



Newsletter Rathmore



November 2021



50th Anniversary Ministerial Visit

It was great to welcome the Minister of Education, Michelle McIlveen along with MLA Stephen Dunne last month to mark our 50th Anniversary. They were welcomed by children, staff, Chair of Governors Deborah Colville and our PTA Secretary Terri McKee, then given a tour of the primary school and nursery. They saw the children in various activities across the school and had a few chats about life at Rathmore with pupils. Our P3 children performed Harvest Assembly songs for our guests which the Minister said was her highlight!

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. We remind you that all children (Nursery – P7) now return to their full day at school as indicated last month. We start today! Thank you again for your patience and in advance for consideration (and mask wearing) in congested areas of the school.

P3 Harvest Celebrations

Congratulations to the pupils and staff of P3. Your Harvest Assembly via Google Classroom and Facebook was wonderful. Thank you for bringing music, colour and thankfulness into our homes this Harvest Half Term.

Store House North Down

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

'Caring, learning, excelling together.'

After School Clubs

We are delighted to be able to offer a phased return of extra-curricular activities this half-term. The staff will be working hard to ensure that all of the children attending our after school provision, are kept as safe as possible and have fun!

Parents of P4-P7 children will receive a letter today for our first block of clubs. Please read this carefully, discuss it with your child and take prompt action.

Jamie Mulgrew's Supreme Sports' Club

Parents of children in P4 and P5 will also receive a Supreme Sports' letter via Seesaw today. A paper copy of this letter is not required as payment and registration is made online directly to Supreme Sports. We are grateful to Jamie for working with us to align his clubs and procedures with our own After-School Programme.

Outdoor Classroom Day

Outdoor Classroom Day is a global movement to make time outdoors part of every child's day. On two days of action each year, teachers take children outdoors to play and learn. While we try to spend lots of time learning outdoors throughout the year as part of the curriculum, these two days are a wonderful way to celebrate the outdoors. We are hoping the weather is kind!!

Engage & Additional Teaching

We are delighted to be able to inform you Rathmore has received additional Engage Funding to support the teaching and learning in our school.

Over the next 5 months we will be providing additional teaching support in all the classes in P3 – P7. This will support the class teachers to target teaching and learning of Literacy and Numeracy in this recovery year.

We know that this additional provision will benefit all P3-P7 pupils.

Diary Dates

Thurs 4 ~ Outdoor Classroom Day

Mon 15-Fri 19 ~ Anti-Bullying Week
(Monday Odd Sock Day)

Fri 19 ~ Children in Need
(Friday CinN Accessories & Odd Sock Day)

Wed 8 Dec ~ School Photographs
(‘mop-up’ date)

NI Trampoline Competition

Good luck to Kaitlin Thomson P6 who is representing Rathmore in the Schools' Regional Competition this month.

Poppy Appeal

Merchandise & Poppies will be on sale from Tuesday in classrooms. Prices range from 50p - £1.50.



PTA NEWS

At our PTA Annual General Meeting on Friday 15 October, the parent body elected their PTA office bearers for 2021/22 as:

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

Despite 2020-21 being a disrupted year, your donations & support of PTA events raised:

Events Total:	£2,400
Sponsored Event:	£6,000
School Fund Total:	£6,600
Total Profit 2020-21	£15,000

A cheque for £15,000 was gifted to the school. Classes have ordered their initial outdoor play resources to enhance and enrich their play experiences. Longer term, we are investigating larger outdoor structures to be installed later in the year as our PTA 50th Anniversary gifts to the children.

These are more expensive than expected so we need your School Fund and event support more than ever.

The PTA remain positively optimistic and creative as they plan for future events. Watch this space



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for updates and events this year!!!
Help support us for your children's future!