



# Newsletter Rathmore



June 2022

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- 9<sup>th</sup> New P1 Induction Meet & Greet
- 21<sup>st</sup> New Nursery Induction Meet & Greet
- 24<sup>th</sup> Moving On Day
- 24<sup>th</sup> Reports Home
- 29<sup>th</sup> Fitness Freddy P1 – P6
- 29<sup>th</sup> Nursery Leavers' Day
- 29<sup>th</sup> P7 Leavers' Day
- 30<sup>th</sup> P1 – P6 Last Day of Term  
(12.15 finish & non-uniform)



## Queen's Platinum Jubilee & Rathmore 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Thank you for joining us at our Family Picnic last Tuesday.

We salute our parents who despite our typical NI weather, carried on regardless! It was an unforgettable afternoon with our Choir, Orchestra and P7 Children as outstanding as always as they belted out Lion King, tunes and retro songs with style and attitude!

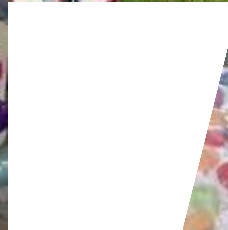
The children (and staff) enjoyed the 70's theme non-uniform day with a morning of craft and music.

The party lunch and souvenir 'Goodie Bag' meant that everyone was involved. It was an unforgettable day!

We give a warm welcome to Andrew Muir MLA who joins our Board of Governors. Mr Muir has been appointed by EA as one of their Governor representatives at Rathmore.



Staff had the opportunity to meet Mr Muir after our Family Picnic at a staff afternoon tea in the school hall. We know that his experience in finance, infrastructure and as a long-serving governor in a local post primary school will be a great asset to Rathmore PS.



Safeguarding Update - Operation Encompass  
Operation Encompass is an early intervention partnership between Police and Schools which is being introduced to every school in NI. It is aimed at supporting children who are victims of domestic violence.

It is very simple idea, but one that will help us to support and protect vulnerable children. When the Police attend an incident of domestic violence where one of our pupils is present, they will inform our designated teacher for child protection at the start of the next school day. This information is shared in strict confidence and school staff are only told on a need to know basis. Following any notification from PSNI, our staff will provide immediate support to any child who has been the victim of domestic abuse. We know that when children do witness domestic abuse at home, this is a highly traumatic experience for them. By taking part in Operation Encompass, we can provide tailored and compassionate support to our pupils, in line with our school ethos. This builds on our existing commitment to child safeguarding. Should you wish to find out more information, please contact our Designated Teacher for Child Protection, Dr Mitchell-Barrett or alternatively you can read more about Operation Encompass at [www.operationencompass.org](http://www.operationencompass.org).

#### May News

During the third week of May, we had our 'Fit for Life' week, focusing on the promotion of healthy choices for a healthy life. This was a tremendous week for the children and staff.

We included our Big Break also to raise funds for NSPCC and PTA Garden.

This combined our annual sponsored event with exercise and fun. Sincerest thanks to those who donated. You have raised an amazing £4,000 and counting!

#### Karate Brothers' Success

Congratulations to Dylan McBride on taking home 2 gold medals and an 'Up and Coming Star' Trophy and Tyler McBride who won a silver medal in his karate competition.



#### Rathmore Music

Good luck to all our instrumentalists (10 children this year) in their Academy Grade Exams this month.

Congratulations to our orchestra musicians and P7 singers who performed brilliantly at our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary picnic.

#### North Down Sports

A number of our KS2 boys and girls are practising for the North Down Sports' event, competing at an inter-school level. There are two days of qualifying heats on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> June. Good luck to all our representatives.

#### Free School Meals & Uniform Grants

All parents/guardians (including new applicants) will be able to apply online from 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022 via the EA website.

[www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants](http://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants)

### PTA News

#### Smartie Challenge

Thank you for taking part in our Annual Smartie Challenge. We are delighted to inform you that £2,038 was raised and our winning year group is P6 - Congratulations, you will be enjoying your movie afternoon very soon.

Raffy's Thought for the Month:

'Be proud of your achievements'

