



Rathfern Primary School
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Friday 11th June 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We have had a wonderful start to the new half term at Rathfern. I hope you all had a relaxing half term and enjoyed the much welcomed sunshine! We are very excited to begin this busy half term with many events ahead, including sports days, trips, summer concert, community picnic and a special year 6 show. We are awaiting updated guidance around parents attending events, so will inform you of any changes as soon as we can. Please continue to adhere to the guidelines around social distancing and mask wearing while approaching school. Infection rates are on the rise so please do ensure you are using local and home testing facilities to keep safe.

SUMMER WEATHER

With a change in the weather please ensure your child comes to school with a bottle of water & a hat; sunscreen will need to be applied before they come to school.

WHAT HAS RATHFERN BEING DOING AT SCHOOL THIS WEEK?

RECEPTION

It has been a very busy week in Reception. We have started our new theme "Oh The Places You'll Go." This week we have enjoyed reading 'We're going on a Bear hunt'. In English we have been exploring onomatopoeia and different sounds. We re-enacted the story in a life-size set up of the different scenes, in the hall. We have engaged in a range of creative activities, making binoculars and 3D maps. Next week we are looking forward to reading 'We're going on a Lion Hunt' and comparing the two stories.

YEAR 1

Year one picnic in the park.

This week year one returned to Blythe Hill for their weekly picnic in the park. The weather was warm and sunny and the children enjoyed being back in the park eating with their friends. After lunch, the children engaged in some ball games as a class and ended their lunch hour with a short football match before returning to school.



YEAR 2

Victorian Day

Year 2 went back in time to 1887 to experience what it was like for a Victorian child in school. The children were greeted by two very strict teachers who split them into girl and boy groups and got them to march in a straight line to their classroom. They wrote on slate boards with chalk, had hand inspections, completed drill exercises, made a peg doll, recited a poem and times tables. They even had a Victorian child's name for the day! It was a jam-packed day, but the children had an amazing time! A memorable historical experience.

YEAR 3

Changing communities

We have been looking at our local area and identifying where the borough of Lewisham is on a map. We have also been looking at significant buildings and places within the borough of Lewisham to help us write a non-chronological report. We are learning about how and why our community is diverse. We been discussing diversity, culture and the great opportunities Lewisham provides. In maths, Year 3 have begun looking at fractions and applying prior knowledge of their times table to assist their learning.

YEAR 4

Year 4 were treated to an amazing performance by the Peoplescape Theatre. We watched a vivid, cultural performance about **The Sailor and the Mudlark**. Mudlarks were people who searched the river mud for items of value, within London, during the late 18th and 19th centuries. The ship the sailor would have sailed on, might have been similar to the Cutty Sark which you can still see in Greenwich! These ships sailed to China, Africa, Australia and India to pick up cargo such as tea, wool, cocoa, sugar, coffee. We were able to reflect on the characters' lifestyles and form thoughtful conclusions about London life during 1811. History In Action

YEAR 5

In English, the children have been applying their historical knowledge of Britain and the organisation that was led by Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughters Christabel and Sylvia, at the beginning of the twentieth century- the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU). The children are currently writing Police reports and letters of complaint that depict some of the altercations that the Suffragettes endured. These altercations were a result of the failed peaceful methods of campaigning that had failed to bring about any result; therefore, the movement became more violent and often resulted in clashes with the police.

In science, the children have developed their scientific skill of identifying, classifying and grouping through the study of animals. The children have learned that there are two main groups within the animal kingdom: the invertebrates (without a backbone) and the vertebrates (with a backbone). The children can recognise Invertebrates such as: the molluscs, insects and arachnids and Vertebrates - fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.



YEAR 6

This week, Year 6 have been preparing their arguments for their letter, persuading the British museum to send back the Benin Bronzes. This will also be their final assessed piece of writing in Year 6. We have been measuring, drawing and calculating missing angles in maths and testing electrical circuits in science!

Year 6 Team-building Day and Bore Place

On Monday 24th June, Year 6 pupils visited Bore Place in Chiddingstone, for an all-day team-building activity day.

Bore Place is a green eco-friendly and sustainable venue with a historic house and converted farm buildings on site. It is set within 500 acres of organic farmland and has a diverse landscape to explore. With fields and meadows, hedgerows, ponds and woodlands for the children to experience.

As well as allowing the children to explore the outdoors, they engaged in tutor-led activities including:

- Orienteering - Children worked together to tackle an interactive orienteering exercise exploring the fields and woodlands around Bore Place.
- Survival Challenge - Children embarked on an exciting challenge where teamwork was needed to build shelters and start a fire using rudimentary tools.
- Bushcraft - Children honed their bushcraft skills with a practical creative activity.
- Environmental Arts - Children saw and felt colours and textures in nature and took inspiration from the surrounding countryside to make a group natural artwork piece.
- Walk and Games - We walked through the fields to a viewpoint looking out over Bough Beech Reservoir to play team games and reflect, before heading back via our organic dairy farm to view the herd being milked.

We finished the day with an early dinner of baked potatoes and popcorn roasted over an open-fire. The children had a thoroughly enjoyable, educational (and tiring) day.

