



**RAINHILL
HIGH SCHOOL**

IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

FRIDAY 1st DECEMBER

PARENT & STUDENT NEWSLETTER

WWW.RAINHILLHIGHSCHOOL.ORG.UK



RainhillSixth
PARENTS EVENING

THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER



Friday 1st December 2023

Dear Parents and Students,

Good afternoon and welcome to this week's newsletter.

This December, we are again launching our December Attendance Challenge, a challenge to promote regular attendance. As we all know, attending school regularly is essential if progress is to be made by your child. We know that there is a strong link between good attendance and good progress. Please read the details of the challenge, which can be found on page 5.

We are excited to announce the launch of our **Christmas House Charity Appeals** today. A key part of the events run by our House System is to contribute to our wider community. One way we do this is through our Christmas charity appeals. This year, all five of our Houses are coming together for two special appeals to support two very important causes in the run-up to Christmas. More details can be found on page 7. Please encourage your child to engage.

Next week we are holding our Rainhill Sixth Parents Evening on **Thursday 7th December**. This is a valuable opportunity for direct discussions between parents and teachers about how well your child is doing. Details of how to book appointments have been shared with parents. We look forward to seeing you there.

As I write this, the sun is shining over a cold but bright Rainhill; let's hope this continues into the weekend.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Thorogood, Headteacher



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NEXT WEEK FOLLOWS THE WEEK A TIMETABLE

	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>
04/12/23		Flu Jabs for all Year Groups		RH6 Parents Evening KS4/KS5 Drama Live Theatre Trip	



NEWS THIS WEEK

DISABILITY HISTORY MONTH

This week we have been marking Disability History Month and raising awareness of the barriers that people living with disabilities face.

There are a large number of people who have a disability or medical condition that affect them in different ways- not all of these may be obvious to others around them

Sometimes these people, including young people, face ignorant attitudes or comments from others because of a lack of understanding of their condition.

People may face BARRIERS due to physical impairment, sensory impairment, neurodiversity, medical condition or mental health conditions.

We need to work as a community to help others overcome barriers to work towards our vision of equality, inclusion and equity for all.

As with all of our assemblies, we linked our vision back to our school's core values of Learn, Think, Contribute and Care:

Learn: Learn that everyone is different, and some people encounter barriers that you may not face yourself.

Think: Think about how you can help people by removing or limiting barriers.

Contribute: Contribute to a school community of inclusion, be supportive of others.

Care: Care about your role in helping others, particularly those who may face barriers.

Mr Roberts, Assistant Headteacher.



**VALUING
DIFFERENCE**

UNDERSTANDING THE NEED FOR
DISABILITY EQUALITY

RAINHILL SIXTH PARENT/CARER CONSULTATION EVENING

Thursday 7th December 2023

For Parents/Carers of our students at our Rainhill site, you are invited to attend our Parent/Carer consultation evening from 4-7pm in the Sports Hall. You will be able to book appointments with your son/daughter's teachers from Thursday 30th November 2023 via Synergy. A message with a link will be sent on this day.

For the Parents/Carers of our students at our Melwood site, you will be invited to book an on-line appointment with your son/daughter's teachers for the week commencing 4th December 2023. Teaching staff from Melwood will be in contact accordingly.

If you have any issues with any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact our Sixth Form administrator, Caitlin Hurstfield, on Caitlin.hurstfield@rainhillhigh.org.uk.

Mr Cunningham, Director RH6 and Mr Allen, Assistant Principal FEFA.



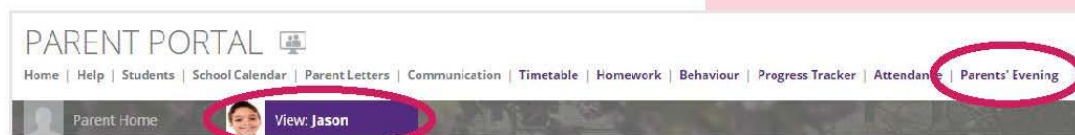
SCHOOL SYNERGY

Parents' Evening Booking System

Book your appointments through the Parent Portal. Log in to the Parent Portal. Click the Parents' Evening menu to view available events.

Who Makes Appointments?

Depending on your school, all parents and carers may be able to book appointments. If parents are to attend together, **only one** parent needs to make appointments through their Parent Portal account.



