RAINFORD HIGH

EVERYONE MATTERS
EVERYONE HELPS
EVERYONE SUCCEEDS

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Farewell to the class of 2026!

As another academic year draws to a close, we say a fond farewell to our wonderful Year 11 cohort of 2026. A group who have truly made their mark on Rainford High.

From their very first days in Year 7, where they embraced the challenges (and muddy adventures!) of bushcraft, it has been clear that this was a year group full of energy, resilience and spirit. Over the years, they have shared unforgettable experiences, from the inspiring Eden Project trip in Year 8 to the adrenaline fuelled excitement of Ninja Warrior, and the laughter filled memories of Blackpool visits.

They have risen to every opportunity placed before them. Many have challenged themselves through the Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, demonstrating teamwork, perseverance and determination. Others have shone brightly on stage in our school productions, contributing to the vibrant creative life of the school. Together, they have built a legacy of participation, enthusiasm and school pride.

Of course, this year has brought its own challenges. Our Year 11 students have approached the exam season with maturity and dedication, showing just how much they have grown during their time at Rainford. We are incredibly proud of the effort, focus and resilience they have demonstrated.

And what a way to celebrate the end of their journey with a fantastic Prom evening, full of laughter, music and well deserved celebration. It was a joy to see them together one last time, dancing the night away and marking the end of an important chapter in their lives.

As they now prepare to take their next steps, we hope to welcome many of them back to Rainford Sixth Form in September. However, wherever their paths may lead, we wish each and every one of them success, happiness and fulfilment in the future.

Year 11 — thank you for the memories, the achievements and the spirit you have brought to our school. You will always be part of the Rainford community.

Good luck, Class of 2026, your journey is only just beginning.









UPCOMING EVENTS

- 13th August A Level Results
- 20th August GCSE Results
- 3rd September school starts all years
- 24th September Open Evening
- 25th October Sixth Form Open Evening.

Letter from Mr Young

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

As another year draws to a close, I would like to reflect on the many successes, achievements and memorable experiences that have made this year such a special one for our Rainford High community. When I look back on the year, I am filled with immense pride. Whether celebrating national sporting success, exceptional performances in the arts, educational visits at home and abroad, personal achievements in the classroom, or the countless acts of kindness and support that take place every day, our students have once again demonstrated what it means to be part of Rainford High.

At the heart of all that we do is our ethos: Everyone Matters, Everyone Helps, Everyone Succeeds.
Everyone Matters – At Rainford High, we believe every student has value, every voice deserves to be heard and every individual has the potential to make a positive difference. Throughout this year, our students have contributed to school life in countless ways, whether through academic achievement, sporting excellence, creative performances, leadership opportunities or simply by showing kindness and compassion towards others.
As Michelle Obama famously said: *"Success isn't about how much money you make; it's about the difference you make in people's lives."* This year, our students have certainly made a difference. They have supported their peers, embraced new opportunities and helped to continue to build a school community where everyone feels welcomed, respected and valued.
Everyone Helps – One of the greatest strengths of Rainford High is the sense of community that exists amongst our students, staff and families. Success is never achieved alone, and this year has provided countless examples of people working together to help one another. Whether supporting teammates on the sports field, working together during educational visits, encouraging fellow performers backstage, mentoring younger students or helping a friend through a challenging time, our students consistently demonstrate the importance of service and teamwork.
Mother Teresa's words remind us of this perfectly: *"None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love."* It is often these everyday acts of kindness, encouragement and support that have the greatest impact. I am continually inspired by the care and consideration our students show towards one another and the wider community.
Everyone Succeeds – Success at Rainford High comes in many forms. We celebrate academic achievement, sporting victories, creative accomplishments and personal growth with equal enthusiasm because every success story matters. This year we have seen students perform at the highest levels in sport, produce exceptional work in the arts, participate in unforgettable educational experiences and demonstrate remarkable resilience in overcoming challenges. The achievements highlighted throughout this newsletter are only a snapshot of the talent, determination and ambition that exists across our school. As Malala Yousafzai said: *"Let us make our future now, and let us make our dreams tomorrow's reality."* Our students embody this spirit every day. Through hard work, perseverance and commitment, they continue to achieve remarkable things and make us incredibly proud.

As the summer approaches, we now look forward to two important milestones for many of our students. We eagerly await the publication of A Level Results on 13 August and GCSE Results on 20 August. These results represent years of dedication, hard work and determination, and I would like to congratulate all of our students for the commitment they have shown throughout their examinations. Whatever the outcome, they should be immensely proud of the effort they have invested in reaching this stage.

