



MARCH 2021 NEWSLETTER

Dear pupils, parents/carers and friends of Ratray

I am writing firstly, with a huge thank you from all at Ratray Primary School. Thank you for your continued support and engagement with remote learning. We feel very proud of how we, as a school community, are working through these challenging times together. I hope you have all managed to and continue to stay safe. This term is not what we hoped for or expected, we can only hope that 'normal service' will resume in schools soon. In saying that, it is wonderful to finish off this term with all our pupils with us full-time. I know that pandemic aside, everyone, parents, pupils and teachers know that being physically in school is where we all want children to be.

As lockdown continues, as a school staff we are aware that within our school community there will be many families experiencing different challenges from the norm. We really do appreciate that this pandemic has had a detrimental impact on us, in varying degrees, this could be economically or socially. It is important to us that you know our school and staff are here to support in whatever way we can. If you need advice, reassurance or direction as to who you might to contact if you need help please do get in touch.

This is a very short update prior to the Easter break, but I will ensure that the more detailed monthly newsletters will resume next term.

Holiday dates

School closes for the Easter holidays tomorrow on Thursday 1st April at 3.30pm, and reopens for pupils on Monday 19th April at 9am.

After School Clubs

These clubs are on pause at the moment, but staff are keen and eager to have these up and running quickly. As soon as we are given the go ahead to run any extracurricular activities, we will inform you of the arrangements for these.

PE Times and Kit

All of our classes have at least two sessions of PE each week. Next term, children can come to school without uniform and wearing suitable sportswear (no football colours) on these days. Current advice is that all physical activity should be undertaken outdoors. Changing rooms will not be used. Please note that on these days, jewellery should not be worn, and long hair should also be tied back.

URGENT – School Reading Books

Can we please ask that all library and reading books that you have at home are brought in to school, as soon as possible, in a plastic bag. To replace any missing books is considerably costly for the school, so please have a good search for books.

Staggered entry times, exit times, breaks and lunchtimes.

The staggered timings we have followed this term will continue until further notice. This is to alleviate congestion in the playground. We will review this on a regular and inform you of any changes. Timings are detailed in the table attached.

Breakfast club

Our breakfast club continues to run at 8am daily. Please note there may be a reduced number of places available therefore it is highly recommended that places are booked in advance for the required days. Currently, places can be booked by emailing ratraybreakfastclub@pkc.gov.uk

Parent /Carer Communication

Our school procedures will be adapted and updated in line with changes in government and council guidance. We will continue to keep you updated in our usual ways – Parentpay, school app, text messaging and our school Facebook page. Therefore, please ensure your Parentpay account, email address and your mobile phone numbers are all up-to-date.

School Handbook 2021/22

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](#)

Assessing Children's Progress

As you may be aware National Standardised Assessments have been introduced 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 Government's commitment to raising standards across Scottish Education. Testing of our P4 and P7 pupils will take place next term. Further details can be found at the web link below.

<https://www.education.gov.scot/parentzone/Documents/parent-leaflet-assessing-progress.pdf>

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 email address below.

Please stay safe, take care and do stay in touch with the school in whatever way you can.

Yours faithfully



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Ratray Primary School
Key Dates Session 20-21

Please note these dates are provisional and may be subject to change
Other dates will also be added

April 2021

Thursday 1st – School closes for Spring holiday (3.20pm)

Friday 2nd - Public Holiday school closed to all

Monday 19th - Back to School

May 2021

Monday 3rd – **Public Holiday school closed to all**

Tuesday 11th May (5.30pm – 6.30pm) – HT- parent drop-in session
w/b 31st May – Health Week

June 2021

Wednesday 2nd – Nursery Sports Day

Thursday 3rd – Sports day (Upper School AM/Infant school PM)

10th/ 11th June – P7 Transition Days

Wednesday 16th June (5.30pm – 6.30pm) – HT- parent drop-in session

Thursday 17th June – P7 Prom

Friday 18th June – P7 Leaver Assembly

Monday 21st June – Nursery Graduation

Wednesday 23rd June – Prizegiving (Upper School AM/Infant school PM)

Thursday 24th June – School closes for Summer Break (12 noon)