



Caring, Learning, Achieving

I would like to begin by wishing you all a slightly belated warm welcome back to school and a special welcome to all the new children and parents who have joined us this year. We hope that you will take an active part in the school community and that you enjoy your time with us.

The Round-Up, emails and Arbor are our main forms of home-school communication (no mobile signals up in th'hills!), and I publish the Round-Up every fortnight, on a Friday. Most families receive a copy via email, but we can provide a paper copy if you so wish.

The Round-Up should provide you with everything you need to know about school life, and the 'A Look Ahead...' and 'Diary Dates' on the last pages will give you plenty of notice for upcoming events. Teachers will also send out class-specific information via their home learning platforms: Tapestry (Reception Class), Class Do-Jo (C1, 2 and 3), or See-Saw (C4—C6). With so many important messages at the start of the year, today is a longer issue.

We have enjoyed an excellent first week back in school. The children have been impeccably behaved, relaxed and happy to be together again. The first week is always about settling back into school routines and building up stamina after a lengthy break. I expect the children might be a little more tired this weekend as I know the staff will be!

Buildings & Premises Update

We are delighted to report that all the lights in school have now been upgraded to LED. The school is brighter, feels more modern and our Planet Protectors are thrilled about how much more energy efficient they should be! The other BIG buildings and premises news is all to do with our exciting Woodlands Project—read all about on page 5.

Finally, Miss Welsh and Mrs Gabbott, our office team, have asked me to remind you to sign up to our new bookings and payment system—Arbor. If you have not logged on before we have sent reset password emails this afternoon, if anyone has not received this or is having issues please contact the school office. **Please note, it is for all families**, not just for those parents who are making epayments. We will be using it to capture data such as permission for Calpol in school and notification of cancellation of clubs etc. I wish you all an enjoyable and relaxing weekend.

New Reception Class 2023

We have welcomed 28 new children into school and they have settled into Rainow life wonderfully well. So far they have spent the mornings with us and are getting used to school routines. Next week they will stay for lunch. We are pleased to report that there have been very few tears and they seem to be enjoying every new experience and opportunity—a super bunch! Reception parents may notice or hear about the older children helping the Reception class. This is part of our 'Buddy' programme. The Reception children will shortly be assigned a Year 6 'Buddy' to give them a helping hand as they start their Rainow learning journey!



Our fantastic new Reception children, — definitely one for the album!

(We will make sure children who missed this pic will feature in the next Round-Up)

Attendance

First, a reminder about school attendance. We class excellent, whole-school attendance as approx. 97% and above. **Last year, we achieved a school attendance of approximately 96.4%**, which was pleasing but not quite the 97% we aimed for. We hope to improve on this during 23-24. **This week, school attendance has been over 98%, a great start!** **Please note that we cannot grant any holidays in term time.** Apart from illness, or to attend medical / dental appointments, absence will only be granted in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the Headteacher. Failure to adhere to these rules will likely result in a fixed penalty fine.

Please take some time to read our attendance policy [here](#).

Medical

If your child has **any** medical condition that we are not aware of, please could you let us know as soon as possible and complete the relevant forms. **Our Administering Medicines Policy is [here](#).**

Uniform

We always greatly appreciate the vast majority of parents who support our well-established school dress code. We also understand how expensive uniform can be, particularly with the current financial climate, so further details of cost effective ways of purchasing uniform can be found [here](#).

Please label all clothing and lunch boxes; taking a few minutes to do this can save hours of hunting and upset! There is a lost property box which is worth a visit if you do lose something. Children should not wear jewellery, nail varnish or make-up for school. **Your child is allowed to wear non-uniform on their birthday! (if there birthday is in a school holiday, they can choose a day just before or after the school break).**

Morning Snacks...Nut-Free School

Most children bring or buy a healthy snack at morning playtime (10.20 a.m. for R, C1, C2 and 10.40 a.m. for C3—C6). We suggest it is not too large as they eat lunch at approx. 12.15 p.m. (younger children eat earlier)

Children can bring cash and purchase a snack of their choice from the kitchen counter. This helps teach the children an important life skill alongside giving you the flexibility to pick and choose which days to have a school snack. There will always be someone to help the younger children when they get to the till. **PLEASE ONLY SEND COINS, AND NAME ANY WALLETS / PURSES AS THE CHILDREN WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN MONEY.**

The choices available for sale are as follows (ALL 30p except Bacon Bap which is £1.10):

Monday, Tuesday - Toast, Crumpet or a Bagel

Wednesday - Toast, Crumpet or a Cheesy Oatcake

Thursday—Toast, Bagel or Fruit Smoothie

Friday - Toast, Bagel or a Strawberry Ice Smoothie (Dairy free)

Due to the number of children with severe allergies, we endeavour to be a nut free school.