We are particularly excited about the opportunity to welcome many of our Year 11 students back to Rainford Sixth Form in September. Our Sixth Form continues to go from strength to strength, providing outstanding academic guidance alongside exceptional pastoral care. Students are known as individuals, supported to achieve their ambitions and encouraged to develop the confidence, independence and resilience needed for their next steps.
The relationships between students and staff, the breadth of opportunities available and the personalised support we provide ensure that Rainford Sixth Form is a place where young people thrive. We hope many of our Year 11 students choose to continue their journey with us and benefit from a community that is committed to helping every student achieve their full potential.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our students, staff, governors, parents and carers for their continued dedication and support throughout the year. Together, we have created a school community that truly lives out our ethos of Everyone Matters, Everyone Helps, Everyone Succeeds.

I wish you all a wonderful, restful and well-deserved summer break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting and successful year.

Mr Ian Young
Principal

Cornwall Calling: Adventure to the Eden Project



Across three separate weeks this term, more than a hundred excited students set off bags packed, pillows clutched, and energy levels sky high for our annual Cornwall Science trip. Although each group travelled on different dates, they all shared the same unforgettable itinerary, of fun and exploration. By the end of the final week, it felt as though three adventures had woven themselves into one big story of learning, laughter, and sandy shoes.



The journey began early each Wednesday morning, with coaches rolling out of school and heading south toward the Cornish coast. A much-needed pit stop near Birmingham gave everyone a chance to stretch their legs and, in true school-trip fashion, staff made a heroic effort to keep snack supplies from reaching critical levels. By the afternoon, each group arrived at the hostel, greeted by sea air, wide smiles, and the promise of the days ahead.

There was no time to settle in. After dinner on the first night all three groups enjoyed their inaugural visit to the beach; an instant highlight of the trip. Students spent their evenings playing games on the sand, paddling in the shallows, and toasting marshmallows around the firepits as the sun dipped below the horizon.



The combination of sea breeze, laughter, and the occasional sandy sock made these beach nights a favourite across all weeks. And although "lights out" came eventually, seasoned staff will confirm that "lights out" and "silence" are not always the same thing.

Thursday brought the main event: a full day at the world-famous Eden Project. Students explored the iconic biomes, wandered through tropical heat and Mediterranean calm, and climbed the viewing platform for spectacular panoramic views. The gift shop proved irresistible, with pocket money meeting its match in the form of plants, postcards, and more than a few novelty pencils. Students also enjoyed time to explore the site independently, discovering hidden corners and learning at their own pace before returning to the hostel for dinner—and, of course, another evening on the beach.

Friday's itinerary was equally memorable. Each group travelled to Newquay Zoo, arriving in time for lunch in the Tipi area before heading out to meet the zoo's residents. From big cats to tiny creatures, students made the most of their final afternoon, soaking up the last hours of adventure before the long journey home. A dinner stop on the way back kept spirits high, and parents and carers were ready with warm welcomes as each group returned to school.

Across all three weeks, the Cornwall trip offered students a brilliant blend of learning, exploration, and fresh sea air. Whether wandering through biomes, roasting marshmallows on the beach, or spotting giraffes at the zoo, every group created memories that will last long after the sand has been shaken from their shoes.



A huge thank you goes to the staff who gave up their time to make all three trips possible, keeping the hot chocolate flowing, supervising every firepit and bucket, and ensuring that every student had a safe, enriching, and unforgettable experience.

Spanish Trip to Valencia



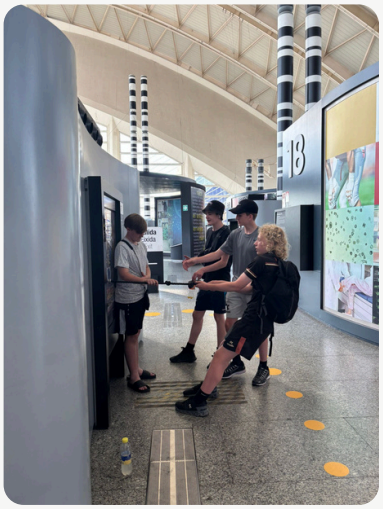
Students recently returned from an unforgettable three-day visit to Valencia, where they had the opportunity to explore the city's rich culture, fascinating history and world renowned attractions.

The trip included visits to the impressive Fallas Museum and the striking City of Arts and Sciences, giving students a real insight into the traditions and innovation that make Valencia such a unique destination. They also enjoyed a guided walking tour through the heart of the city, learning about Valencia's history while taking in the sights in glorious sunshine.



One of the highlights of the visit was an outdoor paella workshop.