The Parents' Evening Dashboard

PARENTS' EVENING

Events: Year 8 Parents' Evening

Event: Year 8 Parents' Evening
Event date/time: Wednesday 21 Nov 2018 from 17:00 to 20:00
Last date to make appointments: Wednesday 28 Nov 2018
Student: Jason

BOOK APPOINTMENT

Available teachers and groups. Click to view available times and book an appointment.

8B (8B)
Dr S Mianadad
PSE (8B/PS)
Dr S Mianadad
RELIGIOUS ED (8B/RE)
Mr A Blacker
SCIENCE (8B/SC)

APPOINTMENTS

Click on an appointment to edit or cancel a booking.

17:00	GEOGRAPHY (8B/GG)
Wed 21 Nov	Ms A Little
17:30	HISTORY (8B/Hi)
Wed 21 Nov	Miss H Green

Your child's teachers who you do not yet have an appointment with.

Appointments already made. Select to cancel or edit.

Book an Appointment

- Select a teacher/class.
- Available times will be displayed. Choose a suitable time.
- Add a note to the member of staff (optional, if applicable at your school). Click Book to confirm.
- Repeat the process to add more appointments.

Click on a slot below to book an appointment

History (8B/Hi). Click cancel to return to available teachers.

CANCEL
21/11/2018 17:35:00
21/11/2018 17:40:00
21/11/2018 17:45:00
21/11/2018 17:50:00
21/11/2018 17:55:00
21/11/2018 18:00:00

Editing or Cancelling Appointments

Existing appointments can be edited, cancelled and re-booked.

Multiple Children

Parents with more than one child in the same year can create bookings for each child and their teacher. If parents wish to split the duty so that each parent books a different teacher for the same time, they will need to do so by using their separate portal account.



A complete and intuitive school system



DECEMBER ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE

Our December Attendance launches today.



There are **15 school days** in December.

We are asking both students and parents to be **resilient**:

- Attend when they don't feel 100%
- Attend when it dark and wet outside.
- Do not substitute school for a Christmas shopping trip.

It is easy to make an excuse and stay at home, but we must work together to prepare your child for the adult world.

The final day of term is **Thursday 21st December**. Friday 22nd December is a staff INSET day.

Students do not return to school until **Monday 8th January**.

In total, your child will have 11 days of holidays.

Too often attend drops off during partial weeks and all the gains that have been made through the term are lost.

Our attendance team will continue to look at patterns of sporadic absence with individual students and follow this up you.

Mrs Munro, Deputy Headteacher.



BEHAVIOUR & CULTURE

Parents may have seen the BBC article following the publication of the Chief Inspector of Schools annual report that highlights a number of challenges facing schools, including attendance and behaviour, particularly post pandemic. All parents will be aware that Rainhill's Ofsted judgement for behaviour & culture is 'good'.

In our 'Pursuit of Excellence' we are proactive in our attendance expectations, campaigns, behaviour policies and routines. We are also a member of the national Behaviour Hub network that has involved working with other outstanding schools. Whilst things are improving we want them to be excellent so that all pupils can learn in a safe, supportive, calm environment and flourish as individuals.

We are fortunate to have a supportive parent body at Rainhill, but we never take things for granted, the views of parents are extremely important to us. Next week, we will send out a short survey asking for your feedback on a number of areas, including communication and 'working together'. We love it when you celebrate positive experiences with us and we value constructive feedback that supports the school to improve.

If you would like to read the article visit <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-67475347>

Thank you for your support with behaviour and culture at Rainhill.

READING AGE TESTS

Our Reading Age Tests continue over the next few weeks, so please remind your child to try their best.

Your child has also been set the Reading Plus InSight Assessment to complete. This assessment provides us with information on your child's silent reading ability, comprehension skills and fluency levels.

With the results of this test, Reading Plus will provide texts that support and challenge your child to improve their reading. It is vital that you encourage your child to complete this to the best of their ability, so that we may properly support their reading.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's form tutor or Miss Dugdale in the library.

Miss Dugdale, School Librarian.

PIZZA INTERVENTION WEEK

Year 11 Intervention this coming week is Pizza Intervention Week.

Year 11 pupils make sure you are there to get your slices!!!





NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SHOW

Last week, some of our students attended the National Apprenticeship Show in Liverpool. It was a fantastic opportunity for many of our Y12 and Y13 students to meet many potential employers and training providers to discuss the apprenticeships, traineeships, and internships they had to offer. In attendance to the show was approximately 40 different companies to talk to all from a range of sectors across the UK. Some of the businesses included, Muller, AstraZeneca, Royal Services including the Navy, Army and Air Force, Starbucks, Mercedes, Kleek Hair and Beauty, BAE Systems, and many more.



