



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

Friday 9th October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have been back for over a month now and the children are calm, positive and highly engaged. Our children have settled back into our school learning culture with our high expectations very well. Our new members are fast becoming Rathfern scholars. We are getting used to the new ways of teaching and the children have taken it in their stride. Over the next two weeks we are working hard in all year groups to make sure we are accelerating progress.

How are you planning to celebrate Black History Month in your school?

We teach Black History all year round at Rathfern. Our curriculum is designed to reflect and celebrate our local community's culture and history. We empower all our pupils by exploring the role that key black people and others have played in challenging racism and shaping a more just and equitable world today. We strongly believe that black history is British history and the teaching of it should not be designated to a single month.

Our work to become an anti-racist school is an ongoing journey.

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/articles/blogs/decolonising-the-curriculum>

BICYCLES AND SCOOTERS

Although we encourage children to ride and scoot to school, due to the current circumstances we are unable to take in scooters and bicycles from children in KS1. Children from year 3 and above are welcome to park their bikes /scooters in the school **but it will be their responsibility to make sure the bike / scooter is parked safely.**

BOOK AMNESTY

Can we please remind all Parents/ Carers who have children currently in Years 1-3 to return the books given to them in the lockdown period. This is so they can be used by other children from Reception – Year 2.



NURSERY PLACES

Do you have a child or know of a child who turned 3 before September 2020 and is looking for a nursery place? At present we have 3 full time or 6 part time spaces available in the nursery. If you are interested please contact Gail or Inga in the School Office on 020 8690 3759 they will be happy to help you

COVID UPDATE

REMINDER:

- Please do not bring your child to the school gates if they are a close contact of the closed bubble as they should be self-isolating at home.
- IF you have symptoms or your family is showing symptoms the whole family should be tested and the school informed so the necessary actions can be taken.
- We would also ask parents to wear a mask when waiting to drop or collect their child from outside the school, this not only keeps you safe but others also.

How can I support the school to reduce transmission?

- Wear a mask when bringing/collecting you child
- **Arrive at the allocated times for your child's year group**
- Do not congregate in large groups with other parents waiting to collect
- Leave the school gate as soon as you've collected your child.
- Re enforce the safety routines with your child: hand washing and distancing

IMPORTANT DATES

2020

Return date: Ocean Class	Monday 12 th October
Virtual Training events –Learning Attributes	Wednesday 21 st October
HALF TERM	Monday 26th – 30th October
STAFF INSET DAY	Monday 2nd November
Flu Immunisations	Monday 16 th November
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	Monday 21st December – Monday 4th January

2021

INSET days	Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th January
Children return to school	Wednesday 6 th January



VIRTUAL SLT MEET - FRIDAYS AT 9.30AM

Your chance to talk to the Senior Leadership Team every Friday 9:30am -10.00 am.

You will be able to raise any questions you may have and hear more about our approach to keeping your child/child safe and educated.

Should you have any Questions, comments and queries that you would like us to answer regarding the school closure or risk assessments you can now use our new email address: covid@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk

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.

LOST PROPERTY

Please remember to write or sew your child's name in all their uniform, PE kits, shoes and bags as we are still accumulating many items of Lost Property and very nice coats but there are no names inside so we can return them.

VIRTUAL READING CAFE

Rathfern will be holding a school-wide 'Virtual Reading Café' starting from next week, on Tuesday 13th October, in place of our usual termly on-site reading cafes.

Teachers, Teaching Assistants and Learning Support Assistants will be uploading videos of themselves sharing their favourite books with each other, ranging from picture books, poetry, modern and classic literature as well as core texts representing our Rathfern community. These will all be accessible to watch with your children from the comfort of your home through our new 'Virtual Reading Café Google Classroom'.

We would be delighted if you could take part in the Virtual Reading Café at home by recording a similar video (or an audio version if you prefer) with your child at home and posting it to the same 'Virtual Reading Café Google Classroom'. You can choose any whole book, or part of a book, that you would like to share and post it at any time after the 13th October, until the end of this half term. Depending on how experimental you are feeling, you could record the video in fancy dress or pyjamas, or use props and sound effects. Here is an example video to help guide you: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJACUKeLlwQ&feature=youtu.be>

These videos, with your permission, will then be shared with children in every class across the following fortnight. We hope you can take part!

Have lots of fun with it and help to develop Rathfern's LOVE OF READING !!

Please inform the school if you do NOT give permission for your child's Reading Video to be share on the school website. You can do this via replies@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk subject Virtual Reading Café.



OUTSTANDING LEARNERS

	Class	Outstanding Learner	Act of Kindness	Leading Citizen
Nursery	Coral Reef	Sofia	Mabel	Rhydian
Reception	Stream	Michelle	Chloe	Amelia
	Mangrove	De Andre	Kyrie	Gloria
	Ocean	Azariah	Renee	Clarity
Year 1	Waterfall	Eva	Mohamed S	Adam
	Storm	Ella A	Oscar	Nile
	Cloud	Florence	Lior	Ester
Year 2	Avalanche	Elise	Lake	Long
	Everest	Oskar	Khup	Natasha
Year 3	Crater	Shayaan	Elana	Rio
	Caldera	Haja	Grace	Tishen
Year 4	Typhoon	Hareem	Kaliyah	Iman
	Tsunami	Jasmitha	Elysia	Dylan
Year 5	Meridian	Leon	Patrick	Naythan
	Equator	Fraser	Parris	Logan
Year 6	Panthalassa	Thirusuthan	Miracle	Shareefa
	Pangaea	Mouad	Kejsi	Riyaan

