



## MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER

Dear pupils, parents/carers and friends of Ratray

What a fantastic start to the summer term we've had! During these few weeks of glorious sunshine, the teachers have been taking advantage of the weather for some creative learning in the fresh air, whilst the children have been enjoying their sun-soaked playtimes. It has been lovely to see our pupils thriving under blue skies.

This newsletter includes highlights from the past few weeks, and updates on upcoming events such as our sports day and summer barbeque. We hope you enjoy reading about all the wonderful things happening across our school community!

All the pupils and staff thoroughly enjoyed our Health Week. Throughout the week the children had the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities organised by both school staff and visiting specialists. These ranged from teacher led activities such as yoga and nature walks, visits from the police and guide dogs, a smoothie bike, silent disco, healthy tuck shop, nature garden time, football tournament and a spring run! A big thank you to all the staff who organised this, but especially to Miss Johnstone (P3/4) who arranged the whole week.

Big congratulations to four of our P7 pupils (Max, Finlay, Shaih and Sophie W). who represented the school at Blairgowrie Rotary Club Quiz. We scored 72 points overall which we were delighted with. Congratulations too for Glendelvine primary who had their well-deserved and first ever win. More congratulations to four of our P6 pupils took part in the annual Euro-quiz (Jude, Nathan, Liza and Liliana) represented the school wonderfully at this tricky event and were placed in the top 5, unfortunately it was only the top two who progressed to the finals.

In sporting news, a huge well-done to 17 of our upper school children who took part in the annual PKC cross country event. Our P6s girls were 22<sup>nd</sup>, our P6 boys 15<sup>th</sup>, P7 girls 28<sup>th</sup> and P7 boys 18<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to the parents and staff who drove the children to this event. Today, after weeks of coaching from Reg the cricket specialist, we have 32 of our upper school pupils accompanied by Mr Curran taking part in the annual Strathmore cricket festival at Meikle Cricket Club, it looks like it will be another glorious sunshiny day, so fingers crossed our children have fun and hopefully proceed to regional cricket finals. Next week 8 of our P4 pupils (Laila, Nina, Lewis, James, Arlo, Keiran, Filip and Matvii) will be participating in the annual tennis tournament at Blairgowrie Tennis Club. Again, we wish these pupils the very best of luck. In the next few weeks, we will also have children participating in athletics, football and basketball events, further information will be sent out to selected children regarding this.

Additionally, we have had several visitors supporting learning across the classes which has been most valuable to our pupils. Our upper school classes have also had informative sessions with Women's Aid around healthy relationships, SCYD focusing on drug/alcohol/vaping awareness, Blairgowrie group 'happy to chat, happy to listen' have undertaken mental health/first aid sessions and the Anne Frank Foundation have visited focusing on prejudice and discrimination. Finally, our dress down Comic Relief fundraiser raised an incredible £394, thank you to everyone who donated.

### School Changes

We have had several new pupils join us this term. In P2 and P5 siblings Braiens Tomins and Aleksa Tomina, alongside in P3 and P6/7 Vladyslav and Veronika Aftanaziv. Also joining us in P6/7 is Halle Bruce and returning to us in P4/5 is Sebastian Nastase. We hope our new starts will enjoy their time here at Ratray Primary School.

### Session dates

The school holiday dates up to June 2025 are available at the [following link](#).

### Pupil Council

Our pupil council recently worked with council community learning assistants to design posters to encourage people to clean up after their dogs in the common. The posters were to inform dog walkers that all bins in the

Common could be used to dispose of dog poo. Our next task is to work with Simon Garnett (Landscape Architect) from PKC to help share our views around the redesign of Davie Park.

### **Parent Council**

Our Parent Council met last night (13<sup>th</sup> May) and discussed several items on their agenda, they were delighted to share that £277 had been raised at the recent Spring disco. The parents also spoke about how they planned to spend the PB funding windfall of £5134 that received recently. This funding will cover a school/nursery trip for every Rattray child next academic session.

**HAMPER DONATIONS NEEDED** - Our Parent Council are looking for donations for the hamper that they'll be raffling off at our school barbeque (22<sup>nd</sup> May) and our school sports day (4<sup>th</sup> June - weather permitting). Any donations would be most welcome and can be handed into the school office or to a member of the parent council prior to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May.

Our parent council are also on the lookout for new members, with 2 of our very active parents moving on soon, as their children are leaving our school. Please be reminded that **all parents and carers** are welcome to attend the parent council meetings, and as a school we would urge you to think about coming along to meetings. It would be very sad for such a thriving school community not to have an equally thriving Parent Council to support the children and to help parents have their say. Please think about joining them even for one or two meetings a year! If you want further information about our Parent Council, please visit their Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/Rattray-Primary-Parent-Council-1486611214939520/> . Also attached to this newsletter is a Parent Council leaflet, which will describe their role further.

