

## May Diary Dates

4 May	Bank Holiday (closed)
5 May	Staff Development Day (closed)
7 May	Thrive Academy Parent Session
9 May	Post Primary Place Letters
11 May	Netball Tournament
18 May	SEAG Registration Opens
18-22 May	Fit for Life Week
20 May	Dance Team – Let’s Dance, Elim
25 May	Bank Holiday (closed)
26 May	Staff Development Day (closed)

## P2 Spring Celebration



Congratulations to our P2 stars who shone on stage. Your songs, drama, dances and colour really brought the joy of Spring to life. Our whole school, family and friends just loved it!

## Post Primary Placement Letters

On Saturday 9 May 2026 our P7 pupils will be receiving their letters indicating their post-primary school placements. It is our hope that all of our children will receive the school of their choice. We still have special events to enjoy during their last two months at Rathmore. We are so proud of everything they have achieved and contributed to life here at Rathmore.

## Fit for Life Week 18 – 22 May

Rathmore’s ‘Fit4Life’ Week will be taking place from Monday 18 May to Friday 22 May 2026. The aim of this week is to help promote a healthy lifestyle amongst pupils through diet, exercise and being mindful of their feelings. We are encouraging all children who can, to walk, skip, cycle or scoot to school this week. There is a bike/scooter parking area behind the Learning Support mobile classroom in the Senior playground.

Each child will take part in a Sports’ Day event as part of their House team. Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing their House colour T-shirt (red, blue, yellow, green) on the day of their Sports’ Day (and Super Skipping Session), Black Rathmore shorts and suitable trainers. This year our chosen charity for Fit for Life Week is Northern Ireland Hospice. The funds raised by our Super Skipping Session event will be divided between the charity and PTA Family & Friends Funds. Please check your child’s schoolbag for the detailed letter and sponsorship form.

## Sports’ Days

Enjoying your child participate in Sports’ Day is always an important ‘memory maker’ for children and families. Your teacher has Seesawed the details to you and will re-arrange via Seesaw if the weather is poor.



Raffy’s Thought for the Month:  
Work hard.

Don’t give up when things are tough.

### Thrive Academy Online Safety

Parent session 7 May 2026 from 7pm – 8pm online. Thrive Academy have partnered with PSNI to educate pupils, staff and parents about on-line safety. Following our P5 & P6 workshops in school, Thrive are inviting all interested parents and staff to join a 1 hour workshop session regarding on-line safety and equip us to better guide our children when they are on-line. Join the zoom link on Thursday 7 May from 7pm – 8pm.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89161171206?pwd=bGt0cTZRc1lxRkZ0dXlZl1ZZSUdKZz09>

Meeting ID: 891 6117 1206

Passcode: thrive

### September 2026 Enrolment

P1 - 16 June & Nursery 17 June 2026

Our Nursery and P1 Enrolment letters have been sent to our families joining our school in September 2026. Our Induction Programme for these children starts in June 2026 when parents are invited to 'Meet & Greet' sessions with their child's teacher. We thank you for your support as we facilitate these dates.

### P7 Residential

What an unforgettable few days our P7s had at Lorne Activity Centre!

Our pupils embraced every challenge with determination, supported one another every step of the way and left with a real sense of achievement. There was constant laughter, growing independence and moments that will stay with them for years to come.



A heartfelt thank you to the fantastic instructors and team on site for their encouragement, care and enthusiasm in

helping every child step outside their comfort zone and succeed.



We couldn't be prouder of this group.



### Bangor International Choral Festival



Our Senior Choir recently represented the school brilliantly at the Bangor International Choral Festival, competing in two categories. We are delighted to share that they achieved 1st place in Musical Highlights and an outstanding 2nd place in Primary School Choirs (30+). The choir's success is a real testament to their commitment, hard work and love of singing. They performed with confidence, energy and professionalism, making both the school and themselves incredibly proud. Well done to every member of the choir for their dedication and teamwork. They showed what can be achieved when you give your best and don't give up!

## Rights Respecting



Our Rights Respecting Ambassadors recently had the honour of attending a special morning coffee session with the Mayor of Ards and North Down, alongside pupils from Strangford Integrated College. Joined by Councillor Connie Egan MLA, the event gave our pupils a fantastic opportunity to share their views on children's rights and the importance of young people's voices being heard. We are incredibly proud of how confidently and thoughtfully they represented our school, speaking up on issues that matter to children and young people in our community. A sincere thank you to the Mayor for the invitation and for valuing the voices of our pupils. This experience truly reflects [Article 12 – every child has the right to be heard and have their views taken seriously](#)



### Article of the Month'

#### Article 31: The right to relax and play

This month, our school will be exploring Article 31 of the UNCRC, which states that every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities. This important right reminds us that play, rest and enjoyment are essential to children's happiness, wellbeing and development.

