Head's Message

Rainow Round-Up

9th – 23rd Jan 2026

Caring, Learning, Achieving

Thank you for taking the time to read this edition of *The Round-Up*.

Primary school life is busy and eventful for much of the year; however, January and February tend to be the calmest points on our calendar. By this stage, teachers know their classes well, children feel settled and understand expectations, and everyone can focus fully on making progress. With this in mind, I have chosen one of our six Learning Values — Be Determined and Resilient — as the focus for our front cover this fortnight.

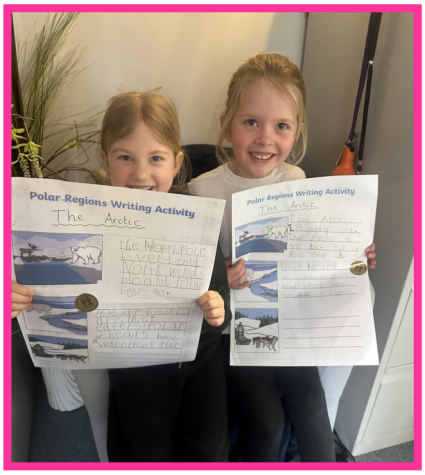
The children pictured have all shown real determination and resilience in their learning, particularly in their writing. As I often say to the children, writing is arguably one of the hardest skills we ask them to master. It requires them to draw upon and apply a vast amount of knowledge, vocabulary and technical skill — often all at once.

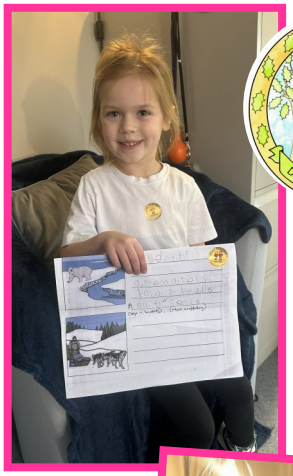
These children were therefore *sent to the Headteacher's office* (not in the way it used to happen when we were at school!) to share their fantastic work with me. On this occasion, I welcomed Reception pupils proudly reading their Arctic-inspired sentences, alongside Year 5 pupils whose trip to the moon inspired and other-worldly environments led to some wonderfully *out-of-this-world* writing.

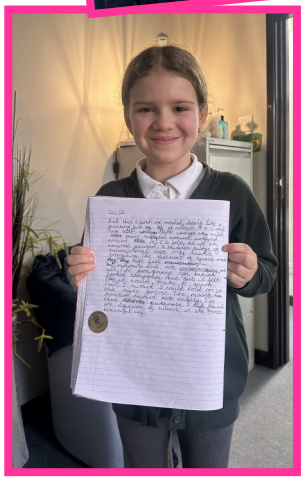
Finally, please take a moment to read the FRS section of the newsletter to find out more about this week's AGM and how we plan to use FRS funds to further enhance the school environment and experiences for your children.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

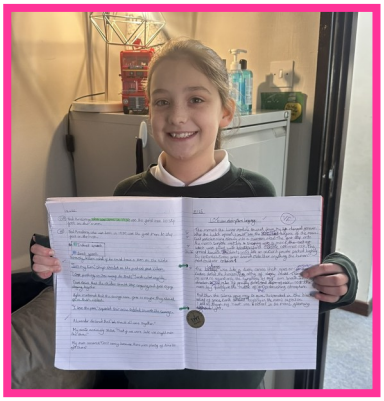


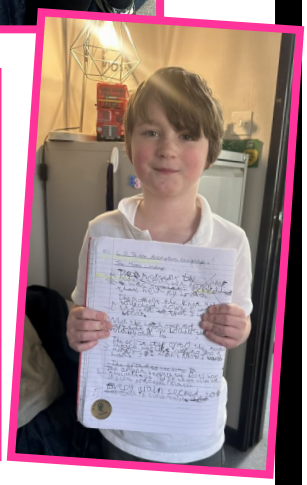






"Still, I wished I could hold onto this sight forever. The moon's horizon curved subtly. In that quietness, I had found the definition of silence in the most beautiful way." (Libby, Y5, reporting from the moon)





Being *Determined and Resilient* is about not giving up, being persistent, sticking at things for prolonged periods (determined) and being able to bounce back from minor setbacks (resilience).

Children can…

- **Get lost in learning** – I can be on task and get completely absorbed in my learning.
- **Manage distractions** – I can shut out distractions when I'm learning.
- **Persevere** – I can stick with my learning, even when I find it hard. I understand that learning is often slow and uncertain.
- **Be creative** – I can think in creative ways and use it to further my learning.

Teaching and Learning

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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

Our Rainow Values underpin all that we do at school.

They are desirable traits that we constantly encourage the children to try and display.

THIS TERM, THE 'OTHER AWARD' MIGHT BE PRESENTED FOR ACHIEVEMENT IN ANY OTHER CURRICULUM SUBJECT.

