

**DECEMBER 2024 UPDATE**

Firstly, we would like to thank all the parents, relatives, staff and pupils who participated in our Christmas events. Our school nativities and ‘Christmas songs in the Hub’ were well attended and at capacity. Your food bank donations were overwhelming and hopefully, these will go some way to helping families who are finding things challenging now.

**Staffing Changes**

We are very pleased to share that Miss Alanna Salmond and Mr Sean Curran were successful at interview and will be covering our P4/5 and P6 classes the remainder of this academic session. We know that both Miss Salmond and Mr Curran are looking forward to working with their new classes and getting to know the Rattray children, staff and families. We are sure you that you will make them very welcome here at Rattray.

We wish Mrs McCarthy (current P6 teacher) all the best for her temporary secondment as Acting Depute Head Teacher at Newhill Primary School. This is an excellent opportunity for Mrs. McCarthy and is thoroughly well-deserved, but hopefully she will return to Rattray! We extend our best wishes to Miss Cassels (current P4/5 teacher) at her new permanent post elsewhere in the council.

Additionally, Miss Jade Nesbitt will return from her maternity leave after the Christmas break, Miss Nesbitt will work Monday to Wednesday job-sharing a pupil support assistant role with Miss Shaw. It will be lovely to have Miss Nesbitt back at Rattray.

**The remainder of this update is just to remind you of some the things which are arranged for this week.**

**Class Christmas Parties – Tuesday 17th December**

On Tuesday 17th December we are going to be holding a whole school Pyjama Day. This will double as a Christmas party day for all our classes. We invite all children to wear pyjamas, onesies, or anything else festive. This will be worn outside during break and lunch time so needs to be weather appropriate! Please do not go to the expense of buying new clothing for this event. Each class will watch the following movies on Tuesday, all of which are PG ratings. The children will watch them in class, if you feel that the chosen film for your child is not suitable then please get in touch with our school office and your child can be elsewhere in the school at movie time.

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| **Class** | **Film** | **Rating** |
| **P1a** | The Grinch | **U** |
| **P1b**  | The Grinch (animated) | **PG** |
| **P2** | The Muppet Christmas Carol | **U** |
| **P3** | Home Alone 1 | **PG** |
| **P3/4** | The Grinch (animated) | **PG** |
| **P4/5** | The Grinch (animated) | **PG** |
| **P5** | Home Alone 2 | **PG** |
| **Upper school classes (P6, P6/7, P7) children can choose 1 of the 3 movies on offer** | Nativity 2 | **PG** |
| The Grinch (animated) | **PG** |
| Home Alone 2 | **PG** |

**School Christmas Lunch – Tuesday 17th December**

School Cook Elaine and her wonderful team will be serving up Christmas Lunch on Christmas party day. That can be paid for, as usual, through parent pay.

**Pupil Festive Fun Day – Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th December**

On these days pupils will be able to enjoy a variety of Christmas themed stalls such as Pin the Nose on Rudolph, Christmas Ping-Pong, Bouncy Castle, Higher and Lower and lots more. Children will be given 2 tokens to use on the stalls as a gift from the school and parents will have the opportunity to purchase additional tokens through Parent Pay for their children to use. 1 token will equal 50p.

**Christmas Hampers**

Our Christmas Hamper draw will take place on **Thursday 19th December**. Thank you to all of those who bought tickets and donated items. Tickets are still available to purchase through Parentpay or by popping into the school office.

**Nursery Christmas Activity and Song Day – Thursday 19th December (1.30pm)**

Parents are invited to attend the above event which will be held in our Early Childhood Centre.

**Last day of term**

Our school and early childhood centre closes for our Winter break at **12 noon** on **Friday 20th December**.

On behalf of all the staff I would like to thank you for your continuing support. We hope you have the most amazing Christmas with your loved ones and friends. We also hope that your new year celebrations are wonderful and that 2025 is filled with happiness too.

Yours faithfully



Joanna Robertson

Headteacher