Attached is a list of those companies with a brief description detailing who they are, what they offer, (with most offering a range of apprenticeships from Level 2 to Level 6) and the links to their websites and jobs pages. Some of the applications are open now for those considering apprenticeships as a Post 16 or 18 option.





Christmas Eve Box Appeal

Christmas can be a very difficult time of year for many but for the young homeless people of Merseyside and their families, this time of year can be particularly challenging. SHAP is a charity that has provided housing and support to young and vulnerable people across Merseyside for over 40 years. They provide a wide range of services which tailor support to the needs and goals of each individual; helping them to gain life skills and achieve independence.

As a Sixth Form, we have supported SHAP each year with their Christmas Appeal. SHAP are appealing for donations of new and unwrapped gifts for a Christmas Eve Box for the men, women and children accessing their services.

Donations of the following would be greatly appreciated:

- Pyjamas
- Blankets/Throw
- Hot Water Bottles
- Hot Chocolate Cones
- Bed Socks
- Christmas Mugs
- Small Selection Boxes
- Children's Toys

Please can you bring your donations to the RH6 Study Area by **Friday 8th December.**

Thank you in advance for your generosity and kindness.

Mrs Duffy, Progression Coach.



CHRISTMAS HOUSE CHARITIES

What are the Rainhill House Christmas Appeals 2023?

A key part of the events ran through our House System at Rainhill High School is to contribute to our wider community. One way we do this is through our Christmas charity appeals.

This year, all five Houses are coming together for two special appeals to support two very important causes in the run-up to Christmas:

- Foodbank appeal for Teardrops
- Santa Dash for Cancer Research



Why are the Rainhill House Christmas Appeals 2023 so important?

Both the Teardrops food bank appeal and Santa Dash for Cancer Research UK help to raise money for important causes and support those for who Christmas may not be the happy time it is for others. By participating in the appeals, you are embodying our Rainhill values of contribute and care and helping to make a huge difference to two charities who will be very grateful for your support.

Foodbank Appeal for Teardrops

Teardrops is a St Helens based charity which supports vulnerable members of the community and those impacted by homelessness and difficult financial circumstances.

One way they do this is through their foodbank in which people can donate selected food and drink items which help Teardrops to prepare Emergency Food Packs who cannot access a food bank vouchers and to prepare meals for those who access their facilities.

What items can be donated?

Tea/Coffee/ Hot Chocolate	Sugar	Dried Pasta and Rice	Soup, Beans
Tinned Fruit and Meat	UHT Milk	Jars of Sauces	Biscuits, Crisps, Sweets and Chocolate

How can I get involved?

You can bring in any of the above items in to school and donate during Tutor Time. Your House Reps will then bring these to your Head of House. The deadline is Friday 8th December to Form Tutors (Heads of House will accept final donations before registration on Monday 11th December). Heads of House will also be setting up a special collection point on Friday 8th December 2023.

Santa Dash for Cancer Research UK

Cancer Research is a charity which funds scientist, doctors and nurses with the aim of helping to beat cancer sooner. They also provide cancer information to the public. Donations help the charity get closer to their aim of beating cancer.

Santa Dash for McMillan Cancer Support

- This takes place after-school on Thursday 14th December.
- The route will take place around the PE outdoors area.
- You can run, jog or walk the route.
- Entries are £1.00 - this will be collected by your Form Tutors.
- There will also be a unique opportunity to throw wet sponges at the Heads of House and special guests! (Yes, you read that correctly, we can't believe we agreed to this either!) There will be one free throw for Santa Dash Participants or throws can be purchased for a 50p donation.



ARTS ACADEMY NEWS

ARTS ACADEMY NEWS

7th DECEMBER

Trip to see The Woman in Black at the Liverpool Playhouse Theatre



MARK WHEELER
Playwright and Theatre practitioner



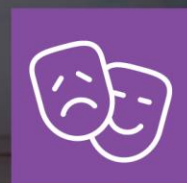
ANDREW GAMES
Professional actor and film maker

13th DECEMBER

Q&A with famous playwright and Theatre practitioner Mark Wheeler
A chance for our students to meet their practitioner, and gain further insight and inspiration on his verbatim theatrical style.

