



MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Dear pupils, parents/carers and friends of Rattray

We are now in the final term of the school session, and we have many things planned for our school. There are lots of dates for your diary in the section at the end of this newsletter, don't forget to check this. We have had several visitors supporting learning across the school this term which has been most beneficial to our pupils. All P3 and P4 pupils have had weekly tennis coaching sessions with local coach Susan Whiteford, whilst P5 and P6 are enjoying cricket coaching with cricket development offices. These sessions will culminate in a local tennis and cricket tournament, unfortunately we can't take all the children along to these tournaments, but we will let you know who has been selected.

School Changes

We have had 2 new pupils in P4 and P6 sisters Mavis and Doris Adebayo, who have joined us since our last newsletter. We have four new nursery children joined us this term- Islay Davidson, Ayla Grant, Stuart Main, and Jay Whyte.

We also look forward to welcoming Surlina Choi, our new nursery Family Learning Practitioner. Currently, in P2/3, P4 and P6 we welcome student teachers Miss Shaw, Miss Forester and Miss Lilley to our school. This is a final placement for all three students before entering their probation year and getting a class of their own. We hope they enjoy their short time with us, they will certainly learn lots from their mentor teachers.

There are also couple of staffing changes to share with you. Last week, one of our office ladies Ms Valeryia Hvazdzetskaya (Miss H. to the pupils) moved on to a year-long temporary post. Ms H. will be supporting Ukrainian families and children throughout Perth and Kinross with their language skills. Ms. H will really shine in the role as its subject very close to her hear. Next Thursday, one of our Pupil Support Assistants Mrs Shauna Scott will be leaving us to take up a permanent post at Newhill. I know that Mrs Scott has enjoyed her short time supported our Rattray children, however this post offers job security for her. Mrs Scott has made a real impact on the children she supports and will be missed here at Rattray. We wish both these ladies well in their new posts.

Session dates

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

Rag Bag Collection – Tuesday 14th May

Please bring your rag bag or other bag to school by 9am on the morning of **Tuesday 14th May** and leave it in the rag bag container in the carpark or if full the school entrance corridor. Our school will be paid for every kilogram recycled. Items that can be recycled are wearable clothes, paired shoes, handbags and belts. However, don't throw out pre-loved uniform as we will have another uniform shop prior to the summer break!

Blairgowrie Rotary Club Quiz

Huge congratulations to some our P7 pupils who participated in a general knowledge quiz earlier this term against 9 other schools in the Blairgowrie area. We won the event and will now progress to the regionals finals which take place on **Saturday 11th May**. Well done to Ashleigh Townsley, Niko Szabowski, Iain Houston and Jock Moffat who represented the school so wonderfully. Thanks to the staff who supported this event too and lots of luck to these children for finals.

Pupil Council

As always, our Pupil Council members have lots of great ideas and this month, they felt that all pupils needed to take responsibility for the tidiness of the playground. Through lots of discussion, they agreed that each class could have a litter picking team who would coordinate their duties when their class were tidying up loose parts. Pupil

Council shared these plans at our weekly Get Together last Friday and so far, our playground is looking a little less messy.



Nurturing Schools

Thank you to those who completed our parents and carers survey last term about Nurturing Schools. This information is being used to inform our work in this area.

As a whole school, we have continued to work towards Nurturing Schools accreditation, and we hope to secure this by the end of term. An exciting part of our work has been the introduction of the Rattray Ready Pyramid, which is based on Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. All the pupils have



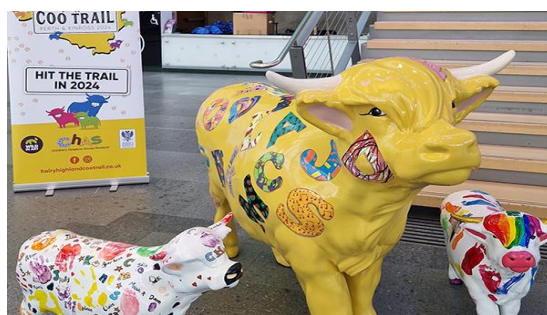
been involved in creating classroom displays and a lovely whole school piece of art around this.

Parent Council

HAMPER DONATIONS NEEDED The Parent Council are looking for donations for some hamper items that we'll be raffling off at Tesco later this month and at our school sports day on the 29th of May (weather permitting). Can any donations please be handed into the school office or to a member of the parent council before 24th May. All donations welcome. This is to raise funds for the parent council to allow us to help fund with some of the fun items and events the school provide for the pupils. Any donations big or small will be greatly received.

