



October Diary Dates

- 9&10 Nursery – P7 School Photographs
- 12 Rathmore Junior Parkrun
- 16 P3 Harvest Celebration
- 21 Flu Vaccinations
- 13-17 Maths' Week
- 17&20 Nursery Consultations (no classes)
- 20-23 Parent/Teacher Consultations (no after school clubs)
- 22 PTA Pumpkin Judging
- 27-31 Half Term Holidays

European Language Week



We wish to say a big thank you for all the effort you put into making our European Languages Week and in particular, our Dress Up Day such a massive success. It is wonderful for our children to celebrate and learn about such a rich variety of cultures as we continue our Transformation journey towards becoming an Integrated School.



Staff Update



We said thank you to Sara McKenzie last month as she retires from teaching to focus on her health and ongoing treatment. Sara has been a valued member of our team for 5 years as a teacher, much loved,

colleague and friend.

Sara's positive impact in the classroom and across our school culture and ethos is clear. Sara remains an inspiration to all who know her and we wish both she and her family well.

Sara wishes to thank everyone for their kindness and generosity during her time at Rathmore PS. If you would like to follow and support Sara you can do so via

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/th27s8-saras-fight>

Parent Teacher Consultations

Our first formal consultations for this year will take place from Monday 20 - Thursday 23 October. Please note that school will finish for all P1-P7 pupils at 1.10pm each day this week, including the Friday. You have received your letter to specify your preferred days for Consultations. We would request that you return these by Thursday 2 October. Confirmation of your Consultation time will be sent home on the 10 October. There will be no Afterschool Clubs this week. Nursery Consultations will be on the 17 & 20 October. (Nursery will be closed for pupils on these days).

Raffy's Thought for the Month

"We all need friends.

Treat others the way you want to be treated"



Rights Respecting School *Article of the Month'*



Article 12: Every child has the right to express their views and their views should be listened to.

This month, our school proudly celebrated Article 12 of the UNCRC – the right of every child to express their views and be heard. We've elected our new Rights Respecting Schools (RRS) Ambassadors, Digital Leaders, Eco Team and School Council members, giving pupils a powerful platform to shape their school community. Our newly appointed RRS Ambassadors led a fantastic assembly to introduce themselves and share their role in promoting children's rights as we work towards achieving the Gold Award. We're excited to see the positive impact these young leaders will make! Encourage your child to share their thoughts and opinions during family discussions and let them know their voice matters.

RATHmore Together



As part of our RathMORE Together Community, Henderson's Spar invited us to the launch of their refurbished store last month. We enjoyed treats, prizes and even met Postman Pat and Mr Spar.

Save the Date: RathMORE Together at Christmas 25.11.25 from 6-7pm

Intergenerational Celebration

This week our P5s were excited to welcome their guests to their Intergenerational Celebration. Invited family members were served refreshments and entertained by the children. The morning finished with the children and adults sharing their experiences in their P5 classrooms. Thank you for your support of this special event.



Harvest Celebration

This year's P3 Harvest Assembly will be held on Thursday 16 October in the morning. Doors will open at 9.15am and tickets are now available to P3 parents.

Our food donations this year will go to support the work of Storehouse North Down. We would appreciate contributions of jars, tins, prepacked food and long-life milk for distribution. Thank you for your ongoing support in our charity work. We know this collection will be greatly appreciated by Storehouse.

After School Clubs

Clubs commenced on Tuesday this week. We remind you that if your child is not able to attend their club, that you inform the teacher in charge of the activity. That way, we can ensure that all children are present and correct.

PTA Children's Christmas Cards

This year our PTA are organising a Children's Christmas Card fundraising event. The letter and template were sent home 15 September 2025. Please refer to this letter for the design guidance to ensure the best results for your child/ren's cards. The deadline date for the return is Monday 6 October 2025. Please return all completed artwork to your child's Class Teacher. Your School Money account is now live should you wish to buy a pack or multiple sets as required. Many thanks for your help with this.

School Photographs

Photographs of your child/ren as individuals, siblings, councils and classes P7 & P1 will be taken by 'Cool for School' on 9 & 10 October 2025. Please ensure that your child/ren are wearing their full school uniform and are prepared to smile. Ordering service is directly through Cool for School so it is important to log in and book. Registration information is attached. Quick link:
<https://orders.coolforschoolphotography.com/register/?code=RMORE25>

Rathmore Parkrun Junior

We are delighted to announce our partnership with Parkrun and Bangor Sportsplex. Please refer to the flyer attached for details of how everyone can get involved by walking, jogging or running 2km. We will meet on Sunday 12 October 2025 at 9.20am for a 9.30am start. At a Parkrun Junior event parents must accompany pupils to Bangor Sportsplex. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Maths Week 13-17 October 2025

Maths Week 2025 is fast approaching and will take place during 13 – 17 October. This year, we're focusing on 'Maths at Work', exploring how mathematics is used in a variety of jobs and industries. The children will participate in practical activities that help them see the real-world applications of maths in different careers. These activities are designed to be engaging and informative.

