



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

Friday 6th November 2020

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and staff

Welcome back to all our children. I hope you had some quality time with your children last week.

We are looking forward to a learning and fun filled half term ensuring your children make powerful learning progress.

PARENTPAY/ PARENTMAIL/ ARBOR

There seems to be some confusion regarding the information given in the newsletter on 23rd October. We have decided to end our contract with **Parentmail** from the 1st October.

ParentMail; was the system used to communicate with Parents/Carers letters/ forms/ questionnaires etc/

ParentPay; is the system we use for parents/ carers to make payments for clubs/ lunches etc.

Arbor; will hopefully enable us to combine these two systems and use one.

Arbor will not be running until later this month - January the latest- but for us to get prepared we need to make sure your current contact details are up to date.

PARKING & IDLING OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL

We would be grateful if parents did not park outside the school and leave their engines running. It is not good for the environment or for the children who suffer from asthma. It causes a lot of pollution unnecessarily.

It is also prohibited to park on the zig zag lines between the timings shown as it causes an obstruction

To ease congestion we are asking parents to possibly, think about parking cars in an adjacent road and then walking to the gates.

FOREST SCHOOL

Due to the current restrictions, Forest School will not be taking place until the first week of December.

We are sorry to inform you that due to the latest Covid-19 restrictions, we are unable to attend Forest school until further notice. Children will be engaging in forest school activities within the classroom and the designated outdoor area, to ensure they are still having a natural and organic learning experience with Ms Henderson-Vieira facilitating.



CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

General enquiries should be directed to the school office, however, if you have an urgent question or vital information to communicate, you can email one of the Assistant Heads or specific Year Group leaders (please see the list of emails below).

Assistant Heads

EYFS /Year 1 Ms Daley c.daley@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk

Year 2/3 Mrs Goldsmith c.goldsmith4@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk

Year 4/5/6 Mr Ellington mellington2@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk

Nursery & Reception	Ms Daley c.daley@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk
Year 1 Storm	Ms Ritson a.ritson@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk
Year 2	Ms Roach m.roach@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk
Year 3	Ms Gok e.gok@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk
Year 4	Ms Emanuel lemanuel4@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk
Year 5 & Year 6	Mr Ellington mellington2@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk

Queries in relation to the COVID situation and the school:
covid@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk

REMINDER: CHANGE OF PROCEDURES FOR SIBLING DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Reminder : This term we have reviewed our procedures as promised and from listening to parents views have amended our collection and drop off times to reduce the time parents have to wait with multiple siblings.

We ask you to please remember follow social distancing guidelines and not gather in groups. We also ask that you do not linger at drop off and collection points to help avoid congestion.

- Please see the **new timings please arrive at the allocated times for your child's year group**

	Drop off	Pick up
Nursery	8.50-11.50	12.50 – 3.50
Rec & Year 3	8.30	3.00
Year 1 & Year 4	8.40	3.10
Year 2 & Year 5	8.50	3.20
Year 6	9.00	3.30

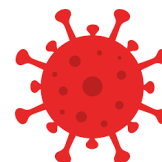


IF YOU ARE LATE - WE WON'T WAIT

Please make sure you are on time. If you are late, that increases the risk of bubbles mixing and is not helping to keep our school and wider community as safe as possible. There will also be a fine of £5.00 for every 15 mins (or part of) that you are late.

COVID REMINDER:

- Please do not bring your child to the school gates if they are a close contact of a 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**
- 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



We understand parents and children will be anxious with the new lockdown so we would like to reassure you with a few FAQs.

Is my child able to come to school?

Yes. Prior to reopening, every school had to complete a detailed risk assessment against the government's guidance document. The Risk Assessment is available to view on the school's website. We have split the school carefully into bubbles which means we can limit any wider impact.

How can you guarantee that my child is safe?

We can guarantee that we are following the government's guidance thoroughly. Our health and safety advisors believe our control measures to be of a very good standard. The school is doing everything it can to mitigate the risk and reviewing procedures regularly.

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
- Line up in an orderly manner keeping a distance between the next person
- 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

Money Matters workshop
Flu Immunisations
Learning Attributes workshop
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Monday 9th November 9.30am and 5.30pm
Monday 16th November
Wednesday 9th December 9.30am
Monday 21st December – Monday 4th January

2021

INSET days
Children return to school

Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th January
Wednesday 6th January

2020 Virtual Training events

Learning Attributes Self regulation

Wednesday 9th December

SLT Virtual Meet

Many Thanks again to parents who joined us for our Virtual meet the SLT

We will be holding Virtual SLT meetings 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/children safe and educated. *A link will be sent via text before the meeting.*

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

COATS AND LAYERED CLOTHING

As the weather grows colder and rainy days may be approaching, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately. Currently we are required to keep external classroom doors open through the day which means classrooms can be quite cool. Please ensure your child always brings their school jumper or cardigan but is also wearing a long sleeved shirt, vest, thermal top/underwear or alternative under their uniform.

Please also ensure your child is bringing a waterproof coat with a hood to school. On days where there is light drizzle or rain we do still go outside for breaks so the students need appropriate outerwear on these occasions.

MOST IMPORTANTLY please ensure that **ALL clothing is labelled** clearly, we are still finding many items without names so sadly we cannot return them to their owner.



Debate Mate Launch 2020

On Tuesday the 3rd November, the Rathfern debaters attended the virtual 2020 Debate Mate Launch Event.

Due to Covid, we have had to limit the group to year 6 only to keep children in their respective bubbles. This year's programme will run differently from previous years, with 'beamed-in sessions' that will take place on the interactive whiteboard to the classroom via Zoom. Teamwork, resilience and the power of their voice, are just some of the skills that the children will develop over the course of the programme. Through their weekly sessions, the children will build their confidence and speaking skills so that they are confident to speak persuasively, passionately and articulately to an audience.

Meet the team:

Cassius, Ehigbai, Yevgeny, Pippa, Ella, Deborah, Seth and Rares who are keen to get started.

