

December 2025



# Newsletter Rathmore



## Diary Dates

4 December	Carol Service
3&4 December	P1 Nativities
9 December	P1 & Nursery Play & Stay
11 December	Christmas Jumper Day
12 December	Daily Mile Santa Run
18 December	PTA Party Day non uniform
19 December	Last Day of Term non uniform 12.15pm finish
6 January	Open Day
7 January	School Commences

## Enrolment Information for Nursery & P1

To keep up to date with information and videos, please check our Website, Facebook, Instagram & Twitter accounts. Feel free to share this with friends, family & neighbours who have little ones ready to join us next September 2026. Our Play & Stay Evening and Open Morning will be held on:

### Play & Stay Evening

Tuesday 9 December 2025  
5.30pm – 6.30pm

### Open Morning

Tuesday 6 January 2026  
10.00am - 12.00noon

### EA Applications Portal Opens

7 – 21 January 2026

## Congratulations...



...to the budding actors and actresses of P4 for their two fabulous mornings of 'Archibald's War'.

Plenty of stars shone across both performances as they entertained the audiences with this lovely story from WWII. A big thank you to all our parents, grandparents and friends who supported the P4s not just on the days, but with all the preparation as well.



## Nursery Expansion

We are delighted that from September 2026 Rathmore Nursery will be expanding our Nursery provision. This means:

- 52 funded full-time places
- Two full-time, teacher led classes operating from 8.45am – 1.15pm daily

## Charity Update

We greatly appreciate your support of the recent charity events at Rathmore.



£340



£365



£463

Raffy's Thought for the Month:

'Be empathetic, think of others'.

Realise that the feelings of others are important.



[www.rathmoreps.co.uk](http://www.rathmoreps.co.uk)

'Caring, learning, excelling together.'

## RathMORE Together at Christmas



Last Tuesday, the Rathmore area community came together for an evening of Christmas celebration as we hosted the very first RathMORE Together Community event, 'RathMORE Together at Christmas'.

This group grew in response to our journey towards Integration Education, the positive parent vote and successful Community Event last March 2025.



The aim of the group is to support and promote a stronger sense of community along the Rathmore Road.

Our school site was full of festive cheer and Christmas spirit as friends and family enjoyed the Christmas singing led by the P7 choir, a Christmas Light Switch-On by Mayor Gillian McCollum & Rathmore PS House Captains and

a very special visit from Santa himself! After the Christmas Light Switch-On, we moved to the Rathmore Road



shops where we enjoyed Christmas treats at Café Cure, Christmas chips at The Jolly Fryer, street food at Dining Oriental,



Christmas tattoos at the House of Beauty, hair tinsel at Gatsby International, a Christmas lucky dip at Windyridge, reindeer food created by Oakmont Lodge Care Home and Christmas



refreshments provided by The Spar. Special thanks to Rebecca Campbell who kindly knitted the post-box topper, Starplan for the Christmas tree and PSNI for their

attendance and support.

The event was a wonderful way to mark the beginning of the festive period and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

Sincerest thank to



everyone who supported this event. We look forward to enjoying many more shared events in the future, bringing the community in the Rathmore area, more together.



### Rathmore Football Teams



The football teams represented Rathmore at Clondeboye Park on 27 November in the North Down League.

The girls' team won 2 and drew 1 while the boys' team won both their matches.

Rathmore's success is a perfect example of how teamwork, responsibility and respect are key to both winning and growing as individuals.

Thank you for all the parental support.



Article 29 states that we help children develop their personalities, talents and social skills to their fullest potential.

### UNICEF 'Article of the Month'



Article 14: All children have the right to choose their own beliefs and follow their own religion, as long as it doesn't harm others

This month, our school will explore Article 14 of the UNCRC, which states that every child has the right to follow their own religion and beliefs. Pupils will learn about the importance of respecting different faiths and traditions and how these rights help create a community where everyone feels valued and included. These activities encourage pupils to think about respect, tolerance and the importance of living in harmony with others.

This month, why not speak to your child about other traditions celebrated at this time of year. It's a great way to learn together and appreciate the diversity that makes our world so special.

### Rathmore's Digital Leaders



Congratulations to our newly appointed Digital Leaders. They are very excited to undertake training and support others in developing their digital skills. Another important part of their role is to promote online safety to ensure our children can make smart, safe choices when using the internet.

Article 12 Every child has the right to be heard.

Article 17 every child has the right to access information

Article 29 Education should develop the child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.

### First Aid Support



In Rathmore, we have trained first aiders on hand to help the children if they have an accident or feel unwell.

Congratulations to Laura Martin, Amanda Rainey, Angie Lynas and Gregory Law who have renewed their First Aid Qualification this term. They join Nikki McKee, Deborah Davies and Ruth Wood as our dedicated First Aid Team, keeping everyone safe and cared for.

### Sporting Achievements



Mya, P7 achieved success when her Team NI U11 side won their games against England, Scotland & Rol to get to the final, where they just missed out to Spain and were runners-up.

Mya was also selected to play on the under 10 NI team, and helped the side win the Cup.



We are delighted to share Helena's, P6 fantastic results from the IKU European Karate Championships in Poland bringing home 2 silver medals for NI, double European Vice Champion. Helena has worked tirelessly at weekends and during the week to prepare for the

Europeans, training with the NI and Irish Squads and locally with her club.

### School Meals Price Increase

The Education Authority have asked us to inform parents that Primary School Meals will cost £3.10 from January 2026. Pupils receiving free school meals will not be impacted. Please note that prices paid for school meals have not increased since 2017/18 and will remain well below the cost of producing a meal.

## PTA News

### Christmas Jumper Day

'Save the Children' are having a **Christmas Jumper Day** on Thursday 11 December 2025. No need for a shiny new jumper, use your imagination and decorate an old one or just wear festive colours. A donation of £1 can be made via the School Money App.

### PTA Christmas Party Day

We have our **PTA Party Day** on Thursday 18 December 2025 when P1 – P7 children can come to school in their Christmas party clothes and will enjoy a movie, snack, disco and Christmas party activities including Pass the Parcel. Our PTA Party Day donation is £3 payable via School Money (more details on PTA leaflet attached).

### Community Day

We are excitedly planning a Community Day for 2026. This will take place on Monday 16 March 4 – 6pm. More information about how you can support and get involved with this new event will follow early 2026.

### School Fund

Thank you so much to everyone who has already donated to School Fund. This is very much appreciated and is needed even more than ever given our current financial circumstances. From all at the PTA, have a wonderful Christmas and we look forward to 2026!

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**

Thank you for your support over the past Term!