



Rathfern Primary School
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Friday 12th February 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

We cannot express how excited we were to welcome all of our children back to school on Monday morning. We have missed their energy and enthusiasm on the school grounds and have enjoyed seeing them all learning and playing together again.

Please adhere to the staggered start and finish times as well as the one-way systems in place. These systems are imperative in supporting social distancing around the school site. Please also remember to wear a face covering at drop off and collection.

Please continue to follow the most up to date government guidelines regarding national restrictions and mixing of households. Also note that the government advice is for families to limit their use of multiple out-of-school settings providers, and, as far as possible, to only use one out-of-school setting in addition to school.

Returning iPads and Chromebooks

Return of school iPads and Chromebooks - Monday 15th March 2021, 09:00 – 10:00

As children have now returned to school, we would kindly ask you to return all loaned **iPads**, **Chromebooks** and **chargers**, that were supplied for the purposes of remote learning during the most recent school closure. Thanks to those of you who have returned the loaned devices already.

Once all the devices have been returned (and tested), we will be using them to support classroom teaching and learning. Many of the devices will be used in class to support pupils with identified special needs who face challenges with developing their writing skills so it is crucial that they are returned as soon as possible.

Devices can be returned on Monday morning between 09:00-10:00 at the main school gate. If you are unable to come to school at this time, please return the device to your child's class teacher by the end of the week.

Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.

Meal choices

It is extremely important that you inform the school office in writing if your child would like to change their meal pattern, from Packed Lunch to Hot meal or vice versa.



Meal choices must remain the same for the term. If there is a specific exception, please contact the school office in advance by email via admin@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk

Failure to do so may mean you incur charges.

Thank you for your understanding.



Nursery Collection Update:

Nursery children who have siblings can be collected at 3.30pm. We are unable to accommodate other individual arrangements. For parents/carers arriving after 3.30pm, collection time is 3.50pm.

Nursery session times will revert back to what they were in December

Am – 8.50 – 11.50 Pm 12.50 – 3.50

Please be on time, thank you

Nursery intake September 2021

We are now allocating places for children who will be aged 3 years of age before September 2021. If you, or somebody you know, would like a place, please contact the school office by the 17th March as places will be issued on a First come, First served basis. Or email replies@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk.



Let's celebrate Red Nose Day on: Friday 19th March

What is Red Nose Day?

- Red Nose Day is a fundraising event run by Comic Relief.
- Comic Relief is a UK charity which aims to create a just world free from poverty.
- The money raised is used to transform lives in the UK and around the world.

Why we're taking part

- Pupils learn valuable life skills and gain understanding and empathy for others in the world.
- After a difficult 12 months, it's a great way to get together for a – socially distanced – giggle.
- Our school can really make a difference to people's lives.

Where the money goes

- £5 could provide school stationery to a child living in poverty in South Africa.
- £10 could get 40 meals to children and families in need in the UK.
- £50 could buy a bike for a health visitor in Ghana so they can provide vital health care for hard-to-reach families.



**Children can come to school in their own clothes and donate £1
This might include an item of clothing or accessory in RED.**



Bicycles

A few parents have been asking when children can store their bikes at school. From Monday, if your child cycles to school, they will need to place their bikes in the racks provided **by themselves**. Your child will be responsible for ensuring the bike is secure.

Important Information - Arbor Portal

The Arbor Portal went live this week for all parents to register; please ensure you make time to sign on, as you will need it to book your **Target Setting appointment**. Target Setting will take place on Tuesday 23rd & Wednesday 24th March. (see below)

Booking will be available from 6.00pm on Friday 12th March until the following Wednesday.

Target Setting booking instructions

Target setting meetings will be held on **Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th March** between 3.40pm – 6.00pm and will take place virtually. To book your appointment, you will need to register and log on to the Arbor Portal (details of which were sent earlier this week)

Unfortunately there were teething problems with the Booking system (which should have opened at 6.00pm today but this has been rectified and should be working now, we apologise for the inconvenience, **please remember the booking system will close on Wednesday 17th March**.

Target Setting is an important meeting and a chance to discuss your child's learning and well-being following this term of home learning and their return to school. Please ensure you book early as it will be First come First Served for time slots.

Wellbeing Tip of the Week - Thoughts are not facts

Sometimes we can experience a flood of negative thoughts that can lead us to question ourselves and our abilities. These thoughts can spiral out of control and leave us feeling low and not good about ourselves. By reminding ourselves that these thoughts are not facts, we can begin to take control of them, rather than letting them control how we feel and behave. We do not have to attach any meaning to them, we can let them come in and out, give them no power and see them as clouds drifting through our minds. Remember that they are not a reflection of reality or of our true selves and we do not have to react to each one. The more we can start to do this, the more we can be in control of our thoughts and not let them affect our mood, our self-esteem and our self-belief.

UNCRC Article of the Week Article 27: Food, clothing, a safe home.

Children have the right to food, clothing and a safe place to live so they can develop in the best possible way. The government should help families and children who cannot afford this.



IMPORTANT DATES 2021

Virtual SLT

The virtual SLT sessions will now be held **fortnightly**, the first one taking place on **Tuesday 16th March at 12.30pm**

Please join us to hear about the latest updates and ask us any questions you may have.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92523318178?pwd=T2lrVEdxOTBUV2xCMnV3VjFydUNrQT09>

Meeting ID: 925 2331 8178 Passcode: 314646

Virtual Parent Meetings

Tuesday 23rd March & Wednesday 24th March

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Wednesday 31st March

Easter Holidays Thursday 1st April – Friday 16th April

Congratulations to all our amazing scholars for settling back into school life so bravely and expertly.

Naheeda Maharasingam FCCT LLE

Head Teacher

CCT Network Lead Rathfern Research Hub