The Hairy Highland Coo Trail 2024

We are delighted to be one of the 20 schools and nurseries across Perth and Kinross who have received a Highland Coo to form part of the Highland Coo trail 2024. We have been sent a blank coo for us to decorate. We are planning to have a competition in the school to design how we will decorate the coo. The plan is to select winners from within the school and those designs will be painted onto the coo. We will be fundraising for CHAS with a dress down in rainbow colours on June 14th. We will have a guess the name of the Highland Coo running that week as well and will be doing a rainbow fun run. Our coo will be then placed as part of the trail somewhere in Perth and Kinross for the summer before being returned to us to stay in the school. We are all very excited to be part of this wonderful event and cannot wait to see what creations our pupils come up with!



For more information, please visit [The Hairy Highland Coo Trail 2024 | CHAS & Wild in Art.](#)

P7 Residential – Lendrick Muir

Our 5-day outdoor adventure takes place from **Monday 20th to Friday 24th June**. Further information was given yesterday and sleeping arrangements and activity groups will be sent out next week to all children participating.

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.

Sports Day

Our Sports Day with parents/carers welcome to spectate will be on **Wednesday 29th May**, 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 5th June at the same time. Our Nursery Sports Day will take place on **Tuesday 4th June from 1.45pm** on Rattray Common. Our wet weather contingency date is Tuesday 11th 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 6th and Friday 7th 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

Our school uniform supplier is Border Embroideries who provide a greater range of affordable uniform. 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. Nearer the summer, we will send out information for ordering via the school office, which will negate delivery charges. 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

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

Dressing Appropriately for School

Please ensure that your child comes to school on PE days only in appropriate clothing that can be worn both indoors and outdoors. No jeans, jeggings, earrings and preferably no crop tops. Please ensure your child wears full school uniform on the days they do not have PE.

Can we also request that children do not come to school with nail extensions, these prevent pupils from being able to write alongside other things.

School Handbook 2024/25

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 please please have a good search for books in your homes.

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 2024

- Monday 13th – Girls Football Match (selected pupils)
- Tuesday 14th – Farm Talks for P4 to P6 (AM)
 - Tuesday 14th – P4/5 to Blair Library
- Wednesday 15th – P3 and P4 tennis tournament (AM) (selected pupils)
 - Wednesday 15th – P5 to Blair Library
- Thursday 16th (PM) – P6 class to Rattray Bowling Club
- Monday 20th to Friday 24th – P7 residential to Lendrick Muir
- Tuesday 21st – P6 Cricket festival (selected pupils)
- Thursday 23rd – P4 and P4/5 to Auchingarrich
- Thursday 23rd (PM) – P6 class to Rattray Bowling Club
- Thursday 23rd – remaining P7s to Ryze/Camperdown
- Friday 24th (12 noon to 1pm) – School Summer BBQ (all welcome)
- Monday 27th – P2/3 and P3 to Auchingarrich
- Tuesday 28th – All P6s and P5 to Auchingarrich
- Tuesday 29th – All P7s to Blairgowrie Community Engagement event
- Wednesday 29th (1.30pm) – School Sports day @ Davie Park
- Thursday 30th (PM) – P6 class to Rattray Bowling Club

June 2024

- Monday 3rd – Boys Football Match (selected pupils)
 - Thursday 6th/ Friday 7th – P1 / P7 Transition Days
 - Monday 3rd June (2pm) – Strong Start 2 sports day in school courtyard
 - Tuesday 4th (1.45pm) – Nursery Sports Day @ **Rattray common**
 - Wednesday 5th June (1.30pm) – School Sports Contingency Day
 - Monday 10th June (2pm) – Strong Start 2 sports day in courtyard Contingency Day
 - Tuesday 11th (1.45pm) – Nursery Sports Contingency Day
 - Wednesday 12th – P6/7 and P7 visit from Scottish Parliament
 - Thursday 13th – Incoming P1s teddy bear's picnic
 - Friday 14th – Rainbow Dress down day – fundraising for CHAS highland coo
 - Monday 17th – Mixed Football Match (selected pupils)
 - Wednesday 19th – Nursery Fun Day
 - Thursday 20th – Moving up Morning/meet new class teachers
 - Friday 21st June (10am) – Nursery Graduation (by invitation)
 - Friday 21st June (2pm) – P7 Leaver's Assembly (by invitation)
 - Monday 24th June (1.30pm) –Prizegiving (by invitation)
 - Tuesday 25th June (PM) – P7 Leaver's Party (pupils only)
 - Wednesday 26th June – End of term fun day / staff v pupils netball/Rattray's got talent. etc
- (more information to follow)**
- Thursday 27th June –P7 Shirt Signing (pupils only)
 - Thursday 27th June (12 noon) – School closes for Summer Break

FURTHER DATES WILL BE ADDED