P1 – P7 Flu Vaccinations

Please note that our annual Flu Vaccinations will take place on Tuesday 21 October 2025. Letters from School Health have been sent home via school bags. Please return by Friday 3 October 2025.

Mobile Phone Use

Thank you for supporting Rathmore's mobile free environment. We respect that children who require phone use after school keep them turned off and in bags during our school day.

Familyworks Counselling

Rathmore Primary School are delighted to welcome back our School Counsellor Christina Laing for the 2025-2026 year. Referral to the Familyworks Counselling service is made via the online referral form, using the link below:

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=IRb8z8iGzUKsjT3xssUJxoS5PKnW_eIBKq_nDzizUWYVUQ0NaVjRLOVU3Qzd_aODkyUkFYSFY3QTdSTy4u&route=shorturl

The School Safeguarding Team



The School Safeguarding Team also includes: the Chair of the Board of Governors, Mrs Scales and Designated Governor for Child Protection, Mr Beggs.



The Safer Schools App NI provides age-appropriate safeguarding information and advice for parents and schools. It is a UK wide partnership aimed to inform us to help keep our young people safe. If this is of interest to you, follow the four steps below;

1. Download the Safer Schools NI App
2. Create an account with Safer Schools
3. Search and select Rathmore Primary
4. Enter the code 3954



Attendance at school is not just essential, it's good in many ways

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/miss-school-miss-out>

Good Luck Girls on Your Sporting Travels



Mya from P7 has been selected to represent Team NI at a football tournament in Barcelona at the end of this month. Since being selected, Mya regularly attends training sessions under the direction

of former Northern Ireland midfielder and top coach Michael O'Connor. Mya also plays in the school team and for her club, Castle Juniors and Castle Ladies.

We are delighted to let you know that Helena, P6 has been selected to represent Northern Ireland at the IKU European Karate Championships in Poland also this month.



PTA News

Our PTA Annual General Meeting took place on 12 September 2025. We gave our sincerest thanks to the 2024-25 PTA Committee who raised an incredible £15,674.39 towards our Outdoor Spaces both repairing existing structures and building new ones (refer to September Newsletter photos).

We said a special thank you and farewell to Lynsey Whiteside who steps down from our Committee as Chair following 10 years of volunteering and fundraising. We will miss you.

We welcome our new 2025-2026 Committee members and look forward to a successful collaborative year as we introduce some new initiatives.

- Suzanne Morton Chair (parent rep)
- Julie Hardy, Vice Chair & Finance (teacher rep)
- Colleen Close, Secretary (parent rep)
- Claire Alexander (teacher rep)
- Janeen Best (teacher rep)
- Deborah Davies (teacher rep)
- Kelly McAdams (teacher rep)
- Rhonda Mitchell-Barrett (teacher rep)
- Terri McKee (parent rep)
- Kerry Jeffers (parent rep)
- Sarah Tombe (parent rep)
- Ruairi Tombe (parent rep)

PTA Events

We are excited to announce a return of our Pumpkin Crafting Competition (Please refer to the letter attached)

Entries: Monday 20 & Tuesday 21 October

Judging: Wednesday 22 October

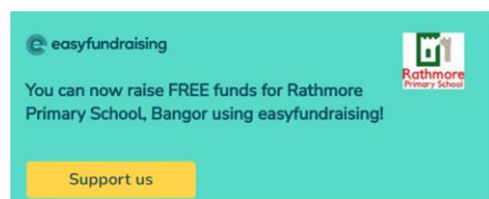
£2.50 per entry



Save the Date for our Christmas Craft Event

Friday 28 November 2025 at Imperial Bar (upstairs) 7pm – late

Look out for further information coming soon.



Do you shop online? You can help Rathmore Primary School, Bangor raise FREE funds by using #easyfundraising when you buy anything from your favourite brands like eBay, Just Eat, Trainline, Argos and over 7,500 more. It's an easy way to support us just by doing what you do anyway and it doesn't cost you a penny extra.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/>

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter @PtaRathmore & Instagram @rathmorepspta for updates and events this year!!!

Help support us for your children's future!



Primary 1



Primary 4



Primary 2



Primary 5



Primary 3



Primary 6 & 7

