



Rothiemay Primary School

'Nurturing aspiration for learning, relationships and life.'
Responsibility – Inclusion - Values – Empathy - Respect
March 2025



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Dear Parents/Carers

It's lovely to feel a bit more sunshine in the air and see the signs of spring popping up all around us. The lighter days are giving everyone a bit more energy, and it's hard to believe we're already counting down to the Easter holidays! The children have been busy learning, creating, and having fun – and we're really proud of all their hard work.



The pictures of new-born rabbits that have been sent in, along with stories of new arrivals on our local farms, have really put a smile on my face – it's such a lovely reminder of the season of new beginnings.

Rotary Quiz



Well done to our Primary 7's who volunteered to represent our school at the Keith ASG Rotary Quiz 2025. They enjoyed the experience and came in 3rd place overall. Parents supported us with this event and we wish to say a huge thank you for volunteering your time.

Clubs



A huge thankyou to Amanda Walker, Active Schools Coordinator for Keith ASG for sharing her knowledge and enthusiasm for Karate and self-defence with the children. This was all made possible with the use of the village hall and our parent helper supporting these sessions. We are hugely grateful for you volunteering your time.



Outdoor Learning

As we shared before, we've been looking closely at how we use our outdoor spaces for learning, and we're excited to now be taking this a step further. With support from some generous volunteers who've kindly offered their time and expertise, we're working with staff to develop these ideas even more in Term 4.

Next term, we'll be involving the children in shaping how we use our grounds – including the field, forest, and playground – to create even more meaningful and engaging outdoor learning experiences. We're really looking forward to seeing where their ideas take us!



We're also incredibly grateful to one of our parents who has previously shared her forest school knowledge with us and recently involved the whole school – including our playgroup – in a very special tree-planting experience. As part of her award-winning childminding service, she received a tree pack to support outdoor learning and kindly offered to include **all** of Rothiemay Primary and Playgroup in planting and growing these trees.

It was a fantastic opportunity to learn about nature, connect with our local community, and contribute to something that will grow for years to come. We really appreciate being part of this meaningful experience.

World Book Day



As part of our World Book Day celebrations, our P5,6,7 pupils became authors and illustrators, creating their very own stories inspired by the moon. They worked hard to bring their ideas to life through words and pictures, and the results were fantastic!



Our P1/2 class made a brilliant audience, listening attentively as the older pupils read their stories aloud. It was a lovely opportunity to celebrate storytelling, build confidence, and share the joy of reading across the school.

A big **thank you** to all the families who took time to talk about reading at home and encouraged their child to bring in a favourite book to share. Moments like this help promote a love of reading and show our learners that books can bring people together, spark imagination, and be shared and enjoyed at any age.

Looking Ahead

We have a busy and exciting term ahead, filled with fantastic opportunities for our learners across the school. Here's a quick look at some key dates and events coming up:



- **P6/7 Scottish Opera Performance – Monday 26th May 2025** Our P6/7s will take part in a special performance at Keith Primary School alongside other local schools, supported by Scottish Opera. This is a brilliant opportunity for collaboration and creativity, and is always well received by families. Please see the separate letter for more details.



- **P7 Activity Week with Outfit Moray – Tuesday 3rd June – Friday 6th June** Our Primary 7s will enjoy an action-packed week of outdoor learning, including bush craft, team building, kayaking and coasteering. Pupils will be off-site from 10am to 3pm each day.

- **Whole School Transition Week – Week beginning 3rd June 2025** All learners will spend time in their new classes, getting to know their teacher and classroom routines for next session.



- **P6/7 Bikeability – Week beginning 28th April 2025** Pupils in P6/7 will take part in Bikeability training to build their confidence and road safety skills.



- **Rugby with Jasmine Edwards** (Youth Development Officer) – *For all P5–P7 pupils, 11.15–12.15 on 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th May* A great chance to build physical skills and teamwork through fun rugby sessions.



- **P6 Science Experience at Keith Grammar School** – Pupils will take part in an exciting hands-on science day led by young leaders from Keith Grammar. This has been a real highlight in past years, and we look forward to another fantastic experience.



- **Primary 7 Leavers' Assembly – Friday 20th June, 2–3pm** A special celebration to mark the end of primary school for our P7s – families are warmly invited to attend.



- **Sports Day – Wednesday 18th June 2025 (afternoon)** A fun, active afternoon for the whole school community – fingers crossed for good weather! More information will be shared nearer the time.



- **Keith Grammar School Induction Days for P7s – Tuesday 10th – Thursday 12th June** For Primary 7s moving on to Keith Grammar School, these days will support a smooth and confident transition. Further details to follow.



- **The Gordon Schools Transition Days for P7s – Monday 23rd – Friday 27th June** For Primary 7s moving on to The Gordon Schools, these days will support a smooth and confident transition. Further details to follow.