14th DECEMBER

Q&A with professional actor and film maker Andrew Games
To hear about his journey to break into the industry and his advice





ATTENDANCE NEWS

ATTENDANCE UPDATE

This week, Year 10 students celebrated consistent, improved and improving attendance. They proudly received their certificates from Mrs Coxhill. We are really proud of their attendance.





IMPORTANT INFORMATION

[REPORTING ABSENCES/LATE TO SCHOOL/FORTHCOMING APPOINTMENTS/UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES VIA ABSENCE TAB ON SYNERGY](#)

Synergy is the primary source of communication from school to all parents in relation to your child.

Synergy also enables daily attendance alerts to be sent to parents and allows you to:

- report your child's absence from school
- query if your child has an unexplained absence mark
- inform the school if your child is going to be late
- let us know of any forthcoming medical appointments for your child
- reply to the Attendance Team if you have received an attendance alert

Please use Synergy to report absences in the first instance. This can be actioned by accessing the contact school option from the home screen, followed by the absence option.

[ENRICHMENT TIMETABLE](#)

Please [click here](#) to see our Enrichment Timetable.

[PE EXTRA-CURRICULAR TIMETABLE](#)

WINTER EXTRA CURRICULAR TIMETABLE 2023/24		
15:10 -16:00	GIRLS	BOYS
MONDAY	MEETINGS	
TUESDAY	Football: All Years Trampolining: Y7- 3-3:30 Y8-11 – 3:30-4:00	Rugby: Y7 and Y8 Trampolining: Y7- 3-3:30 Y8-11 – 3:30-4:00
WEDNESDAY	Netball: Y7 and Y8 (Boys welcome)	Football: Y7 Rugby: Y9
THURSDAY	Netball: Y9 – Y11 (Boys welcome)	Football: Y8 and Y9 Basketball: All Years
FRIDAY	Girls Rugby: All Years Badminton and Table Tennis: All Years	

Please note, all clubs are subject to **fixture/facility clashes**, **appropriate and safe weather**, and **appropriate pupil participation**. We aim to give notice to pupils as early as possible when this is the case. Pupils, please speak to staff if you are unsure.



VOCATIONAL PRACTICE EXAMINATION TIMETABLE

Monday 4th December – Wednesday 6th December

The timetable below is for Sixth Form students who will be completing vocational exams in their subjects in January. This will help with their preparation. Rooms will follow in a later edition.

	Monday 4th December	Tuesday 5th December	Wednesday 6th December
Period 1	Sports Studies Paper 1 (Unit 3) 1 Hour Class 13L Sports Studies Paper 1 (Unit 1) 1 Hour 30 minutes Class 12J Applied Science Paper 1 Section A 45 Minutes Section B 1 Hour 30 Minutes Class 13K	Business Studies Paper 1 1 Hour 30 Minutes Classes 12N & 12A Media Studies Paper 2 1 Hour 30 Minutes Class 13M Criminology Paper 1 1 Hour 30 Minutes Class 13B	Media Studies Paper 3 1 Hour 30 Minutes Class 13M Criminology Paper 1 1 Hour 30 Minutes Class 13M
Period 2	Exams continuing into Period 2	Exams continuing into Period 2	Exams continuing into Period 2
BREAK			
Period 3	Lessons as normal	Lessons as normal	Lessons as normal
LUNCH			
Period 4	Media Studies Paper 1 1 Hour 30 Minutes Class 13M Health and Social Care Paper 1 1 Hour 30 Minutes Class 13N	Criminology Paper 1 1 Hour 30 Minutes Class 13L Sports Studies Paper 2 (Unit 4) 1 Hour 30 Minutes Class 13J	IT Paper 1 1 Hour 30 Minutes Class 13J
Period 5	Exams continuing into Period 5	Exams continuing into Period 5	Exams continuing into Period 5

ANNUAL FLU IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME 2023

Important Information from St Helens Immunisation Team - Annual Flu Vaccination

Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11

Dear Parent/Carer,

The Immunisation Team will be coming into school to deliver the flu vaccinations on **Tuesday, 5th December 2023**. They have also added an additional date for the nasal flu vaccinations on **Wednesday 20th December 2023**. This date will also be used for any outstanding routine vaccinations for Years 10 and 11.

Please visit the below link to access further information and complete your child's consent form even if you don't want them to receive their flu spray as this will avoid further communications from our service.