	Badge	Badge	Other Award	Courtesy Award
Rec	Finley (Raven) Jasper (Raven)	Charlie (Raven) Eva (Raven)	Poppy Nellie	Parker River
Year 1	Isabelle (Squirrel) Isaac (Squirrel)	Aurora (Squirrel) Isla (Fox)	Bertie Sophie	Lily Jack (Bees)
Year 2	Hattie (Squirrel)	Finlay N (Squirrel)	Ruby	Florrie
Year 3	Xarlia (Fox) Elise (Raven)	Charlie (Fox) Riley (Raven) Lewis (Fox)	Silva Safi	Bronte Nancy
Year 4	Martha (Squirrel) Ted (Raven)	Santi (Raven) Fred (Fox)	Blaize Jacob	All of Year 4 Skye
Year 5	Molly (Badger) Libby (Badger)	Emily (Badger) Archie (Squirrel)	Ted Charlie	William Oscar
Year 6	Gian (Owl)	Hetty (Owl)	Daisy (Squirrel)	Angus R (Squirrel)



Y6 SPECIAL AWARD

Noah: *for being kind, caring, thoughtful and multi-talented.*

An intelligent and fantastic member of our school

Isla B: *for being kind, caring, friendly, intelligent and thoughtful with a brilliant sense of humour!*

A superstar.



FRS News... Rainow Round-Up

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We are happy to announce that Hayley Hayes and Kylie Downes are taking on the Chair role as Co Chairs and Marianne Knowles will be supporting Jenny Neill with the Secretary role. It's great to have such a supportive core committee and wider committee – thanks to all who came to the AGM on Thursday night and those who couldn't come but pledged their continued support. FRS would like to say a heartfelt thank you to Rachel Gabbott and Charlotte Burdock who have been involved with the FRS for many, many years—you've left us in great shape.

The FRS activities work well because we have so many engaged volunteers which means we can raise important funds to enhance the children's education. Further information will be shared soon so that everyone knows the plans for this coming year. We're always keen to hear new ideas for events and activities so do reach out via your class reps or to the committee directly.

A reminder to book onto our **Canvas Painting Night** which is happening this term**.**

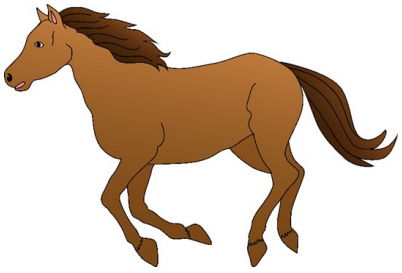
Amy (Gwen and Lily-Belle's mum) will be our Artist and guide for the evening helping everyone to paint on canvas this delightful Ostrich. Amy will guide us step by step to create the artwork as an experienced teacher. 'Oscar the Cheeky Ostrich' captivates with his cheeky demeanour and vibrant distinctive look, making him an intriguing subject for artistic expression. The lively personality and striking colours of this mysterious bird come to life on canvas, offering a delightful visual experience and a fascinating subject to paint.

The event will take place in the school hall on **Friday 27th February**. Tickets are priced at £30 and there will be a bar with alcoholic and soft drinks available on the night. Tickets are now available to purchase on this link. https://ticketscandy.com/e/frs-canvas-painting-night-14305

As we head towards spring, we're looking for anyone who would like to help in the school garden and with the planting around school. We support the fantastic work that goes on in school in Gardening Club and Planet Protectors, the garden was extensively developed last year with the addition of the Skylark Garden Design wildflower garden which will bloom again this year and we heard at the AGM that there's a corporate volunteer team that can support us with further developments this year … watch this space for more details.

If you would like to volunteer as a family to support this work do join the WhatsApp group – '**Rainow School Garden Support**' via the school community or contact Jen on 07941 386 572.

As our community garden grows we need to keep nurturing the soil. We're generating compost from food waste, coffee grounds etc in our compost heaps and are looking for **horse manure**. After a trial we have found that transporting it in feed bags or trugs works well. It can then be left in the corner of the carpark nearest school and we will take it up to the garden where it can compost down until ready to use. If you're able to help – I know there are lots of horse owners and riders in the community – then get in touch (if you need a trug) or just drop off. Thank you!



A look ahead... Rainow Round-Up

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Diary Dates

Diary Dates - February - July 2026			May	
February			Mon 4th	**School closed for early May Bank Holiday**
Weds 4th	Reception Visit - Peak Wildlife Park		Tues 5th	**School reopens**
Fri 6th	Whole School trip to watch Horrible Histories		Mon 11th	Key stage 2 SATs week for year 6 pupils
Tues 10th	Safer Internet Day		Weds 20th	Year 2 Residential commences
Fri 13th	School closes for half-term		Thurs 21st	Year 2 Residential ends
Mon 23rd	**School reopens: SPRING 2**			**School closes for children: HALF TERM**
	Well-being Launch Day 3 - TAKE NOTICE		Fri 22nd	**INSET DAY—TEACHERS ATTEND**
Fri 27th	FRS event: Canvas Painting with Amy *NEW			
March			**June**	
Mon 2nd	Mid-Year Parents' Evenings this week		Mon 1st	**School reopens: SUMMER 2**
Thur 5th	World Book Day			Well-Being Launch Day 5—GIVE
Weds 25th	Schools Gotta Dance			
Fri 27th	**School closes for EASTER**		Weds 24th	Reception Visit - Crich Tramway Museum
April			**July**	
Mon 13th	**School reopens: SUMMER 1**		Fri 17th	**School closes for Summer**
	Well-Being Launch Day 4—STAY ACTIVE			
Thurs 23rd	Year 3 / Year 4 Residential commences *NEW DATE			
Fri 24th	Year 3 / Year 4 Residential ends *NEW DATE			

LINK TO TERM DATES 2025-2026 & 2026-2027

Please remember that you do not have the right to take children on holiday in term time and doing so may result in a fine.



School Attendance

School attendance since Sep 25:

95.6% which is GOOD!

Please see our **Attendance Policy** for more information.