Lastly, I would like to personally thank our Parent Council this school session, this very small band of parents have worked tirelessly to raise a substantial amount of money for our school this year – their fundraising efforts benefit every child at Rattray and our school could not provide the 'extras' without their vital support.

### **P7 Residential – Lendrick Muir**

Our 5-day outdoor adventure takes place from **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June**. Further information will be shared with those P7s attending the week prior to departure. Correspondence has already been sent out to our current P6s regarding next year's P7 residential, deposits of interest are due soon so please be on the lookout for this email and make your deposit payment through parentpay. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

### **Ski Trip**

Every year we run a non-residential ski trip for the Primary 6 cohort. We are now taking deposits from our current P5 pupils for this. Please lookout for a letter/email and the item being added to parentpay.

### **Assessing Children's Progress**

As you may be aware National Standardised Assessments are used across all schools in Scotland, and each year pupils in Primaries One, Four and Seven are assessed in schools locally and nationally. This is part of the Scottish Governments commitment to raising standards across Scottish Education. Testing of our P1 will take place this term.

### **School BBQ – 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025**

All parents/carers and siblings are invited to our Summer BBQ on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025. Nursery children will eat at 11.30am and school children at 12.20pm. The cost per adult BBQ meal is £5 and £2.25 for siblings. There is a payment item on your child's ParentPay Account where you can order and pay for your meal. You can order for up to 2 adults and 2 siblings per family (not per child). Orders must be made by and paid for by tomorrow (**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May**) to allow us time to prepare for the BBQ. We are sorry but we cannot accept orders after that date or on the day itself. If you have any additional queries, please contact Ms Graham in the school office.

### **Sports Day**

Our Sports Day with parents/carers welcome to spectate will be on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June**, we hope to have a full programme of events at Davie Park **from 1.30pm**. Our contingency date should we be rained off is Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June at the same time. Our Nursery Sports Day will take place on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June from 1.45pm** on Rattray Common. Our wet weather contingency date is Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June at the same time. On sports days children should come to school wearing sportswear and preferably their house colours.

### **P1 and P7 Transition**

Our P7s pupils have already had a visit to Blairgowrie High School, and been visited by high school staff, they will have their final transition visits on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> and Friday 6<sup>th</sup> of June**. On these same days, our new Primary 1s

will have the opportunity to visit their new classrooms and meet their teachers. We have several transition events organised for our new starts and have shared this information with the families of our new P1 children.

### **School Uniform**

It is getting close to the time when you might be thinking about uniforms for our next school session. Hence a reminder that we received a huge donation of school uniforms (30 boxes) and some school shoes from Tesco. **If you give our school office a call, we can likely supply you with what you need.**

Alternatively, our school uniform supplier is Border Embroideries, who provide a range of affordable uniforms. The website allows uniform to be delivered to your home address if you pay a delivery charge, or it can be sent free to the companies Dundee store. You can find all available uniform options (grey and maroon) at this web address. <https://www.border-embroideries.co.uk/schools/rattray-primary-school.html> **You will also find several sporting options too, including our new school sports top and house sports t-shirts.** However, there is no expectation to order from this company or have Rattray branded uniform.

As a reminder our school uniform is a combination of grey, maroon and white. All children's belongings should be named or have some mark of identification.

Grey skirt, grey pinafore, grey trousers, grey culottes or grey shorts  
White polo shirt or white shirt/blouse  
Red/Maroon gingham dress  
Grey/Maroon sweatshirt, cardigan or jumper  
Maroon Hoodie (P7 Prefects only)  
School Tie  
Black Shorts/House T-shirt for PE lessons

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE SCHOOL BY ENSURING YOUR CHILD WEARS SCHOOL UNIFORM EVERY DAY.**

### **Lost Property and Lost Uniform**

We have a considerable amount of lost property growing in our school, if you think something might belong to your child, please email the school office with a description of the missing item. We will post photos of items on Facebook too, so please let us know by commenting on the photo if something belongs to your child. **It would be incredibly helpful however if children's belongings were labelled or named on the tag, this would allow us to reunite them with their owner so much easier.** Anything clothing remaining prior to the summer break will be handed into local charity shops.

### **School Handbook 2025/26**

Our school handbook for next session is available to view on the council website or in paper form from school office. Follow this link – [school handbook](#)

### **URGENT – Reading Book Amnesty**

Can we please ask that all reading books are always returned to school. Reading books can cost anything between £6 and £12 therefore, to replace any missing books is considerably costly for the school. In one class alone this term over 15 reading books have not been returned, totalling roughly £150, if this happened across every class it would cost us £1500 each year just to replace missing reading books, so please have a good search for books in your homes.

