



RATHEN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

2nd November 2016

Newsletter 3

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Harvest Service

Thank you for your generosity and support at the Harvest Service. As you can see in the photos below, there was an abundance of produce. 34 Harvest Boxes were delivered to the Senior Citizens in the community. 'Thank You' messages we have received include: 'Please thank the children for the lovely roses and vegetables we received. It's nice to know we aren't forgotten', 'What a lovely surprise we had when we received your harvest table goodies again!' and 'Thank you so much for the fruit and vegetables from your 'Harvest Festival'. It was very kind of you.' The collection of £195.65 to North East Sensory Services is greatly appreciated.

Sharing the Learning at Le Café Francais



We hope you enjoyed observing how the pupils are learning French in class at Le Café Francais on Monday 26th September. Feedback from parents included: 'Loved seeing how you work in class', 'Enjoyed the song – really clever use of ipads', 'Enjoyed seeing progress and liked the Sock Puppet play', 'Impressed with your French skills – liked the song' and 'Liked the song and how you know the words quite well.' Thank you for attending and taking part in this reporting event.

Critter Creeper

On Wednesday 28th September, the Critter Creeper visited P5/6 to enhance their learning of the classification of animals. Focusing on the science outcome: 'I can identify and classify examples of living things, past and present, to help me appreciate their diversity. I can relate physical and behavioural characteristics to their survival and extinction', the Critter Creeper spoke to the pupils about the diet, habitat, life span and characteristics of a boa constrictor, a scorpion (which glows in the dark), a tarantula, iguana, a sugar glider and a frog, pictured below.

'He told us which group the animals lived in for classification,' Brodie, 'He helped us with their body parts and if they were male or female, which helped us decide their animal group,' Tommy, 'He helped us feel the different features of animals like the snake's skin to help us with classifying them' Fergus, 'He helped us name some more animals in the classification groups,' Aiden.



Reporting to Parents

Feedback from Progress Report Meeting

On Thursday 22nd September, we invited parents to a meeting on Reporting Approaches. We looked at our Reporting Calendar and the draft of our Progress Report, which are now on our website for you to peruse. Please let us know your thoughts, ideas and suggestions, your feedback would be much appreciated. Comments already received include: 'I'd prefer a parent's evening in March with the reports', 'I'd like to read how she did in activities rather than what she's done' and 'The new report format seems very user friendly with clear areas for noting achievements and next steps. The layout seems easy to understand for parents. Also like the new reporting calendar. It sets out clear indicators on how the pupils, teachers and parents can engage in the learning. It provides a shared vision for all. The profiles on glow look very impressive and easy to follow. Rathen School does an excellent job at embracing changes and providing parents with home-school links.'

<p>Parent Interviews – Sharing the Learning Parents and their child/ren are invited to attend a meeting with their class teacher on 9th or 10th November to discuss strengths and challenges and to agree on next steps together.</p>	<p>Squip Summary Leaflet The Standards & Quality Report 2015-16 and a summary of the improvement priorities for this session is accompanying this newsletter for your information.</p>
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<p>Parent Council Meeting All are welcome to attend the next Parent Council Meeting on Thursday 3rd November at 6:15pm in school.</p>	<p>Poppy Scotland Appeal Poppies are now available at school for a donation to the The Poppy Scotland Appeal.</p>	<p>Inset Days The school will be closed to pupils on Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th November. School will resume on Wednesday 16th November.</p>	<p>Staffing Last term's Visiting Specialists timetable will continue this term: Mrs Duthie –French on Monday mornings, Mrs Grant – ICT on Tuesdays and Miss McConochie – Music on Wednesdays.</p>
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Christmas Afternoon Tea and Book Fair
The Scholastic Book Fair will be in school from Wednesday 16th to Tuesday 22nd November when pupils will be given the opportunity to browse and buy books. The Book Fair will coincide with the Christmas Fayre Afternoon Tea on Thursday 17th November from 3:15-5:15pm, organised by the Fundraising Group. Do come along and join us for refreshments and browse around the stalls in Rathen Public Hall, which will include the pupils' Enterprise Stall. To avoid long queues, teas and coffees will be served from 2:45pm. There will be a variety of games, arts & crafts in school for the children to enjoy. Hope to see you then.