Students toured the gardens where many of the fresh ingredients are grown before working in teams to create their own paella dishes. The activity combined hands on learning, teamwork and a taste of authentic Spanish cuisine, with a healthy dose of friendly competition along the way.



The final day saw students visit the Science Museum and the world famous Oceanogràfic, Europe's largest aquarium, before enjoying a celebratory meal together to round off the experience.

Saints and Sinners



Students from Years 7 through to 13 took to the stage in spectacular style as the school dance club presented their "Saints and Sinners" showcase.

The performance was a fantastic celebration of talent, creativity and dedication, with students delivering a wide range of energetic and expressive routines. From powerful group numbers to beautifully choreographed pieces, the audience was thoroughly entertained throughout.

A huge congratulations to all involved for putting on such a polished and impressive show, a true testament to the hard work of both students and staff.

A Night at the Musicals



Our Musical Theatre Club lit up the stage on Thursday and Friday with a dazzling Night of the Musicals. From the sass of Mean Girls and the sparkle of Chicago to the magic of Into the Woods and the charm of Mary Poppins, students delivered an unforgettable evening.

Their talent, hard work and passion shone throughout. A huge well done to our cast, crew and staff for creating such a spectacular show!

Rewards Trips Blackpool and Chester Zoo!

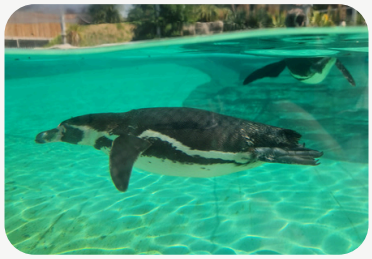


As we reached the end of another busy and successful school year, students were rewarded for their hard work, positive attitude and commitment with two fantastic end of year trips. This year's destinations offered something for everyone: the thrills of Blackpool Pleasure Beach or the incredible wildlife of Chester Zoo.

Students choosing Blackpool enjoyed a full day of excitement at one of the UK's most iconic theme parks. From high-speed rollercoasters and classic seaside rides to the lively promenade atmosphere, the trip was packed with laughter, adrenaline and plenty of unforgettable moments. Whether braving the Big One or sticking to gentler favourites, there was no shortage of fun.

Meanwhile, our Chester Zoo group spent the day exploring one of the country's leading conservation centres. Students wandered through beautifully designed habitats, encountered rare and endangered species, and learned more about the zoo's vital global conservation work. With over 20,000 animals to discover, every corner offered something new and fascinating.

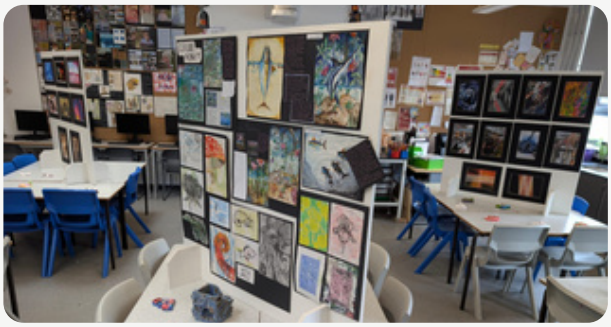
Both trips were a brilliant way to celebrate the achievements of our students and give them a well-deserved break after a year of dedication and effort. The sunshine, smiles and shared experiences made it a memorable end to the term.





A huge thank you to all staff who supported the trips and ensured everything ran smoothly. Your hard work helped create a fantastic final week that students will remember long after summer begins.

Arts Exhibition



The Rainford High annual Arts Exhibition was a vibrant celebration of creativity, showcasing an impressive range of artwork produced by students from Fine Art, Textiles, Photography and Graphics subjects.

Families and friends of students attended the event, enjoying displays of paintings, drawings, sculptures, textiles, photography and mixed-media projects.

Throughout the evening, students had the opportunity to showcase their creative processes and celebrate the talent, dedication and imagination reflected in their outcomes as well as providing students with a platform to share their achievements and inspire the younger members of the school community.

Music Showcase



Families and friends were treated to a fantastic evening of music at our recent Music Showcase. Students from across the school took to the stage to demonstrate their talent and dedication, with performances from our school bands and choir. From energetic band sets to beautiful choral pieces, the audience enjoyed a wonderful variety of music and gave our performers well-deserved support throughout the evening. We are incredibly proud of all the students who performed and would like to thank everyone who attended and helped make the event such a success.

