



Rathfern Primary School
Rathfern Road, Catford, London SE6 4NL
E: admin@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk
T: 020 8690 3759

Friday 18th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are well. It really is wonderful having your children back. I can't thank our parents/carers enough for supporting all the safety measures we have put in place and bearing with us while we get our systems precise. The school is calm, purposeful and happy - a really powerful place of learning. We are reviewing the protocols each week to make sure we are getting the balance right between safety measures and education. Please watch out for updates and as always, feedback is welcome.

If you are late....we won't wait!

It is incredibly important that you come to school at your allotted time - not before and not after. If you come too early there could be bunching at the gate so please stand opposite the school. If you arrive late there could be difficulty as we need to close the gates on time so we can keep the site secure. Thanks for your ongoing support.

Secondary Transfer

Thank you to parents who attended our virtual meet.

I will be offering one to one zoom interviews

The deadline for secondary school applications is 31st October 2020.

The online application can be accessed at www.eadmissions.org.uk. If you require support with completing the application or want to speak with us, please book an appointment with admin@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk.

Virtual Coffee Morning with SLT 25th September 9:30 am

We will be holding an online Senior Leadership Team coffee morning on Friday 25th September at 9:30am. This will be an opportunity for you to e-meet the core team, find out about the school priorities and ask any questions you may have about the return to school. This time, you will need to provide your own coffee! A Zoom invitation will be sent via a text message.



Vaccinations

Some parents have expressed concern about Covid-19 vaccines being administered in school. I can assure you that this is not the case. Any vaccinations given at school will need the permission of the parent.

BOOK AMNESTY

In March 2020 before lockdown - 5 reading books were given to each child in the following classes:

- **Reception: Oak, Birch and Elm**
- **Year 1 - Maple and Willow**
- **Year 2 – Cherry Blossom and Hazel**

Please can these be returned by the end of next week, Friday 25th September, so they can be quarantined for use by other children.

Books can be handed to your child's current teacher or placed in a special box in the playground.



HOME SCHOOL READING ROUTINES

We are currently reviewing our reading procedures to ensure that the process of changing books and monitoring reading records is as safe and smooth as possible for children, parents and school staff. Please look out for an update on this in the next newsletter.

WATER BOTTLES

Please remember to send your child to school each day with a water bottle.

At the moment water fountains are turned off as they cannot be used for safety reasons.



⚠ Important ⚠

Advice for schools

CORONAVIRUS SYMPTOMS IN CHILDREN

A CHILD WHO DEVELOPS ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A POTENTIAL CORONAVIRUS CASE:



NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH

This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if the child usually has a cough, it may be worse than usual)



FEVER (TEMPERATURE OF 37.8°C OR HIGHER)

The child will also feel hot to touch on their chest or back



A LOSS OR CHANGE TO SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE

this means the child has noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

MOST CHILDREN WITH CORONAVIRUS HAVE AT LEAST ONE OF THESE SYMPTOMS.



If a child is unwell with one or more of these specific symptoms they should be told not to come into school or sent home as soon as possible and advised to get a coronavirus test. **ONLY** those children with one or more of these symptoms or those advised by their clinician or Local Authority should get a test.



Children reporting other symptoms such as a headache, sore throat, runny or sniffling nose, earache, itchy eyes, lethargy or tiredness **WITHOUT** a fever should **NOT** be treated as potential coronavirus cases or advised to take a test.

If the national guidance on symptoms of coronavirus in children changes, updated information will be provided at a local level as soon as possible. This information about coronavirus symptoms in children can be shared with all school teaching and administration staff as well as parents and carers where necessary.

For further guidance on coronavirus testing for schools, please read the letter from PHE and NHS Test and Trace to school and college leaders at: bit.ly/phe-schools



Let's do it
for Doncaster.



TERM DATES : 2020/21

AUTUMN TERM 2020

Wednesday 2nd September 2020	INSET DAY
Thursday 3rd September 2020	Children return to school
Friday 23rd October 2020	Last day of term
Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October 2020 - HALF TERM HOLIDAY	
Monday 2nd November 2020	INSET DAY
Tuesday 3rd November	Children return to school
Friday 18th December 2020	Last day of term

SPRING TERM 2021

Monday 4th January	INSET DAY
Tuesday 5th January	INSET DAY
Wednesday 6th January 2021	Children return to school
Friday 12th February 2021	Last Day of term
Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February 2021 - HALF TERM HOLIDAY	
Monday 22nd February 2021	Children return to school
Wednesday 31st March 2021	Last day of term
Thursday 1st April – Friday 16th April 2021 – EASTER HOLIDAYS	

SUMMER TERM 2021

Monday 19th April 2021	Children return to school
Monday 3rd May 2021	MAY BANK HOLIDAY
Friday 28th May 2021	Last day of term
Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June 2021 – HALF TERM HOLIDAY	
Monday 7th June 2021	Children return to school
Thursday 22nd July 2021	Last day of term
Friday 23rd July 2021	INSET DAY

