



A slightly belated but very warm welcome back to school! An especially big welcome goes to all the new children and families who have joined us this year. We hope you will quickly feel part of our school community and that your time with us will be both happy and rewarding.

Our main channels of home-school communication are the **Round-Up**, **email** and **Arbor** (since mobile signals are patchy up in the hills!). I publish the Round-Up every fortnight on a Friday. Most families receive a copy by email, but we are happy to provide a paper copy on request. Each edition includes everything you need to know about school life, with '**A Look Ahead...**' and '**Diary Dates**' on the final pages to give you plenty of notice about upcoming events. Teachers also share class-specific information via their home learning platforms: **Tapestry** (Reception Class), **Class Dojo** (Classes 1–5) and **Google Classroom** (Class 6).

As this is the start of the school year, today's issue is longer than usual. I generally keep the Round-Up to a maximum of four pages, filled with photos and updates, so that it is concise, interesting and useful.

We have enjoyed an excellent first week back. The children have been impeccably behaved, happy, and clearly delighted to be back together. The first week is always about re-establishing routines and rebuilding stamina after a long break, so I imagine the children (and staff!) will be feeling ready for a restful weekend. Wishing you all a relaxing and enjoyable couple of days.



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

(Mrs Daley will post more pics on Tapestry and redo this for any absent children)

New Reception Class 2025

We are delighted to have welcomed **27 new children** into school this September, and they have settled into Rainow life wonderfully well. So far, they have been spending their mornings with us and are quickly becoming familiar with our routines. Next week they will begin staying for lunch—a big step in their school journey!

We are pleased to say that there have been very few tears, and the children seem to be embracing every new experience with enthusiasm. They really are a brilliant bunch.

Reception parents may notice or hear about older children lending a hand in the Reception classroom. This is part of our '**Buddy**' programme, in which every Reception child is paired with a Year 6 pupil to support them as they begin their learning journey at Rainow.

Attendance

We place great importance on excellent attendance and class whole-school attendance of around **97% and above** as our standard. Last year, our overall attendance was **96.9%**, which was excellent. For 2025–26, we aim to maintain this level and, if possible, improve it further.

Please remember that we cannot authorise holidays during term time.

Absence is only permitted for illness, medical/dental appointments, or in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Headteacher. Failure to follow these regulations may result in a fixed penalty fine.

Please take some time to read our attendance policy [here](#). (due for review this term)

Medical

If your child has **any** medical condition that we are not aware of, please could you let the office know as soon as possible so we can 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 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).**

Universal Infant 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).

Other Free School Meals...2 Minute Job

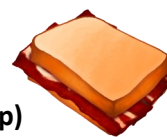
Free School Meals are provided to children from families who meet certain criteria, including income eligibility. Your application not only brings benefits to your child but also allows us to allocate resources more effectively and enhance the educational experience for our entire school. To apply for Free School Meals, please use the following link: [Cheshire East Free School Meal Link](#) Thank you for your attention on this matter. Should you require any further information or support, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

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 slightly earlier). Snacks can only be ordered and paid for through our Arbor app. Orders have to be placed by 9.30 a.m. on Monday for that week, or you can purchase for multiple weeks, up to a maximum of the end of half term.

The choices available for sale are as follows:

Monday:	Toast (35p), Bagel (35p), Teacake (35p) or a Crumpet (35p)
Tuesday:	Toast (35p), Bagel (35p), Teacake (35p), Crumpet (35p) or a Pizza Bite (50p)
Wednesday:	Toast (35p), Bagel (35p), Teacake (35p) or a Crumpet (35p)
Thursday:	Toast (35p), Bagel (35p), Teacake (35p), Crumpet (35p) or a Cheesy Oatcake (50p)
Friday:	Toast (35p), Bagel (35p), Teacake (35p), Crumpet (35p) or a Bacon Butty (£1.20)



Due to the number of children with severe allergies, we are a nut free school.
Please ensure that packed lunches and snacks are nut-free.



**Rowan the
Raven**



**Bramble
the Badger**



**Fern the
Fox**



**Speedwell
the Squirrel**



**Oakley the
Owl**



**The Busy
Bees**

Rainow School Learning and Life 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 and Life 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 joy of learning, or the sense of achievement itself, rather than the prize at the end.

Curriculum

We aim to deliver an engaging, stimulating, and relevant curriculum in which knowledge, ideas, and skills have been carefully planned to progressively build upon one another, day by day and year after year. We will provide a wide range of exciting teaching and learning opportunities to captivate and inspire 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 5). 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.