### **Pupil Safety and Wellbeing**

The safety of our children is everyone's responsibility, parents, pupils and staff. **Therefore, we appeal to all parents and carers regarding the habits/incidents below which are happening most days and ask you to consider the consequences of your individual actions on the safety of all children coming and going to school.**

Please help us keep our children safe by following the rules below:

- No parking or waiting in the staff car park. 24 Hour access is required for emergency services and deliveries. If you require access to the disabled bay and you have a blue badge, please phone in advance to our school office and we will open the car park gates.
- No drop off/collection on the white zig zags outside the school gates. These areas are monitored by Police Scotland and tickets will be issued.
- No dogs in the school playground, regardless of how young or how friendly your dog is. We have several children who are frightened of dogs, and we also do not want dogs fouling the playground.

- No smoking or vaping in our school playground.
- No biking or scooting in the playground at drop-off and collection time.

**We appreciate and expect your assistance in these matters. If a friend or family member drops off/collects your child(ren) on your behalf, please can you share this important information with them?**

#### **General Updates/Reminders**

- Mobile phones or devices are not permitted for pupils in school. Senior pupils are recommended not to bring them to school, and if they do, they must hand their phone into their class teacher during the day.
- P5-7 pupils will not be allowed to leave the school grounds at lunchtime unless the parent has called the school to indicate that their child will have a home lunch.
- As we approach warmer weather (hopefully) and the classes spend more time outdoors, we would encourage you to put sun cream on your child before coming to school each day.
- Whilst we do not want to ban football cards, we would like to remind you to reinforce to your children that the trading of football cards should not take place in the school building or playground. As you can imagine we have had a few squabbles about this which spill over into the classroom.

We will continue to keep you updated in our usual ways – Parent pay, school app, text messaging and our school Facebook page. **Therefore, please ensure your Parent pay account, email address and your mobile phone numbers are all up to date.**

On behalf of all the staff I would like to thank you for your continuing support. If you have any questions or queries regarding any of the items within this newsletter, please don't hesitate to contact the school office or the email address below.

Yours faithfully



Joanna Robertson  
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## Future Dates

### May 2025

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> – P6 cricket festival at Meigle CC (selected pupils only)  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> – P1 and P7 Dental inspection  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> (3.45pm to 4.30pm) – Boys Football Match at Davie Park (selected pupils only)  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> – P3 and P4 Tennis Tournament (selected pupils only)  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> – P2 and P3 trip to Deer Centre  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> – P3 and P4 Tennis Tournament (selected pupils only)  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> (12 noon to 1pm) – School Summer BBQ (all welcome)  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Open Afternoon - Class Focus (2.15pm) (all welcome)  
Monday 26<sup>th</sup> to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> – P7 residential week Lendrick Muir (pupils only)  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> (4pm) – Blairgowrie Cluster Athletics (selected pupils)  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> – P6 and P6/7 Trip to Stirling Castle

### June 2025

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June (1.30pm) – Strong Start 2 sports day in courtyard  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June (All day) – P7 transition day @ SCYD  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> (1.45pm) – Nursery Sports Day **(more information to follow)**  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June (1.30pm) – School Sports day **(more information to follow)**  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> / Friday 6<sup>th</sup> – P1 / P7 Transition Days **(more information to follow)**  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June (1.30pm) – Strong Start 2 sports day in courtyard Contingency Day  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> (3.45pm to 4.30pm) – Girls Football Match at Davie Park (selected pupils only)  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> (all day) – Both P1 classes trip to Broughty Ferry Beach  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> (1.45pm) – Nursery Sports Contingency Day  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> (1.45pm) – Teddy Bear's Picnic (Current and New P1 pupils)  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> (3.45pm to 4.30pm) – Boys and Girls Football Match at Davie Park (selected pupils only)  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> – Moving up Morning/meet new class teachers  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June (1.30pm) – Nursery Fun Day  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June (1.30pm) –Prizegiving (by invitation)  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June (9.30am) – Nursery Graduation (by invitation)  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June (2pm) – P7 Leaver's Assembly (by invitation)  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June (PM) – P7 Leaver's Party (pupils only)  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June – End of term fun day / staff v pupils netball. /Rattray's go talent. etc  
**(more information to follow)**  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June –P7 Shirt Signing (pupils only)  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June (12 noon) – School closes for Summer Break

**\*FURTHER DATES WILL BE ADDED\***