Parent Council



A big thank you to our Parent Council for organising and supporting the Primary 7 leavers' hoodies. The pupils are loving them – they look bright, smart, and full of personality, and it's great to see them wearing them proudly around school!



If you would like to contribute to the meeting but cannot attend please send your thoughts and ideas to our parent council email on:

rothiemayparentcouncil@gmail.com



Our next meeting will be on:

**Wednesday 14th May 2025
6.30pm–7.30pm**

We will be meeting face to face at Rothiemay Primary School. We also have an online link for those who would like to attend virtually.

Online Link: <https://meet.google.com/uyp-faga-ijo>

Transitions

We are well into our transition activities for our learners, helping to make sure they feel confident and supported as they prepare for their next steps.



Our **new Primary 1 starters** have already been visiting the classroom, joining in with playful learning sessions and story times, and getting to know their future classmates and teachers. These visits will continue next term, with a focus on building relationships and helping the children feel ready and excited for the year ahead.



At the other end of the school, our **Primary 7 pupils** are getting ready for their move to Secondary 1. As part of the rural schools transition programme, those going to Keith Grammar School been invited to join the *Keith Loft Youth Project*, which offers fun and meaningful opportunities to build confidence and connect with others. Both Keith Grammar School and The Gordons School offer information evenings and transition days for children to take part in. These days are designed to help them get a feel for life at secondary school – from following timetables and finding their way around, to travelling to and from school independently.

Transitions are such an important part of the school journey, and we're committed to making them as positive and reassuring as possible for all our learners.

Parent portal

We continue to use the online facility for parents and carers to communicate with the school. Further details are available via the link www.moray.gov.uk/parentsportal where you can create your account.



Twitter/X

We will continue to use twitter/X to share your child's learning experiences. Remember you can follow us at @RothiemayPS and an account is not required to access this.

Reporting to parents

Our Termly Class Newsletters will be sent out again at the beginning of next term. These newsletters are a great way to stay connected with what your child is learning in class and can help spark conversations at home.



Weekly learning logs are another helpful tool to keep you up to date with what your child has been working on, including their successes and any challenges they've faced. Taking a few minutes each week to talk to your child about their learning – whether it's something they've enjoyed, found tricky, or are proud of – shows them that you're interested, helps them reflect, and strengthens that important home-school connection.

We're really grateful to families who regularly chat about learning and take time to sign the learning logs – it really does make a difference.



Annual reports have now been completed and will be sent home shortly. Parent meeting appointments will be arranged for the beginning of Term 4, offering another chance to speak directly with your child's class teacher about their progress and next steps.

Book Fair



We're excited to welcome the **Book Fair** back to school during the week beginning **Monday 21st April 2025**. It will run alongside our **parents/carers evenings**, making it a great chance for families to browse the selection together before or after their appointment.



There will be a wide range of books available to encourage reading for pleasure, and every purchase helps the school earn rewards to buy new books for our classrooms and library.

Diary Dates



Moray Council Terms Dates & Holidays:
moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_55829.html

2024– 2025 Summer Term

Term starts - Monday 14th April 2025

Good Friday holiday – Friday 18th April 2025

May Day holiday – Monday 5th May 2025

Occasional Day – Monday 2nd June 2025

Term ends - Friday 27th June 2025

Book fair

Week beginning Monday 21st April 2025

P6/7 Bikeability

Week beginning Monday 28th April 2025

P5–P7 Rugby Sessions with Jasmine Edwards

Wednesdays 11.15–12.15 on 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th May 2025

P6 Visit to Keith Grammar School Science Fair

Wednesday 14th May 2025

Parent Council Meeting

Wednesday 14th May 2025, 6.30pm–7.30pm

Class Photos

Thursday 15th May 2025

P6/7 Scottish Opera Performance at Keith Primary

Monday 26th May 2025

Whole School Transition Week

Week beginning Tuesday 3rd June 2025

P7 Activity Week with Outfit Moray

Tuesday 3rd – Friday 6th June 2025

Keith Grammar School Induction Days (P7)

Tuesday 10th – Thursday 12th June 2025

Sports Day

Wednesday 18th June 2025 (afternoon)

P7 Leavers' Assembly

Friday 20th June 2025, 2.00pm–3.00pm

The Gordon Schools Transition Days (P7)

Monday 23rd – Friday 27th June 2025

The Gordon Schools Parent Information Evening

Thursday 26th June 2025 7-8.30pm

As always, we are incredibly grateful for your continued support, encouragement, and partnership. It makes such a difference to everything we do here at school. We look forward to all that the coming weeks will bring and thank you for being such a valued part of our school community.

Mrs Clayton

☎ If you are having any difficulties receiving emails or group call messages please contact the school office.