Click on the TV above to relive some of our favourite moments.

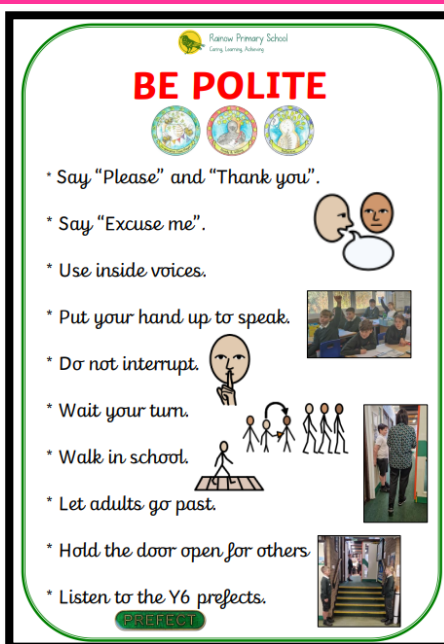
Please note, this video is unlisted and must only be shared within the Rainow School Community

Be Friendly, Polite and Well-behaved

The children's behaviour and attitudes to learning at our last [OFSTED inspection \(Dec, 2024\)](#), were described as 'exemplary' and the foundation of outstanding teaching and learning.

We believe that effective education is built on excellent relationships and a relevant, interesting, and exciting curriculum. We develop mutually respectful relationships with our children, and these relationships are strengthened through the use of consistent and straightforward 'School Rules' and our 'Be Polite' courtesy code. All the children (not Reception quite yet!) will know our three simple rules and the physical actions that correspond with each one—feel free to test them! We will work hard in school to adhere 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](#) (both policies are reviewed annually and will be updated this term).



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, academic results etc.

Parent Survey Results

We used the summer to analyse our end-of-year Parents' Survey. We are delighted to say that the vast majority of you are extremely happy with all aspects of school life. Any comments about areas for future improvement will be considered when we finalise our School Development Plan (SDP) over the coming weeks. A summary of the Parent Survey can be found [here](#).

Supervision at 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.

Parent-Teacher Meetings...Reporting...format for this year

Communication with Class Teachers

If you have any queries, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance so that we can work together to resolve any issues promptly. Teachers are available before and after school for brief messages or quick questions. If you require a longer conversation, please contact the teacher to arrange a mutually convenient meeting time.

Opportunities to Meet Teachers

- **Class Meet & Greet / Information Evening** (see diary dates): An opportunity to visit school and hear useful information about your child's class and the year ahead.
- **Autumn Term Parents' Evening** (after October half term): Individual meetings to discuss your child's progress.
- **Spring Term Parents' Evening** (early March): A chance to look through your child's books and discuss achievements and areas for development.
- **End-of-Year Report** (July): A written summary of your child's progress and achievements.

Assemblies

Children take part in a variety of assemblies each week. Some are held just for their class, while others bring together the infants or juniors.

- **Monday Assembly** – A whole-school celebration of children's progress and achievements from the previous week. We will present school badges and certificates at this assembly.
- **Friday Assembly** – A time to share awards and achievements from outside school. ***Please feel free to send in any certificates, trophies, medals, or photos that your child would like to share.***
- **Birthdays** – We also celebrate children's birthdays in Friday assemblies, singing *Happy Birthday* together. Children can choose whether they would like to come to the front to mark their special day.



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-termly.

FIND THE CLUBS TIMETABLE ON THE WEBSITE [HERE](#).

Parking / Traffic

As you will all be aware, drop-off and pick-up times can become congested and potentially dangerous around Round Meadow.

To help keep our community safe and happy, please adhere to the following rules:

- **Never park on the yellow zig-zig lines (this includes '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.**
- **Ensure safe entrance and exit to the Church Car Park.**



There is plenty of space to park further around Round Meadow and onto Miller's Meadow.

Setting off a few minutes earlier and walking a few metres further, are small prices to pay to ensure the safety of our children and a happier community.

Friends of Rainow School (FRS)—Our School PTA



Thanks to the parents and children who have been helping in our school gardens over the summer. These are used by our gardening club and planet protectors group to help them learn, hands on about growing vegetables, fruit and flowers and how to protect and care for the environment. There are also some exciting plans to extend this so that all children have access to the gardens to support their learning in science. If you'd like to get involved (usually weekends and in school holidays) please contact Jenny on 07941386572.