Celebrating Success at Our Rewards Events



As we reached the end of another successful academic year, we were delighted to celebrate the achievements of our students through a series of End-of-Year Rewards Events. These special events recognised the hard work, dedication and commitment shown by students across all subject areas throughout the year. Subject teachers selected students who had excelled in their classes, whether through outstanding academic achievement, consistent effort, resilience or a passion for learning. It was wonderful to hear teachers speak so highly of their students, sharing personal reflections on their accomplishments. The ceremonies provided a fantastic opportunity to recognise the many talented and hardworking young people within our school community.

We also held a dedicated STEM Rewards Event to celebrate the many students who have embraced the challenge of enrichment opportunities beyond the classroom. Throughout the year, students have participated in a wide range of prestigious national competitions and challenges, including the UK Maths Challenge, Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge, UK Biology Competitions, Chemistry Olympiad and many more.

These competitions require determination, curiosity and a willingness to tackle complex problems, and we are incredibly proud of every student who took part. Whether they achieved certificates, awards or simply challenged themselves by entering, they demonstrated the enthusiasm and academic ambition that we value so highly.

It was a pleasure to see so many students recognised for their achievements and to celebrate the dedication they have shown throughout the year. Congratulations to all of our award winners and participants. We look forward to seeing what you will accomplish next year!

Drama Club Performance: The Wardrobe



Our talented Drama Club recently delighted audiences with their fantastic performance of The Wardrobe. The production showcased the creativity, confidence and dedication of our students, who worked tirelessly both on stage and behind the scenes to bring the story to life.

From impressive acting performances to excellent teamwork, every student involved should be extremely proud of their contribution. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the show, and it was wonderful to see so many young performers sharing their talents and passion for drama.

Congratulations to all of our cast and crew for a memorable production and a wonderful celebration of the performing arts at Rainford High.

Wimbledon Trip!



Last week, our Year 12 and 13 students enjoyed an unforgettable trip to Wimbledon, where they watched some fantastic quarter-final tennis on Court 1. Highlights included seeing eventual champion Jannik Sinner defeat Jan-Lennard Struff in an exciting match. No visit to Wimbledon would be complete without sampling the famous strawberries and cream, making it a truly memorable day. Well done to all involved!

Rugby League Team Makes History with Trophy Treble







Rainford High School's Year 8 Rugby League team has written its name into the history books after successfully defending all three major trophies won last season, becoming National Champions once again and completing an incredible undefeated campaign.

The journey began with the defence of the North West Counties Cup, where Rainford faced a strong St Peter's side that had pushed them all the way in the National Quarter Final just a week earlier. The boys responded with one of their best performances of the season, producing a superb display of rugby league to secure a convincing 32-6 victory. The win made them the first Rainford team ever to retain the North West Counties title. Reuben was named Man of the Match after expertly guiding the team around the pitch and putting in a determined defensive performance.

The challenge then moved on to the National Semi Final against a physical Brooksbank side. Rainford found themselves trailing 8-6 at half-time and, after conceding again early in the second half, faced an eight-point deficit at 14-6. However, showing the resilience and character that made them champions the previous year, the boys produced a remarkable response. Combining fast-paced attacking rugby with an excellent kicking game. Rainford scored 32 unanswered points in the final 20 minutes to claim an outstanding 38-14 victory, and book their place in another National Final.

Before that showpiece occasion, the team turned its attention to the defence of the St Helens Cup against Cowley High. After a difficult opening period in which Rainford spent much of the time defending and found themselves 4-0 down, the boys finally gained possession and demonstrated their attacking quality. A dominant second-half display saw them run out emphatic 42-4 winners, successfully retaining the trophy. Archie earned Player of the Match honours, although the performance was very much a complete team effort.

That victory set up the opportunity to achieve something truly special – a clean sweep of all three Rugby League trophies for the second year running.

The season reached its climax in the National Schools Rugby League Final against Sirius Academy West. Facing determined opponents, Rainford once again demonstrated why they were last years champions. Strong defence, relentless teamwork and clinical finishing ensured they remained in control throughout the match, eventually securing a superb 30-4 victory with Reuban once again getting MOM. By lifting the National title for a second consecutive year, Rainford completed a historic treble, adding the National Championship to their St Helens Cup and North West Counties Cup successes. Even more impressively, the squad also claimed the Lancashire Rugby Union title, meaning they finished the year with four trophies and an unbeaten record.

The achievement is a testament to the dedication, resilience and teamwork shown by every member of the squad throughout the season. Their commitment in training, determination during matches and willingness to work for one another have resulted in one of the greatest sporting seasons in Rainford High history.

Congratulations to all players and staff involved on a phenomenal season. The Year 8 team can proudly call themselves National Champions once again, and their historic trophy haul will be remembered for many years to come.