Please ensure that packed lunches and snacks are nut-free.

Parking / Traffic

Please adhere to the following rules:

- **Never park on the yellow zig-zig lines (this includes waiting and 'quickly' dropping off)**
- **Never obstruct junctions.**
- **Never block residents' driveways.**
- **Make sure pedestrians can safely use the pavements.**
- **Adhere to the speed limit at all times.**

There is plenty of space to park further around Round Meadow and onto Miller's Meadow. Setting off a few minutes earlier and / or walking a few metres further, are small prices to pay to ensure the safety of our children and a happier community.



**Rowan the
Raven**



**Bramble
the Badger**



**Fern the
Fox**



**Speedwell
the Squirrel**



**Oakley the
Owl**



**The Busy
Bees**

Rainow School Learning Values

[CLICK ON ANY BADGE TO LEARN MORE](#)

For parents new to school, and a reminder for other families, we would like to share with you our school Learning Values. We pride ourselves at Rainow in making sure children develop a lifelong love of learning. We believe that equipping children with the skills and knowledge of *how* to learn is equally, if not more, important than what to learn.

Our friendly woodland creatures have been designed to help encourage and remind us all about desirable and effective learning behaviours.

Children might be awarded a special badge to take home from time to time to recognise improvements against a Learning Value. It is our long term goal that children no longer need an extrinsic reward such as a badge, certificate or reward, but we realise that rewards can work to motivate children in the short term. We also believe that our badge system works to help keep our Learning Values at the forefront of all of our minds. We will be working hard to teach children about each value, whilst at the same time educating them about how the reward should really come from the process of learning, or the sense of achievement itself, rather than the prize at the end.

Curriculum

We aim to plan an exciting and stimulating curriculum with work linking together in topics or themes. This makes the learning more meaningful for your children as they can make connections between subjects. We will provide a wide range of interesting teaching and learning opportunities to interest and enthuse your children, including class trips.

Your class teacher will send more detailed information about curriculum coverage and keep you updated throughout the year, including through our Meet and Greet parents' evenings (see page 6). Further information about the Rainow curriculum can be found [here](#).

Our School Motto and Vision

Motto:

Caring, Learning, Achieving

Vision:

*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.*

A Taster to Whet the Appetite for New Families (and those who missed it!)

We always finish the year with a retrospective video montage. Please see a

[Round-Up of 2022-23 here.](#)

Please note, this video is unlisted and must only be shared within the Rainow School Community

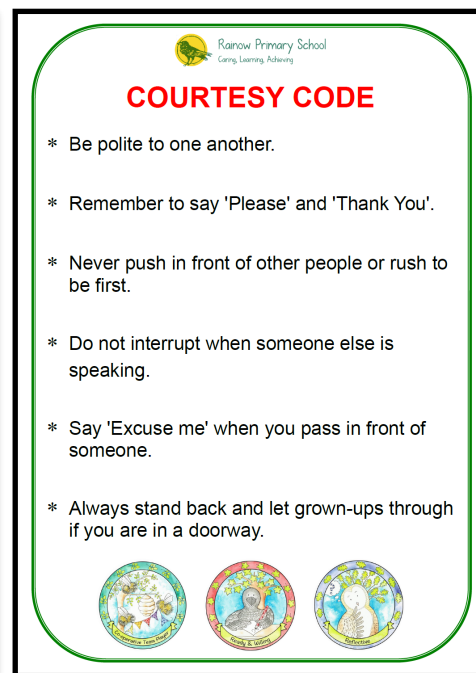
Rainow Round-Up

21st July—8th September 2023

Be Friendly, Polite and Well-behaved

The children's behaviour at our last [OFSTED inspection \(June, 2023\)](#), was described as 'exemplary' and 'impeccable' and they have began the year in the same vein.