We will shortly be releasing dates for a couple of social events where you have chance to meet the Friends of Rainow School team. We'll also be letting you know about when we intend to have our next planning meeting. The FRS raise a phenomenal amount of money to enable lots of exciting learning activities to take place (£10,900 in this last year) but this takes time and effort so we're always grateful to have volunteers on board to help plan and run events. **We're particularly looking for people who have experience or skills in applying for grants or would have some time to contact local businesses regarding raffle prizes for our events.** Please contact Rachel on 07786001336 or Jenny on the number above if you would like to get involved.

We'd like to highlight an easy way to get involved with fundraising - playing the school lottery. You've got to be in it to win it so sign up at www.yourschoollottery.co.uk and search for Rainow Primary School.



The FRS have raised thousands of pounds for the school over the years and contributed to new IT equipment, playground equipment, picnic benches and books.

They also help fund larger projects and they are responsible for our amazing Calm Club (above) and our fantastic Woodland Classroom (below).

The FRS is incredibly important in enhancing your child's school experience so please try to get involved as much as you can.



A look ahead... Rainow Round-Up

18th July—5th September 2025

Breakfast and After School Club

We are delighted to be able to offer such excellent before and after school care in our clubs.

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

<http://www.rainowpri.cheshire.sch.uk/page/after-schoolbreakfast-clubs/1121>

Diary Dates

A calendar for the year ahead is given below.

Further details will be provided closer to the events but this should provide a useful overview.



September 2025

Mon 8th	Reception class stay until 1.45 p.m. All week
Tue 9th	Year 5 / Year 6 Info. Evening (5.30 p.m.)
Mon 15th	Reception Class start full-time Class 1 Info. Evening (5.30 p.m.) Class 4 Info. Evening (6 p.m.)
Wed 17th	Class 2 Info. Evening (6.15 p.m.) Reception Class Info. Evening (7 p.m.)
Thurs 18th	Class 3 Info. Evening (5.30 p.m.)
Mon 29th	Year 5 / Year 6 Residential commences

October

Fri 3rd	Year 5 / Year 6 Residential ends
Fri 17th	Just One Tree (Eco Event)
Wed 22nd	Individual and Sibling Photographs
Thurs 23rd	Year 5 Bikeability <u>School closes for the children: HALF TERM</u>
Fri 24th	INSET DAY—TEACHERS ATTEND

November

Mon 3rd	<u>School reopens: AUTUMN 2</u> Well-Being Launch Day 1 - KEEP LEARNING
Mon 10th	Anti-Bullying Week commences Parents' Evinings (1:1) commence (tbc.)
Thur 13th	Year 6 Bikeability
Fri 14th	Year 6 Bikeability Children In Need Fundraiser
Wed 26th	Children's Flu Vaccination (whole school)
Fri 28th	Xmas Fair (tbc.)

December

Thur 18th	Children's Christmas Lunch and Parties (tbc.)
Fri 19th	Whole School Church service <u>School closes for Christmas</u>

January 2026

Mon 5th	<u>School reopens: SPRING 1</u> Well-Being Launch Day 2— CONNECT
Fri 9th	Whole School Trip to New Vic Theatre

February

Tues 10th	Safer Internet Day
Fri 13th	<u>School closes for half-term</u>
Mon 23rd	<u>School reopens: SPRING 2</u> Well-Being Launch Day 3— TAKE NOTICE

March

Mon 2nd	Mid-Year Parents' Evenings this week (tbc.)
Thur 5th	World Book Day
Fri 27th	<u>School closes for EASTER</u>

April

Mon 13th	<u>School reopens: SUMMER 1</u> Well-Being Launch Day 4—STAY ACTIVE
Thurs 16th	Year 3 / Year 4 Residential commences
Fri 17th	Year 3 / Year 4 Residential ends

May

Mon 4th	<u>School closed for early May Bank Holiday</u>
Tues 5th	<u>School reopens</u>
Mon 11th	Key stage 2 SATs week for year 6 pupils
Thur 21st	<u>School closes for children: HALF TERM</u>
Fri 22nd	<u>INSET DAY—TEACHERS ATTEND</u>

June

Mon 1st	<u>School reopens: SUMMER 2</u> Well-Being Launch Day 5—GIVE
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July

Fri 17th	<u>School closes for Summer</u> A HANDY SCHOOL HOLIDAY SUMMARY For 2025-26 IS HERE
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