

# Newsletter Rathmore



November 2020

## Parent Teacher Consultations

Thank you to both staff and parents for prioritising and valuing our October Consultations. These conversations are an important part of our partnership with you and crucial at this time of year especially as personal contact has been changed so much. We hope you found them informative and supportive.

## Collection Routines and Times

What a brilliant start we have all made to Term 1. Our routines are now well established, however we do wish to ensure equality of school learning time, and so classes leaving first/last have now been swapped. Please check your Seesaw account to confirm the collection time for your child/ren and communicate these to whomever collects your child/ren each day. Thank you for your understanding.

## Autumn Walks

Thank you for your enthusiastic response to our Big Neighbourhood Pumpkin Trail. It has been wonderful to see your creations in windows on these darker nights. Spreading smiles!

## P3 Harvest Celebrations

Congratulations to the pupils and staff. With Mrs McKee's class self-isolating and Mrs Davies and Mrs Lyons finishing a week earlier than planned, P3 have really been challenged. We are so proud of all of you!! Your Harvest Assembly via Google Classroom and Facebook made a big change from our usual live celebration, and we loved it. Thank you for bringing music, colour and thankfulness into our homes this Harvest Half Term.

## Store House North Down

Despite our school having to close a week early, we thank staff and parents for their generosity on behalf of Storehouse. Your food and toiletry donations to support local families are greatly appreciated.



Raffy's Thought for the Month

**'Be Kind in All You Say and Do'**

How we treat others says a lot about who we are.



[www.rathmoreps.com](http://www.rathmoreps.com)

**'Caring, learning, excelling together.'**

### Staffing

It is with mixed emotions that we inform you of Mrs Murphie's retirement at the end of term. Dawn Murphie has spent 38 years teaching with 32 of them at Rathmore! We will greatly miss her and look forward to spending our last few months with her.

We are pleased welcome Olivia Curlett (Engage Teacher) and Claire Nickels (SEN Assistant) to our staff team this month.

### School Fund

Last year's PTA Committee decided to request School Fund via the School Money System. This has received very positive feedback and so we are continuing with the system. Due to current restrictions the usual large scale events will not be possible. Therefore, we ask you to donate £30 per pupil via School Money System in lieu of your spending at the Christmas/Summer Fairs to support our children during the year. Our aim for spending are the 2 remaining digital class panels as well as tablets for classroom and home use.

Please donate your £30 School Fund via School Money. We would love to raise £6,000 before Christmas so we can buy a further (and final) 2 ActivPanels to complete all 21 primary classes with cutting edge digital panels. Let's do it!

## **Diary Dates**

### Children in Need

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November  
Events every day and Dress Up Friday  
with donation (details via Seesaw).

### School Photographs

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November  
Nursery, P1 & P7  
(Individuals photos only)

At our PTA Annual General Meeting on Friday 16 October, the parent body elected their PTA office bearers for 2020/21 as:

Chair	Lynsey Whiteside
Vice Chair	Julie Hardy
Hon Secretary	Terri McKee
Hon Treasurer	Ashley Ginty

Despite 2019-20 being a disrupted year, your donations & support of PTA events raised:

Events Total:	£5,458.71
School Fund Total:	£6,660.00
Total Profit 2019-20	£12,118.71

A cheque for £12,000 was gifted to the school and 4 Activ Panels have been purchased. We hope to raise a further £6,000 which would buy our remaining 2 ActivPanels to complete every primary class.

Our sincerest thanks goes to the 2019/20 Committee and office bearers; Linda Bone, Natassja Van der Walt, Gemma McClay and Ashley Ginty for their leadership and enthusiasm raising an outstanding £12,000 last year.

The PTA Committee will remain positively optimistic and creative as they plan events for this year. Watch this space!!

### DE Advice for Parents

Following Minister Weir's statement, we encourage parents to wear face coverings while on the school grounds, especially in areas where it is difficult to maintain a 2m distance. Let's keep each other safe.



Follow us on Facebook.  
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for updates and events this year!!!  
Help support us for your children's future!