

Rainow Round-Up 2022-23



Caring, Learning, Achieving

Welcome to the final Round-Up of what has been another fantastic academic year at Rainow! Traditionally, this is an annual round-up, and I have chosen some pictures from the amazing Y5 / Y6 Summer Show, *The Wizard of Oz*, to break up all the information. As I said to all the audiences, Upper Key Stage 2 worked incredibly hard on another sensational Rainow summer spectacular —a real team effort.

As always, thank you to Mrs Eddie, Mr Trueman and their terrific team for putting on a high quality performance and, of course, to the children for their endless energy, enthusiasm and talent.

With it being a longer newsletter, I have put the information you need to know about first, in case you don't make it to the end in one sitting.



The Cast of The Wizard of Oz 2023—There really is RainOW business, like show business!



Leavers' Assembly...Tomorrow...2.15 p.m.

The Leavers' Assembly will take place on the school playground, starting at approx. 2.15 p.m. tomorrow. All the children will attend and all families are most welcome to join us. It is always busy and a lovely way to end the year. We will reserve seats for the families of Year 6 children, but it will probably be standing room only for parents from other year groups. You are welcome to arrive from 2 p.m. In the event of bad weather, we will use the school hall where there will only be room for the Year 6 families.

Rainow Round-Up Video 22-23...Available Now

As in previous years, I have put together a short video review of the year which you can watch with your children. It's a lovely way to reflect on what has been an incredibly busy and enjoyable year. Apologies if I missed one of your favourite moments!

[CLICK HERE FOR THE RAINOW ROUND-UP VIDEO 22-23](#)

Please note that this video is 'unlisted' and should only be shared with our school community.

***Academic Results...
another Successful Year**

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This year our children have achieved terrific results in their statutory end of key stage assessments, and we are extremely proud of all their hard work and progress. It is testament to the hard work and determination of all of our children, staff, and families.

EYFS

In the Reception Class, the children have made excellent progress. One of the ways in which children are assessed is whether they have achieved a 'Good Level of Development' (GLD).

Our GLD in Reception class for 2023 is 77% (The **national GLD result in 2022 was 65%**)

This represents excellent achievement and prepares the children well for Year 1.

YEAR 1

In year 1, children are required to take a phonics check test.

Our Y1 pass rate this year is 93%, (The **national pass rate in 2022 was 75%**)

This is an outstanding result and sets our Y1 children up with some strong reading foundations as they move into Year 2.

KS1

Our 6 and 7 year olds are assessed by their class teacher in Reading, Writing and Maths. Our scores across all 3 areas are at least in line with 2022 national averages, which is another great achievement.

Click [here](#) link to see our End of Key Stage 1 achievement over the past 5 years.

YEAR 4 Multiplication Check

The children in Year 4 are required to take a short, digital times table quiz. It comprises of 25 questions, testing them on the times tables, from 2x—12x.

Our Y4 class average for 2023 was 21 out of 25, which we are pleased with. (no national thresholds yet).

KS2

This is always an important year group in school as it reflects the impact of the teaching and the pupils' learning experiences over the past seven years. Once again, we are pleased to report that our results are mostly in line, or above national thresholds. This is another great result given the amount of disruption for these children over the past 3 years. Click [here](#) to see our End of Key Stage 2 achievement in 2023, and over the past 5 years.

Although we realise that test scores are merely a snapshot, and only a tiny reflection of what makes each and every one of your children special and unique, they do represent tremendous achievements and are a testament to all the hard work and excellent relationships between children, teachers, and families in all our year groups. Thank you.

It is worth noting that our football team has reached two finals this year, and that our swimming team recently won a bronze medal at the Macclesfield Primary Schools Swimming Gala. We also enjoyed some great success in the Cross-Country championship.



More Reasons to be Proud and Positive

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As the school year draws to a close, it is a good time to sit back and reflect on another successful year at Rainow School. I must admit that reading back through all the Round-Ups and scanning our Twitter feed, always makes me immensely proud of all that we have achieved in just one year! However, without fear of repeating the brilliant memories from the [Video Review](#), I would like to draw your attention to a few more items worthy of particular note...

