Friday 3rd April 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope that you are all continuing to keep safe and well.

We are now at the end of Week 2 of our new arrangements and I do hope that you are all managing to cope with these challenging times. Please know that we are here to support in whatever way we can. Please do not hesitate to get in touch via email (admin2053@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk) if you need help or support.
In addition, up to date information for parents and carers can be found here: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers

On our school website there is a page dedicated to all information relating to Covid-19, in order to try and ensure that you have access to everything in one place. We will continue to add to it in the coming weeks.

Class teachers are continuing to make weekly (term time) phone calls to each and every child. I have heard from many members of staff that your children are responding well to their new way of learning, and I want to thank you for all you are doing to support them in this.
I also realise that there may be times when learning will be difficult and we will respond and support to help keep the children on track with their learning, so please make contact.

We have to look for the positive in this difficult and challenging time. We now have the opportunity to spend more time with our children and close family. In the long term, this will make us all mentally and emotionally stronger.

As well as the learning activities please remember to laugh and have fun. Developing communication skills and confidence are fundamental to children developing a love for lifelong learning, so keep talking.

Currently, you can access learning and other materials on the school website: http://www.rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk
Click on Remote Learning and Year Group pages to find updates.
We are looking to recognise student effort and achievement whilst learning remotely. If you have a good news story for the newsletter, please email admin@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk

Thank you to Theron Year 1 Willow Class for this good news story:
1st April 2020
Theron chose 3 books from his Ladybird Collection for his 30 minutes of independent reading.
He chose 3 books that he hasn’t read before because he said that ‘Miss Maharasingam said that I must challenge myself’.
He chose ‘Fairy Friends’, ‘Pirate School’ and ‘Town Mouse & Country Mouse’.

Easter home learning will be uploaded today Friday 3rd April.

For anyone who needs a pack of learning we have arranged for you to pick your child’s pack up on the following days, at specified times to facilitate social distancing:
There will also be a box for siblings so they can be collected at the same time - see below.

Monday 6th April

- 10.00 - 11.00 Year 1
- 11:15 - 12:15 Year 2
- 12:30 - 1:30 Year 3
- 1:45 - 2:45 Year 4
- 3:00 - 4:00. Year 5
- 4:30 - 5:30 Year 6

Tuesday 7th April

- 10.00 - 11.00 Nursery
- 11:15 - 12:45 Reception

We are expecting that children learning from home will have a break from the usual learning previously sent. Teachers have prepared some consolidation learning, interesting projects and suggestions for fun Easter activities.

If you have difficulty collecting or accessing a home learning pack then please email admin@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk. Deliveries will only be made in exceptional circumstances.
EASTER SCHOOL OPENING FOR CHILDREN OF CRITICAL WORKERS

Thanks to the flexibility and good will of our staff team, we are able to stay open through the whole of the Easter holidays, Monday to Friday over both weeks. If you fulfil the criteria for this emergency childcare (a key worker) and have not been contacted by the office team, please email us on admin@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk. Please update us if your childcare needs should change by contacting us on the admin email address.

If your child fits the key worker criteria and will be attending Easter school, they will also participate in fun Easter club activities. However, should any child need support with the activities from their home learning pack, our staff will be happy to assist.

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

We are continuing work on our virtual learning platform (Google Classroom) which we will launch in time for the start of the Summer term (17th/20th April). We aim to better support you and your child whilst they learn from home. All children will have a username and password, which will be included in the Easter Home Learning Pack and shared again via the weekly phone calls.

Wishing you a safe, healthy and joyful Easter break.

Thank you for your continued support.