 1 & 2 Nativity:
Thursday 13th  Evelyn (Yr1) and Blackheath (Yr2) - 2.20pm - 3.00pm
Friday 14th  Ravensbourne (Yr1) and Manor Park (Yr2) - 9.20am-10am

Thursday 20th  Christmas Concert at St Dunstans KS2 – 2.00pm
Friday 21st  Class parties

Friday 21st December last day of term
Inset Day: Monday 7th January
We return to school on
Tuesday 8th January 2019

OPEN MORNINGS - For prospective parents

Wednesday 28th November
Wednesday 5th December
Thursday 13th December
Wednesday 9th January
Friday 11th January