Fesitval of Sports - A Day of Competition and Teamwork







The annual Rainford High Festival of Sports brought together students from all year groups for a fantastic day of competition, teamwork and House pride. Representing the five Houses Compassion, Integrity, Determination, Endeavour and Resilience, students embraced the opportunity to challenge themselves, support their peers and demonstrate the values that lie at the heart of our school community.

Throughout the day, students competed across a wide variety of sporting events, ensuring there was something for everyone to get involved in. Team sports such as Netball, Dodgeball and Handball provided fast-paced action and showcased excellent communication, teamwork and tactical awareness. Every match was fiercely contested, with students displaying great sportsmanship and respect for their opponents while striving to earn valuable points for their House.

The field events proved equally exciting, with students testing their strength, skill and technique in the Long Jump, Javelin and Shot Put competitions. Competitors impressed spectators with their determination and resilience, pushing themselves to achieve personal bests while contributing to their House totals. The Skill Race also proved a popular event, challenging students to combine speed, agility and precision in a race against both the clock and their fellow competitors.

One of the highlights of the day was undoubtedly the Tug of War, which generated huge excitement among participants and spectators alike. The event created a fantastic atmosphere as Houses rallied together to cheer on their teams. The determination shown by students as they dug deep and worked together exemplified the spirit of the festival.

The track events provided some truly memorable moments. Students competed in the 100m, 200m, 400m and 800m races, producing impressive performances and thrilling finishes. The crowd's support helped create an electric atmosphere around the track, with every race earning enthusiastic applause. The day culminated in the eagerly anticipated 400m Relay, where teamwork, speed and seamless baton changes were crucial. These relay races brought the entire school together and provided a fitting finale to an outstanding day of competition.

Beyond the results, the Festival of Sports was a celebration of participation, perseverance and House spirit. Students demonstrated the values of Compassion, Integrity, Determination, Endeavour and Resilience not only through their performances but also through the encouragement they gave to teammates and competitors alike. It was wonderful to see students supporting one another, celebrating successes and showing resilience when faced with challenges.

Events such as these play an important role in promoting physical wellbeing, confidence and a sense of belonging. The enthusiasm displayed by students throughout the day was a reminder of the positive impact that sport can have in bringing people together and creating lasting memories.

A huge congratulations goes to every student who took part. Whether competing on the track, in the field or in the team events, each participant contributed to the success of the day. Thank you also to the staff, sports leaders , office and site staff whose hard work and organisation ensured the event ran smoothly.

Sports News



Athletics All of our athletics teams made it through to the North West finals of the Track and Field Cup this year. Year 7/8 girls will have their final in Trafford. All our teams put in a great effort - well done to all involved!!



Rugby Year 9 boys rugby turned in a professional performance to win a place in the St. Helens Cup final for the third year in a row. The long-awaited match started strong with a try for Archie, and by half time, the score was 14-3!! Although the visitors tried to pull in back in the second half try's by Will, Sami and Issac paved the way to victory with Archie adding 5 goals along the way Special mentions also for Harry and Dom with their solid performance throughout. Best of luck for the final boys.



Cricket: Our boys U15's cricket team played away at Birkdale in their first game of the season. A really strong effort by the lads.



Rugby Our Y7 rugby boys finished the season at Cowley in a 9s festival. A great team effort from the 12 lads that went. Well done to all the lads that have played for the team this year.



Athletics: Our Y7&8 girls athletics team came 2nd in the North West Final at a very wet Trafford Athletics Track.



Netball: Rainford played host to the Year 5/6 St Helens Netball Tournament. Our Netball teams helped with the tournament acting as coaches, scorers and umpires. The girls represented school fantastically and received many compliments from the primary school staff.. Congratulations to Rainford C of E for winning the tournament!



Football: Year 7 girls 7 a side football team were invited to the Merseyside competition as a result of winning the St Helens cup this year.



Rugby Y8/9 girls rugby have won the St Helens cup against Hope! Rainford beat Hope 28-24 it was a great performance from all. Special mention to Eva B. who was awarded player of the match for her outstanding efforts but unfortunately twisted her ankle 5 mins before the end of the game. Congratulations girls.



Town Sports, We placed 2nd against Rainhill who beat us by just 4 points 654 to 650. An amazing effort from all our competitors. Junior girls and inter girls won their age group. Special mention to Erin P, Rebecca W and Lili G were 3 year 11 girls that came back to compete for us. Emily C (Y7) winning the junior 1500m and breaking the town record by 10 seconds. The previous record was 5.32 which has stood since 1991. Emily Ran 5.22.

Next Year's School Show!!