In school, this links perfectly with our Fit for Life Week and Sports Days, where pupils will enjoy a range of fun physical activities, team games and outdoor play experiences. These events help children build friendships, develop teamwork, boost confidence and support both their physical and emotional wellbeing.

At home, you might like to talk with your child about the different ways they like to relax and play, whether through sport, outdoor activities, games or creative hobbies. These conversations help children understand that rest and play are an important part of staying healthy and happy. Together, let's continue to promote a positive and balanced school community where every child has the opportunity to rest, play and thrive.

## ⚽ Bangor Football Club ⚽



The boys had a great time on Saturday at Bangor Football Club, enjoying the match Bangor v Portadown. They had a fantastic day, taking photos and collecting autographs from some of the players — memories they won't forget!



A huge thank you to Bangor Football Club for the kind invitation and for making the day so special for our pupils. This experience links to our learning on children's rights, particularly the right to play, participate and engage in community life.

## Football League

Congratulations to Avery, Peter and Ted on P7 who won the SBYL league with the Castle Juniors under 12 Jets team.



## Football North Down League



A fantastic day at the Football North Down League Finals at Clondeboye Park! Our boys and girls proudly represented Rathmore, showing incredible teamwork, commitment and outstanding behaviour throughout.



A special congratulations to our girls, who finished in an impressive second place and to our boys, who came home as Plate winners! We are extremely proud of each and every one of you. Thank you to everyone for your continued support - it means so much!

## North Down Athletics Mini Meet

Well done to Luke, Tyler and Micah in P5 and Mya, Katie, Amber and Orin in P6 who represented Rathmore at the athletics mini meet last week. We are so proud of you all.



### ESF Festival of Football

Well done to James, Toby and Lucca from P4 and Charles from P5 who travelled to Ayr last month representing Bangor FC. James, Lucca and Charles played for Bangor Juniors and won 5, drew 1 and lost 1. Toby played for Bangor Jets who won 4, drew 2 and lost 1. Congratulations!



### Northern Ireland Hockey

We are so proud of Chloe from P7 who has been selected to play in the NI Finals Hockey U11s in March. She scored two amazing goals to help her team come runners up in their group. An amazing achievement!



### Tigers Challenge Rugby Tournament

Congratulations to James and Mylo from P6 and Thomas and Sam from P7 who travelled to Bognor Regis in England with Bangor Rugby Club Minis to take part in a Leicester Tigers Challenge Rugby Tournament. They played with skill and determination and came home with medals and a trophy for winning their competition. Well done boys!



### Copa Tarragona Football Tournament



Leo from P5 was selected to represent NI in the Copa Tarragona football tournament in Spain during the Easter Holidays. They played Elite Academies from the UK, Europe and Spain. They finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in their group with two wins and a loss of 1-0 in the final. We are so proud, Leo!

Article 31 highlights the importance of opportunities for fun, teamwork and physical activity.



### Toilet Twinning

By supporting Toilet Twinning Rathmore Primary School is helping to flush away poverty. 1 in 5 people around the world don't have a safe and hygienic toilet.

Thank you to the School Council and Ray Jefferies who had plenty of sponges thrown at him for raising the funds at our School Community Fair to Twin these Toilets.



## PTA Family & Friends

### PTA Update

Sincerest thanks for your support of our Easter Fun Day. We are delighted to report that £604 was raised.

Community Fair raised £1782

£91.90 From School Council was donated to the Toilet Twinning Programme.

UNICEF purchases £59

We are so appreciative of all fundraising which enhances Rathmore's learning environment for our children.

### Fit 4 Life Week

We look forward to inviting all parents to our Sports' Days P1 – P7 and Play & Stay Nursery. Thank you to all who can donate to our sponsored skip event.

### Pre-Loved Uniform Event

Thanks to the continued success of our PTA 'Preloved Uniform Event', we will be hosting the event again.

Please see the attached leaflet for further details. We will receive your uniform donations during May and will have them on display in the entrance during June with an honesty box for any contributions.

We thank you in anticipation of your support.

### School Fund

Reminder Term 3 school fund is available to pay if you are in a position to do so and have not already.

Follow us on Facebook.

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Instagram @rathmorepspta

for updates and events this year!!!

**Help support us for your children's future!**