We believe that effective education is built on excellent relationships and a relevant, interesting and exciting curriculum. We develop mutually respectful relationships with the children, and these relationships are strengthened by the use of consistent and simple school rules and our courtesy code. All the children (not Reception quite yet!) will know our 3 simple rules and the physical action to match each one—feel free to test them! We will work hard in school on adhering to these rules, and it would be even better if you could reinforce them at home. Our Behaviour Policy can be [read](#) here and our Anti-Bullying Policy is [here](#).



Drop-offs and Pick-Ups

Please can I remind parents to supervise their children if they are using the playground before or after school and **do not allow them to play on the banks or climb our gates or fences.** The school is not liable for any accidents that may occur whilst parents / carers are waiting on the playground with children and it is confusing for children if rules set in school time are broken out of school.

Thank you

Speaking of being polite, I know that the teachers and other staff greatly appreciated their generous end of year gifts at the end of last term. On behalf of the staff, many thanks.

For those of you new to school, or in case you missed it, the final Round-Up letter can be found [here](#) with, among others, links to videos, parent survey results etc.

Twitter / X

We launched our Twitter / X feed a few years ago and this can be found on our school website home page, or by searching for [@RainowSchool](#) on Twitter itself.

We currently have 537 followers and it is a great way to look at lots of extra pictures and keep up-to-date with school activities. Last year, we tweeted over 200 times and we plan on updating our feed on a regular basis.

Friends of Rainow School (FRS)—Our School PTA

FRS AGM - 7pm, Thursday 21st September, The School Hall

Everyone welcome, no commitment required just a great opportunity to have your say on matters such as how FRS funds are spent, what activities we hold etc. As a new parent, it's a brilliant way to integrate yourself into school life and play an active role in enriching your child's school journey!

At the AGM there will be the opportunity to put yourself forward for the key roles of chair, vice chair, secretary and treasurer, if you are interested in any of these roles, please feel free to contact Rebecca on 07813 068330 or Chloe on 07817611457 to discuss. We are particularly in need of a Secretary!

Finally, there have been lots of **School Lottery** winners over the summer. You've got to be in it to win it, so please sign up at www.yourschoollottery.co.uk and search for Rainow Primary School.



Coming Soon...Magical Woodland Project

We are *incredibly* excited about the new outdoor classroom area which will soon enhance our school's magical woodlands. Using funds raised from previous years, plus additional from the school budget, FRS will be working with [Splash Community Projects](#) and one of their corporate partners to build a shelter that the children (and Mrs. de Ruiter!) have helped to design.

Mr. Norris, teachers, Mr. Margerson (our Site Maintenance Officer) and parents have worked incredibly hard over the summer break to tidy and prepare the woods for the installation. All the children have explored the woods this week and cannot wait for the big reveal. There is a video [here](#) to give you an idea of what is to come. **All being well, the project will be finished, ready for a grand opening, at 3 p.m. next Wednesday 13th Sep. You are all most welcome to join us in the woods for the ribbon cutting. We hope to see you there.**



Top and Bottom Left: Before and After!!

Top centre and right: Our new Reception children loved watching the deliveries!

Bottom centre: Mr Marg is always on hand to do what he can for our children.

Bottom right: Beyond these gates lies a Magical Woodland!



The FRS have raised thousands of pounds for the school over the years and, among others, contributed to new IT equipment, playground equipment, picnic benches, books etc. Most recently, they fully funded our new climbing wall! The FRS is incredibly important in enhancing your child's school experience and provides some amazing community events.

We look forward to you playing a part in the FRS's continued success.

A look ahead... Rainow Round-Up

21st July—8th September 2023

Parent-Teacher Meetings...format for this year

Please speak, or send a message, to the class teacher in the first instance if you have *any* queries so that we can endeavour to rectify any issues. Teachers are only available before and after school for the passing of brief messages or questions. If you require a longer meeting, please contact them to arrange a mutually convenient time.

Our class *Meet and Greet* events (wk. commencing 18th Sep) is when we invite all parents / carers to school to receive useful information about your child's class and the year ahead. This is one of two opportunities to visit school in the autumn term, as we also plan on holding individual parents' evening meetings after the October half term. There will also be a mid-point parents' evening at the beginning of March.