<https://econsent.merseycare.nhs.uk/>

If you are unable to complete the online form, please contact our team who will be happy to help. If after completing your child's form you attend the GP and your child receives the flu nasal spray or wish to amend their form you must contact the immunisation team directly and not your child's school.

Yours faithfully,

St Helens School Immunisation Services
01744 415 645



FREE SCHOOL MEAL FUNDING



**RAINHILL
HIGH SCHOOL**

IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

Could your child qualify for Free School Meals? Has your income changed this year? Could your child be eligible for additional funding?

**Do any of the statements below apply to you?
If they do your child may be eligible to access
additional government funding at school.**

**Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any
of the following:**

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

**It is important to give children the
best possible chance in life, open as
many doors as possible and broaden
their horizons.**

**Additional funding may be available
to school to support children who
have faced challenges, overcome
difficult times or are in a low income
household.**

**Your child may be able to access
additional funding if:**

- They have been adopted from care
- They are on a special guardianship order
- They have a parent that regularly serves or died whilst serving in the armed forces

**If you think any of the three statements above
apply to you please email
yacine.rachi@rainhillhigh.org.uk with details.**

**If any of the statements above apply to you please ensure you complete a
FREE SCHOOL MEAL application from your local council. You will apply to
the council that your home address is part of.**

St Helens

<https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/schools-education/school-meals/free-school-meals/>

**If you have any questions
regarding Free School
Meals you need to
contact St Helens Council
on 01744 676666**

Knowsley

<https://parentportal.knowsley.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home>

**If you have any questions
regarding Free School
Meals you need to
contact St Helens Council
on 0151 489 6000**

Liverpool

<https://liverpool.gov.uk/benefits/free-school-meals>

**If you have any questions
regarding Free School
Meals you need to
contact Liverpool Council
on 0151 233 3009**

Warrington

<https://www.warrington.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>

**If you have any questions
regarding Free School
Meals you need to
contact Warrington
Council on
01925 443322**

Widnes & Halton

<https://www3.halton.gov.uk/Pages/EducationandFamilies/Schools/FreeSchoolMeals.aspx>

**If you have any questions
regarding Free School
Meals you need to
contact Halton Council
on 0151 511 7188**





SINGING LESSONS



**DO YOU KNOW WE
OFFER 1-1 SINGING
LESSONS?**

**Do you love to sing and
have a passion to
perform?**

**Then come and see Miss
Mawdsley in D block on
a Tuesday to find out
more information**

**LEARN CORRECT
VOCAL
TECHNIQUES,
SING YOUR
FAVOURITE SONGS
AND HAVE FUN!**

**WE WOULD LOVE TO
HEAR FROM YOU!**





HELP AND SUPPORT

CURRICULUM QUERIES

Heads of Department

English	Ms Dickman	Philosophy & Ethics	Mr Ernest
Mathematics	Mrs Hughes	Social Sciences	Mr Bunby
	Mr Rimmer	Computer Science	Miss Johnson
Science	Mr Flynn	Art Design Technology	Mr Bennett
Biology	Dr Gordon	Languages	Miss D'Anna
Chemistry	Miss Hesketh	Food Studies	Mrs Bolland
Physics	Mr Hurst	Performing Arts	Mrs McCann
History & Politics	Mr Fairclough	PE	Mr Rachi
Geography	Mrs Parkinson	Life Skills	Mr East
		(PSHE/Citizenship)	

PASTORAL QUERIES

Stage 1	Form Tutor	
Stage 2	Year Student Manager/Progress Coach	
Stage 3	Year Progress Leader/Director RH6	
Stage 4	Deputy Headteachers	Mrs Munro/Mrs Segal/Mr McKeegan
Stage 5	Headteacher	Mrs Thorogood

Pastoral Structure

Y7 Student Manager	Mr Heron	Y7 Progress Leader	Mr Shoebridge
Y8 Student Manager	Miss Hill	Y8 Progress Leader	Mr Webster
Y9 Student Manager	Mr Moran	Y9 Progress Leader	Mrs Haselden
Y10 Student Manager	Mrs Jackson	Y10 Progress Leader	Mr Giles
Y11 Student Manager	Miss Gordon	Y11 Progress Leader	Mr Barry
RH6 Progress Coaches	Mrs Duffy/Mrs Nugent	Director RH6	Mr Cunningham

Communications Policy

Please [click here](#) to view our new communications policy.