<p>Rotary Shoebox Scheme If you are taking part in the Rotary Shoebox Scheme, please drop off your shoebox at school by Thursday 10th November, ready for collection. Thank you.</p>	<p>Bags 2 School Fundraising Event Our most recent Bags 2 School raised £166. Thank you for your donations of clothing.</p>	<p>After School Clubs <u>Multisport</u> on Wednesdays for P1-7 from 3:15-4:15pm. <u>Football Training</u> on Fridays from 3:15-4:15pm for P1-7 pupils.</p>
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<p>Children In Need This year schools across the nation are joining the 'Big Spotacular' to raise funds for BBC Children in Need. We are planning 'Spotacular' games and activities from Wed 16th -18th November, finishing with 'Wear your Spots' Day on Friday 18th. Keyrings for £2 and wristbands for £1 will be for sale too. More details to follow.</p>	<p>Parking When parking your car to drop off and pick up your child/ren at school, please be mindful of our neighbours by ensuring that their drives and roads leading to their homes aren't blocked. Also please remember to keep the school gates clear. Thank you.</p>
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Plans for Christmas



Christmas Nativity Movie
This year we are planning to make a movie of our Nativity play involving all our pupils. This will provide very good learning opportunities for the children, including: ICT - movie making, green screen technology and DVD production, Literacy - script writing, Expressive Arts - drama, music and prop designs and Enterprise – being creative, problem solving, advertising and selling.

Movie Showings:
We will be showing the movie as part of our Christmas Service programme with refreshments served by the children following the morning and afternoon showings on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.
Monday 12th December at 2pm for P1-4 parents
Tuesday 13th December at 2pm for P5-7 parents
Wednesday 14th December at 10am for grandparents, extended family members and for the Senior Citizens in the community.
Wednesday 14th December at 6:30pm for parents who can't make it during the daytime showings.
Please note, if we are given the Wednesday Panto slot, the evening movie showing will be changed to Thursday 15th December. I will confirm the dates as soon as I know.

<p><u>Fraserburgh Junior Arts: Cinderella Panto</u> We have requested a block booking for Rathen School on Thursday 15th December at 6pm. Our second choice is Wednesday 14th December at 6pm. Please pencil these dates in your diary and I will confirm the date and time once I know. All pupils are welcome to come along. More details to follow.</p>	<p><u>Christmas Jumpers: Save the Children</u> Please dress your child in a Christmas Jumper for school on Friday 16th December. A donation of £1 from each pupil for 'Save the Children' will be gratefully received.</p>
<p><u>Choir Carol Singing</u> We are making arrangements for Rathen School Choir to visit Care Homes in December to entertain the residents with a medley of Christmas carols, readings and songs. More details to follow.</p>	<p><u>Christmas Party</u> The school Christmas Party for P1-7 will be on Monday 19th December in Rathen Public Hall from 1:15-3:30pm. Watermill has kindly agreed to pick up the children at the later time of 3:30pm. Children may change into their party clothes during lunchtime if they wish.</p>
<p><u>Upcoming Events</u></p> <p><u>November</u> 9th & 10th – Sharing the Learning Meetings – Parents and pupils 11th – Poppy Scotland Appeal 14th & 15th – School closed for pupils – In-service Days 16th – 22nd – Scholastic Book Fair 17th – Christmas Fayre 2:45 - 5:15pm 17th & 24th – Flu Immunisation 16th – 18th - Children in Need – Wear Your Spots on Friday 18th</p> <p><u>December</u> 12th – P1-4 Christmas Movie 13th – P5-7 Christmas Movie 14th – Christmas Movie Rehearsal for Aunts, Uncles and Senior Citizens at 10am 14th – Christmas Movie at 7pm (tbc) 15th - Cinderella Panto 6pm (tbc) 16th – Christmas Jumpers – Save the Children 19th – Christmas Party 21st– Last day of term 2</p>	