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

Dear Parents/ Carers

The term is flying by and we hope your children enjoyed learning alongside their peers this week during Book Week.

Mrs Maharasingam
Head Teacher

PARENT DROP IN –DON’T FORGET
Thank you, to those of you who have come and aired your concerns and thanks with me.

Tuesdays
9.00-9.30 a.m & 5.30 – 6.00 pm
Please come and discuss any concerns or good news you may have with me.

WORLD BOOK DAY
Thank you to all the children and adults who dressed up as a book character or wore their pyjamas to celebrate World Book Day. We would also like to thank those of you who donated to the foodbank appeal, I am sure the food will be gratefully received.

SAFEGUARDING OUR CHILDREN
The Safeguarding of our children is of great importance, therefore we would like to remind parents / carers that during the school day and in the afternoon when clubs are taking place to please refrain from entering the school building.

Please remember that parents / carers should not be sitting in the halls when clubs are taking place.

Parents should wait in the area outside the school office until their child is brought to them FROM the club, the only exceptions are Ballet and Year 2-3 football when you can collect your child 5 mins before the class ends.

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CORONAVIRUS- ADVICE

Official government advice to protect yourself against the Coronavirus is still to wash our hands.

1. Wet hands with clean, running water.
2. Liberally apply soap.
3. Lather your hands, including the backs and between your fingers while not forgetting about the area beneath your nails.
4. Scrub for a minimum of 20 seconds.
5. Rinse and dry.

As a school ordinarily we use non alcohol products. However Coronavirus can only be killed by sanitisers that contain at least 60% alcohol.

Please inform the office if your child should not have the gel applied for any medical, cultural or other reason.

More information can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance

The advice for anyone in any setting is to follow these main guidelines.

- If you have been in contact with someone with coronavirus or have returned from an affected area identified by the Chief Medical Officer as high risk and you are feeling unwell with a cough, difficulty breathing or fever, stay at home and use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service or call NHS 111.
- Wash your hands more often than usual, for 20 seconds using soap and hot water, particularly after coughing, sneezing and blowing your nose, or after being in public areas where other people are doing so. Use hand sanitiser if that’s all you have access to.
- To reduce the spread of germs when you cough or sneeze, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue, or your sleeve (not your hands) if you don’t have a tissue, and throw the tissue away immediately. Then wash your hands or use a hand sanitisng gel.
- Clean and disinfect regularly touched objects and surfaces using your regular cleaning products to reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people.

At the current time and based on our understanding of what is known of COVID-19 and other similar respiratory viruses, it is likely that older people and those with chronic medical conditions may be vulnerable to severe disease. As more information emerges, recommendations may change.

BRITISH COUNCIL FILMING AT RATHFERN

As part of the Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning team the British Council are producing a new case study film about good practice in global learning through school partnerships. They have chosen to showcase our school demonstrating the innovative and creative work we are doing across the curriculum. They will be coming to film for the day on March 17th and will film leaders and teacher involved in the project, along with some of the pupils.
Rathfern Science Fair

Our annual celebration of British Science Week is next week. We have a range of exciting events happening across the week. Please see below for more information.

Science Reading Cafes
Come and join us at the Science reading cafe’s below, we look forward to seeing you!

Science Week Reading Cafes
Time: 8:30 - 9:15pm
Where: Lower junior hall
- Tuesday 10th March --> Reception/Yr 1
- Wednesday 11th March --> Year 2/3
- Thursday 12th March --> Year 4,5,6

Rathfern Science Fair!
On Wednesday, we will be hosting a science fair! We would love for you to join us as we guide you through some exciting science demonstrations. Posters displaying information on the various workshops will be displayed around the school and emails have been sent via ParentMail for you to sign on to 2 of the workshops.
When: Wednesday 11th March 2020
Time: 3:45-5pm

Keira’s Dance
On Tuesday 3rd March, 30 members of KDC dance group participated at the historic Catford Broadway Theatre for the annual Lewisham Live Dance. Rathfern were the first group to perform, opening the sold out show to an audience of 300 people. Although the children were nervous they smashed the performance and looked phenomenal on stage. Thanks to the money we raised by selling pancakes and the fantastic support from friends of Rathfern last week we were also able to buy our performance T-shirts that looked amazing on stage !!!
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – 2020

MARCH

1st – 13th
FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

10th & 11th
Planting workshop
3.30pm – 4.15pm

9th - 13th
BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK
Science Café - workshops for children and Parents
start at 8.30am:
- 10th Reception & Year 1
- 11th Year 2 & 3
- 12th Year 4, 5 & 6

20th
Mother’s Day Afternoon Tea

APRIL

1st
Easter Bonnet workshop
3.30 – 4.15

3rd
Easter Parade and
Easter Egg sale

Easter Holidays
6th April – 17th April

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mother’s day afternoon tea:
20th March 2020
3.45pm - 5.30pm

Father’s day BBQ:
19th June 2020 3.45pm - 5.30pm

Summer Fair:
26th June 2020 3.45pm - 5.30pm

Our language of the month this term is Polish
Hello Parents and Carers

I'm using a great website called easyfundraising to help raise money for Friends of Rathfern - simply by shopping online.

easyfundraising turns your everyday online shopping into FREE donations when you use easyfundraising to shop with over 3,600 retailers such as Amazon, eBay, John Lewis, Argos, NEXT and Booking.com.

Our retailers then make a small donation to say ‘thank you’ and easyfundraising gives those free funds to the cause.

Please register using this unique link – just search for 'Friends of Rathfern' and click ‘support us’ -
https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofrathfern/?invite=MG8H8U&referral-campaign=s2s

Plus, once you’ve signed up and raised £5 in donations, easyfundraising will give us an extra £5 donation. There is no catch or hidden charges and Friends of Rathfern will be really grateful for your donations.

Thank you,
Friends of Rathfern
On Wednesday 26th February Rathfern pupils were invited to visit Parliament. The children learnt about how the House of Commons and House of Lords contribute to the day-to-day workings of the UK Parliament. They visited the Great Hall, House of Lords and many other rooms including the Queen's private chamber.

“I enjoyed this trip because we learnt all kinds of things such as the queen has a secret toilet and we visited her huge private dressing room. I would recommend that everybody goes there” Khadijat Year 3.

“First we went on a train to London Bridge then took the underground to Westminster. We learned about the House of Lords, all the chairs were red. We learnt that the Westminster Great Hall was over 900 years old. Parts of the houses of Parliament were on fire in 1805 but they managed to save the Great Hall. We also learnt that in 1905 a group of men put gunpowder in the cellar that was going to set off during the state visit but the men were caught red-handed. I enjoyed it when we went into the debating rooms, there were so many microphones and the queen’s chair was made out of pure gold” Keshikan Year 4.
ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Outstanding achievement is linked to outstanding attendance.

PUNCTUALITY MATTERS

Dear Parents
Thank you to those of you who are making a real effort to get your children to school on time!
Many thanks to those of you who always bring your children to school on time we know it makes a difference.

Attendance winners for Spring Term 2
Statistics for period 24th Feb – 6th March 2020
Congratulations to Sycamore class for achieving the highest attendance.

Late R/C: Marks

Congratulations to Willow class for achieving the least lates this fortnight
*****
Birch class had the highest number of lates at 3.4%
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<th>CLASS</th>
<th>EFFECTIVE LEARNERS</th>
<th>LEADING CITIZENS</th>
<th>ACT OF KINDNESS</th>
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