OFSTED

As you know, OFSTED conducted a Section 8 inspection of our school at the end of June. It has been over 7 years since we were last inspected, and the OFSTED framework against which we are judged was overhauled in 2019. Basically, the bar has been raised considerably, and the inspection process has, quite rightly, placed a much sharper focus on the entire curriculum rather than a narrow focus on English and Mathematics. We have worked incredibly hard over the past 7 years to redesign and improve our curriculum, ensuring that all aspects of the school, including governance, behaviour, safeguarding, and SEND, maintain their outstanding status. We are delighted with our final report, which is overwhelmingly positive. The inspector was clearly impressed with the improvements we have made and was blown away by how confident, kind, and articulate our children were in discussing school, each other, and their learning. Here are a few quotes that we are most pleased about:

"From arrival in the Reception class, children form strong relationships with staff. These continue throughout the school. Pupils develop a strong understanding of teachers' expectations. This leads to a calm and mutually respectful atmosphere in the school. Staff trust pupils to behave sensibly, and they do."

"Pupils behave impeccably." and "Behaviour is exemplary."

"Support for pupils' personal development is exceptional."

"Pupils feel like they are part of a big family"

We are also pleased with the compliments around our SEND provision, the EYFS, and leadership overall (including the teaching staff). I have always said that effective education can only be built on strong and respectful, mutual relationships, and this was abundantly clear to the inspector as he watched lessons, perused through books, and talked to the children and staff. Of course, there is always room for improvement, but we are reassured by the fact that he agreed with our self-evaluation and, in simple terms, to keep doing what we are doing. We will!

The full, final report can be found [here](#).

School Games Mark...Gold Award

We are delighted to announce that we have achieved the **GOLD** School Games Mark Award for the 2022/23 academic year. The School Games Mark (SGM) is a Government-led award scheme, to reward and recognise school's engagement (provision and uptake) in the School Games Events and to celebrate keeping young people active. We have participated in multiple events throughout the year; resulting in many of our KS2 pupils representing our school. As part of our Pupil Promise (which you can find [here](#)), we ensure our children play in an inter-school competition and 100% of our Y6 pupils have successfully achieved this throughout this year alone.



We look forward to entering more competitions next year and make sure you keep an eye out on our [Twitter](#) feed for all of our latest sports updates.

Miss Crowther (PE Subject Leader)

Planet Protectors...Eco Schools...Green Flag Award

Planet Protectors has had more prominent exposure this year and this has led to many more children actively participating in Planet Protector projects. We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded the Green Flag Award (with distinction) - their top award—for the second consecutive year!

At our final meeting we reviewed the year and Year 6 brought legacy ideas. Peter Grogan (Vice Chair of Governors) kindly joined us to be updated.

[Read about their achievements here.](#)

Gardening Club

Gardening Club members have been very busy this year. They meet once a week and the club is open for children from Y1—Y6.

[Read about their achievements here.](#)



Ms Lewis, Planet Protector and Gardening Club Lead Teacher



The Year 5s were a superb support—we have high hopes for them next year!

Thank you to those of you that completed the online survey. The vast majority of parents are extremely positive about school and all the feedback is most welcome, and vital if we are to continue to improve. The statistical information gathered by OFSTED can be found [here](#). Staff and governors will, of course, consider all comments and factor these into future plans if possible and appropriate. With this in mind, I would also like to share with you a [short review of our Strategic School Development Plan \(SSDP\)](#). The SSDP is a working document to keep us focussed on whole school improvement. It will be fully reviewed and updated in the autumn term.

There were so many lovely and supportive comments in the survey which we are very grateful for. I have chosen a comment from a Year 6 Parent who, after 7 years here, speaks with a considerable amount of experience and authority...

*“You provide such a family feeling to school.
Always approachable, friendly, honest, helpful, caring and informative.
You make sure the children are doing their best academically, and tailor the
curriculum amazingly for individuals who need extra help or SEN.
You make such a profound effort to care about their school/home well-being.
Your support, help and advice has been extremely appreciated throughout my
children’s school journey. I can’t express the gratitude I have for such a wonderful
school ”*

School Uniform...PE Kits

Just a reminder before the holiday that our school uniform consists of a green sweatshirt / cardigan, white polo shirt, grey skirt / pinafore / dress or trousers. Training shoes should not be worn for school.

Our PE kit consists of a white t-shirt (logo or not) and black shorts (optional joggers and sports hoodies in the winter). There are some excellent and well-established 2nd hand options via class WhatsApp groups which might help with cost, and we have recruited some parent ‘Lost Property Coordinators’ for September—**last chance to claim this years’ lost property after school today!** Children are allowed to come to school in their PE kit on their PE days and class teachers will let you know your PE day via their 1st Class Information letter in September. Further information can be found [here](#).

Please note that all items of clothing should be clearly marked with the child's name.

