



Rothiemay Primary School

'Nurturing aspiration for learning, relationships and life.'

Responsibility – Inclusion - Values – Empathy - Respect

January 2025



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Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year from Rothiemay School!

2025

As we embrace the frosty days of January, we reflect on the busy and festive end to last term. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to making our Christmas celebrations so special.

Our **Festive Family Fun Afternoon** on Friday, 13th December, was a fantastic success, with older pupils showcasing their leadership skills by organising festive crafts and games. It was wonderful to see so many parents and children coming together to enjoy the activities, and we're grateful for the great turnout. Events like these truly highlight our commitment to nurturing **Effective Contributors** and **Confident Individuals**.

We also had a wonderful time at our annual **Christmas Parties**, where the man in red made a special appearance, much to the delight of the children. Our **Christmas Lunch**, complete with festive crackers kindly supplied by the Parent Council, was another highlight of the term.

A special mention must go to the **Christmas Fair at Rothiemay Village Hall** on **Saturday, 7th December**, which was a great success. With a fantastic turnout, festive fun, and support from local stallholders, it was a brilliant way to bring the community together. A **huge thank you** to everyone involved in organising and running the event—your hard work and dedication made it a truly special occasion.

We are continually appreciative of the dedication and support of all our Rothiemay families, especially our **Parent Council**, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure these events run smoothly. Your support, whether big or small, makes a huge difference.

As we move into the new term, we look forward to more exciting opportunities and adventures ahead. **Thank you again for your ongoing enthusiasm and involvement!**

Staff News: Farewells and Welcomes

Last term, we bid a fond farewell to Mrs Donnison, who embarked on an early retirement, and we also wished Mrs Raikes all the best as she took on the role of Acting Head Teacher at St Thomas' Primary School. We are grateful for their contributions to the school and wish them both much happiness in their new chapters.



This term, we are delighted to welcome two new faces to our team: Mrs Lai and Mrs Mitchell. They will be joining us to support our learners both in class and during playtimes. We look forward to giving them a warm Rothiemay welcome and are excited for the positive impact they will bring to our school community.

Outdoors and Before School

A big thank you to all parents for ensuring children are dressed appropriately to enjoy the winter weather. We continue to embrace outdoor learning and play, no matter the weather.

An adult will continue to be on the playground each morning to greet children as they arrive from the school buses. However, as the weather becomes chillier, we may opt for indoor activities on some mornings. That said, we always encourage outdoor play whenever possible, so please ensure children have their gloves and hats at the ready!



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Looking Ahead

This term, the P6/7 class will be busy rehearsing for the Scottish Opera performance, learning the songs in preparation for the exciting event.



We are also thrilled to continue our partnership with Amanda Walker, Active Schools Coordinator for Keith ASG. Amanda has already been in touch to arrange a weekly session for P3-7, where she will share her enthusiasm for Karate and self-defence with the children.



As part of our efforts to ensure smooth transitions, we will be holding transition meetings and organising visits to support our pupils moving between key stages. This includes our Playgroup children transitioning into Primary 1, as well as our Primary 7s preparing for their move to Secondary 1. We are committed to making these transitions as smooth and positive as possible.

In addition, we are excited to offer our older pupils the opportunity to enter a team in the local Rotary Quiz, giving them a chance to challenge themselves and represent the school in the community.



We are also exploring the potential of our outdoor space and are seeking advice from others to enhance our outdoor learning opportunities. With our fantastic grounds, field, forest, and playground areas, we are eager to make the most of these spaces. Watch this space for exciting developments!



Our Termly Class Newsletters have now been sent out, and don't forget to check your child's learning log on Fridays for the latest updates on their learning journey.



PE Days

Please make sure your child brings their PE kit and has appropriate indoor shoes (trainers or pumps work best) on PE days. While slip-on indoor shoes may be convenient, they are not always practical for PE activities.

- **P1-5 (Robins):** Mondays and Fridays
- **P5-6 (Eagles):** Mondays and Thursdays

#Responsible Citizens

Parent Council



A big thank you to everyone who joined the Parent Council meeting on 29th October 2024!

24/25 parent council:

Chairperson – Lynne & Martin Cameron

Secretary – Josie Raffan

Treasurer – Lindsey Garrioch



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 5th February
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>

Celebrations and Achievements

Proud Clouds and River Points will continue to be celebrated in our Friday assemblies. We warmly welcome emails from parents sharing any achievements your child has outside of school.

admin.rothimayp@moray-edunet.gov.uk

We love celebrating their successes with the whole school community!



Picture from these assemblies will be shared on our Twitter/X page. <https://x.com/RothiemayPS>

Adverse Weather



School closures can happen at this time of year as we saw at the beginning of the new term. These decisions are always made with great care and with the safety of all pupils at the heart of our decisions. We thank you for your support and understanding. Every effort will be made to ensure that closure decisions are made in a timely manner. When a decision has been made it will be communicated in the following ways:

- Post on the Moray Council Service Disruption webpage. This will be visible to anyone who visits <https://secure.moray.gov.uk/mcalerts/portal> on the Council website.
- Post on the Moray Council Facebook page and Twitter feed (facebook.com/MorayCouncil/ twitter.com/TheMorayCouncil)
- Send an Email Alert message. This message will only be received by those who have registered at mygovscot <https://online.moray.gov.uk/site/wss/home> and chosen Rothiemay Primary School as services about which they wish to receive alerts.

(Note - this is not connected to our regular Rothiemay school emails.)

If the decision is made to send bus pupils home early, we will try to call all bus pupils' parents to make them aware, ensuring that someone is at home to meet them off the bus. As a school we do not know when the buses will arrive at school to collect pupils, this may mean that there is a delay between our call and the buses arriving to drop pupils off at home.

School Menus



Please follow the link below to see the full moray school lunch menu for 2024.

<http://www.moray.gov.uk/downloads/file147882.pdf>

Rag Bag

Thank you to all those who have remembered to recycle their unwanted textiles and clothes in our 'Rag Bag' bin in the school car park. It continues to raise money for school events in the background.

<https://www.rag-bag.co.uk/>



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.

Diary Dates



2024– 2025 Spring Term

Term starts - Monday 6th January 2025

In-Service Closure – Thursday 13th February 2025

Mid-term holiday – Friday 14th February 2025

Mid-term holiday – Monday 17th February 2025

Term ends - Friday 28th March 2025 –

Spring Holidays

Monday 31st March 2025 – Friday 11th April 2025



Moray Council Terms Dates & Holidays:

moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_55829.html

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

Mrs Gayton