Assemblies

There are various assemblies for the children throughout the week, some just for your child's class and others for the infants or juniors.

On Mondays, the teachers and children come together to celebrate children's progress and achievements from the previous week.

Friday assemblies are a chance to share awards or achievements that children may have received out of school, so feel free to send in certificates, awards and pictures etc.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

We are excited about the return of our wide range of extra-curricular clubs, some of which rely on staff goodwill and others that will incur a charge to parents. We will endeavour to provide a wide range of clubs, not just sports, to appeal to as many children and age-ranges as possible. This will be reviewed half-terminally. Please note that Reception children will have access to clubs later on in the school year.

**SCHOOL CLUBS WILL START, MONDAY 18th SEPTEMBER
AND WE WILL SEND A TIMETABLE EARLY NEXT WEEK.**

Free School Meals

All pupils in the Reception Class and Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2) are eligible to have a free school meal every day (known as Universal Infant Free School Meals).

In previous years, eligibility for Income Related Free School Meals has also provided a further allocation of money to the school called the Pupil Premium to support your child. Parents who would qualify for this would be likely to be in receipt of benefits. If you think that you may be eligible for this please telephone 0300 123 5012.

If you do claim this, we may be able to help you with the cost of trips and school visits as the school will receive a sum of money to support your child, so it is very important that you claim if possible, even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2. If you do not claim, your child will miss out on vital funding.

All contact in this matter will be strictly confidential and will not affect any other benefits that you may be receiving.

A look ahead... Rainow Round-Up

21st July—8th September 2023

Breakfast and After School Club

We are delighted to be able to offer such excellent before and after school care in our clubs. All bookings for clubs need to be made via Arbor. Please email the office for any cancellations; admin@rainowpri.cheshire.sch.uk

Moving forward, please note that the cut off for Booking ASC sessions is 10am on the same day needed. Many thanks.

Further Information, including how to book can be found here:



Diary Dates



A calendar for the year ahead is given below and is also available on the school website. Further details will be provided closer to the events but this should provide a useful overview. Please add these dates to your calendar.

September 2023

Mon 11th Reception class stay until 1.45 p.m. all week
Tue 12th Woodlands Project Commences
Wed 13th Woodlands Project Completes
Mon 18th Extra-Curricular Clubs commence
Reception Class start full-time
Meet and Greet Class Events commence
Tues 21st FRS AGM, 7 p.m. School Hall

October

Tues 3rd Y5 / Y6 Residential commences
Fri 6th Y5 / Y6 Residential returns
Sat 14th Mini First Aid Training—School Hall
Thur 19th **School closes for the children**
Fri 20th **School closed for staff INSET day**
Mon 30th **School reopens for the children**
Well-Being Launch Day 1—
Keep Learning

November

Mon 13th Anti-Bullying Week commences
Fri 17th Children In Need Fundraiser
Mon 27th Mini First Aid Training—School Hall

December

Fri 1st Xmas Fair (tbc.)
Thur 21st Children's Christmas Lunch and Parties (tbc.)
Fri 22nd **School closes for Christmas.**

January 2024

Mon 8th **School reopens for the children**
Sat 13th Mini First Aid—School Hall
Wed 17th Whole School Trip to New Vic Theatre

February

Tues 6th Safer Internet Day
Fri 16th **School closes for half-term**
Mon 26th **School reopens for children**

March

Thur 7th World Book Day
Thur 28th **School closes for EASTER**

April

Mon 15th **School reopens for the children**

May

Mon 6th **May Bank Holiday, school closed**
Mon 13th Key stage 2 SATs week commences for year 6 pupils
Thur 23rd **School closes for children**
Fri 24th **School closed for staff INSET day**

June

Mon 3rd **School reopens for children**

July

Fri 19th **School closes for summer break**

A HANDY SCHOOL HOLIDAY SUMMARY IS [HERE](#)

THERE ARE STILL VARIOUS KEY DATES YET TO BE CONFIRMED. WE WILL KEEP YOU UPDATED WITH ALL ADDITIONAL DATES OR ANY CHANGES AS THE TERM PROGRESSES.