Staffing Update... Charles IV...FRS

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A reminder that the classes and teachers are as follows from September 2023:

Reception Class: Mrs Daley (Mrs Copeland will teach 2 days to cover Mrs Daley's Deputy Head and SENDCo time)

Class 1: Miss Townley

Class 2: Mr Gratton

Class 3: Mrs Copeland (Mon and Tue) and Mrs Hill (Wed—Fri)

Class 4: Miss Crowther

Class 5: Mr Trueman

Class 6: Mrs Eddie (Mon—Thurs) and Mrs Walker (Fri)

All the teachers have now taught their new classes for at least one lesson as part of our transition programme, and everyone is very excited about September. A [full staff list can be found here](#).

Meet Charles IV...Our Newest Member of Staff!

Mia, Year 6, presented the school with a fantastic leaving gift: a new cuddly school helper. Mia worked with her Grandma, Liz, to design and create this furry friend. She wanted to leave something special for the children to hold when they needed an extra friend or to sit with them while reading. The Rainow Reps held a bear-naming competition and unanimously voted to name the bear...Charles IV. Thus, from this moment onwards, the cuddly companion shall be known by this name! We would like to express our gratitude to Marion and William for coming up with such an excellent name. And, of course, a big thank you to Mia and Liz for their wonderful and thoughtful gift.



A Fond Farewell to Mrs Taylor

Tomorrow, we bid farewell to a dear, trusted colleague and friend, Mrs. Taylor. She joined Rainow School as a Teaching Assistant over 6 years ago, and during that time, she has helped and supported countless children and staff. At her leaving assembly today, the overriding sentiment was how positive, caring, helpful, and happy Mrs. Taylor is. She is honestly one of the kindest and most patient people you could ever wish to meet!

We wish her the best of luck as she embarks on a teacher training programme. Wherever she ends up, the children will be very lucky indeed! Thank you, Mrs. Taylor.

FRS News

What a year! We're absolutely delighted to announce that we have raised a whopping **£7,150** since September! This couldn't have been achieved without the generous support of our wonderful school community and the hard work of the FRS Committee, teachers and support staff to put on our fundraising events.

We're also grateful to our 43 School Lottery subscribers and to everyone who has donated to the clothes bank.

Finally, we were very fortunate to receive in-kind donations from Canvas Co, Tesco Exchange Street, Sainsbury's and Macclesfield Rotary this year.

Coming up...

We still **need volunteers** to help us clear some of the land by the river, ready for the installation of our new woodland shelter in September. If you'd like to help, please email friendsofrainow@gmail.com or message Rebecca Ford on 07813 068330.

And if you'd like to find out more about the work we do and our plans for 23/24, come along to our **AGM on 21st Sept** at 7pm in the school hall.

My sincere thanks to Rebecca and her team. The FRS play a significant part in enhancing your child's Rainow experience, from purchasing resources and funding interesting trips and visitors, to organising amazing events to strengthen relationships and a sense of community. Terrific job, team!



And finally...

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Today, another school year draws to a close. Many thanks to the staff and families for your efforts in what has been an incredibly successful year. Congratulations to all the children for their fantastic personal progress and amazing attitude towards school and learning.

Sadly, we will not be welcoming back our Year 6 pupils in September as they move on to the next stage of their education. At the time of writing, they have just returned from their final ramble together to White Nancy. This group of children was my first Reception Class as Headteacher at Rainow. They are an extremely charming, enthusiastic, and thoughtful bunch. Not a day goes by without one of them asking me how my day was or sharing some news with me. They are such a sociable, bubbly, interesting, and multi-talented group. The class has simply been a delight to teach and get to know over the past 7 years, and we know that they are more than ready for high school. Go and shine, children!

We also end a long relationship with a number of families whose children are leaving. It has been an extremely positive and active relationship and I would like to offer my sincere thanks for your support over the years—you are welcome back whenever you like, and I hope that you will continue to be part of the Rainow School family in the future.

On behalf of all the staff, I would like to thank you for your generous gifts and kind messages— it really is very much appreciated.

For those parents who cannot attend the Leavers' Service, I trust that you will all have a restful and enjoyable summer holiday. Enjoy the break, and for those returning to school, **we will open for all pupils on Tuesday 5th September 2023.**



**Caring,
Learning,
Achieving**



THE CLASS OF 2023 - AN UNFORGETTABLE GROUP

*Growing a
community of life-
long learners who
will **care** for each
other,*

*who will work hard to
learn new things
every day,*

*and who will **achieve**
more than they
thought possible.*

Vision Fulfilled!