Covid Risk Assessment and Measures

A thorough Covid-19 risk assessment was put together for the trip by school staff to supplement the Covid-19 risk assessment provided by Bore Place who had their own measures in place. Upon arrival, and throughout the day, pupils and staff washed their hands. All of the team-building activities took place outside; as such, most of the day was spent outside and face masks were not a requirement. Inside the Bore Place meeting room, the activity-leaders remained socially distanced from pupils. There were no causes for concern and the trip went smoothly.



SUMMER SCHEME UPDATE

We have had a higher than expected response from parents requesting places for children for the Summer scheme. Unfortunately, we are closing bookings this week to ensure we can manage pupil numbers safely.

For those people who have registered their interest and given the dates required, we will honour their request as long as payment is made on time.

Payment can either be made via ParentPay this week, if you are paying with vouchers or tax free child care this will need to be made in the first week of July clearly stating where the vouchers should be allocated to.

SPORTS DAY

Good news! Sports day will be going ahead. However, this year, parents will not be able to attend; due to the current restrictions, it will be impossible for us to ensure that everyone can maintain social distancing.

SUMMER CONCERT

Our annual Summer Concert will be held on Tuesday 20th July, (TBC). Again, due to social distancing, parents will not be able to attend, but we will arrange a live zoom link so we can all be together even virtually.

CONSIDERATION

It has come to our attention from neighbours in our community, that many parents are not respecting the residents houses / cars/ driveways in the surrounding streets (Including Blythe Vale). We would ask you all to make every effort to consider your actions when sitting on walls, double parking next to parked cars and parking across drive ways.

We appreciate it may only be for 5 mins but that is not acceptable for those whose cars have been blocked in or have found rubbish in their front garden.



WELLBEING TIP OF THE WEEK: Taking control of our stress

When we are stressed or in danger, our brain detects this and automatically triggers our stress response to protect us. This response is known as fight, flight, freeze. Certain hormones are released to prepare our body to face the stressor head on, run away from it or freeze. For this to happen, the emotional part of our brain takes over and the thinking part shuts down: when facing a threat, we don't have time to weigh up our options, our body just needs to act. Although this instinct keeps us alive, nowadays our stress response can be triggered often and when we're not in real danger. If we feel very overwhelmed, we can get stuck in our emotional brain. This means we can find it harder to calm ourselves down, to focus and to problem-solve. To try and wake up our thinking brain again, here are a few things we can do:

- **BREATHE!** We need oxygen to get back from our muscles to our brain – try deep breathing exercises: breathe in for 5 seconds and out for 7
 - How do I feel when stressed? – Take notice of your physical and emotional response to stress, the more you are familiar with it, the earlier you can recognise when you're feeling stressed so you can start your deep breathing
 - Try some healthy coping strategies: walk away from the situation, scribble on some paper, talk to someone, listen to some calming music

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/news/general/wild-world-heroes-intro>

[Summer Reading Challenge](#)

We're so excited to reveal the theme for the Summer Reading Challenge 2021! Get ready for Wild World Heroes, arriving online and in your local library this summer. Pack your bags, we're headed for Wilderville! It's a pretty cool place, but there are lots of things that the Wild World Heroes can do to make their town even better for the ...

summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

**SUMMER
READING
CHALLENGE**



Please help us keep the Coronavirus out of Rathfern

IMPORTANT DATES

Year 5 Secondary transfer meeting Wednesday 16th June 5.30pm (details to follow)

Time: Jun 16, 2021 05:30 PM Greenwich Mean Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94405466478?pwd=azZlWU5icUVzYnN1cnZod3NTMW0wdz09>

Meeting ID: 944 0546 6478. Passcode: 181538

Induction for new Reception intake Sep 21 Monday 21st June 9.30am & 5.00pm

School Class Photography Thursday 24th June

Stay, Play & Learn for new Reception intake. Tuesday 6th July 4.00pm & 5.00pm

Sports Day Friday 16th July

Last day of term Thursday 22nd July

INSET DAY Friday 23rd July 2021

SUMMER HOLIDAYS **Monday 25th July – Tuesday 31st September**

INSET days Wednesday 1st & Thursday 2nd September

Back to school **Friday 3rd September**





	Class	Outstanding Learner	Act of Kindness	Leading Citizen
Nursery	Coral Reef	Elijah	Eljo	Hugo
Reception	Stream	Ferima	David D	Temidayo
	Mangrove	Umair	Jayda	Raina
	Ocean	Mia L - B	Sebastian	Aissatu
Year 1	Waterfall	Evelyn	Harper	Amel
	Storm	Evie	Ethan	Nathaneal
	Cloud	Kamal	Caiden	Alaia
Year 2	Avalanche	Adam	Riley	Thirikshan
	Everest	Hector	Khalil	Dexter
Year 3	Crater	Habeebat	Naomi B	Maddie
	Caldera	Semariah	Michael	Kaydee
Year 4	Typhoon	Ella W	Kaliyah	Sam
	Tsunami	Chika	Elysia	Mandipa
Year 5	Meridian	Joseph	Aya	Andreas
	Equator	Asmaa	Safiyah	Naomi N
Year 6	Panthalassa	Shareefa	Joshua	Miracle
	Pangaea	Rares	Ella	Thierry



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