



RAINHILL
HIGH SCHOOL

FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER
PARENT & STUDENT
NEWSLETTER

IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

18th
December

**Christmas
Concert**

7pm start



Friday 15th December 2023

Dear Parents and Students,

Good afternoon and welcome to this week's newsletter.

As we approach the festive season, there are some wonderful events and updates I am excited to share with you.

Firstly, please join us at our upcoming Christmas Music Concert on Monday 18th December, starting at 7pm. It promises to be a lovely evening.

Following that, on Tuesday 19th December, our KS3 students will experience the magic of the Pantomime and on Wednesday 20th December, we have our Y7 Christmas Carol Service.

As we draw closer to the end of term, let us maintain our focus and engagement, making the most of these remaining days. It is important that attendance remains high for all children in all year groups.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

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>
18/12/23	Christmas Music Concert 7pm 	KS3 Pantomime Trip	Y7 Christmas Service Celebration Assemblies RH6 Christmas Quiz	Celebration Assemblies	Training Day (School closed for pupils)



NEWS THIS WEEK



CHRISTMAS MUSIC CONCERT

Our Christmas Music Concert will take place on Monday 18th December. Doors open at 6:30pm for a 7pm start. Come and join us for an evening of musical wonder!

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Christmas lunch in school will be served on Wednesday 20th December. There will be no other hot food options served on this day however there will be sandwiches and baguettes available for those who do not want a Christmas meal.



CHRISTMAS HOUSE CHARITIES

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

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



ARTS ACADEMY NEWS

It has been a busy few weeks for our Arts Academy students. First up was a visit to the theatre. Here is what Year 11 student Zoe Medwell thought of the performance:

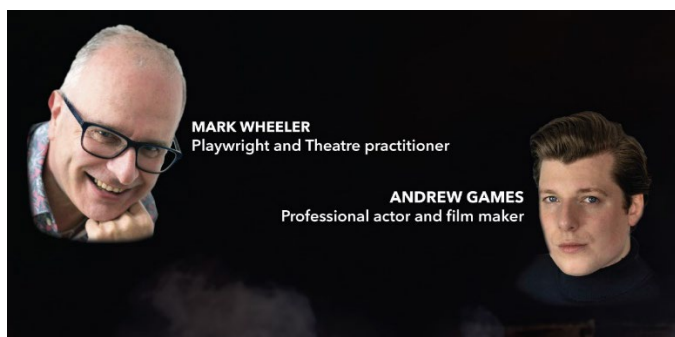
"The 'real thrill of horror', as quoted by the Sunday Times, did not disappoint its audience. Rainhill High's Key Stage 4 and 5 Drama students embarked on a journey to the quaint Liverpool Playhouse to see Stephen Mallatratt's 'ingenious stage adaptation' of 'The Woman in Black' as inspiration for our Live Theatre Review. The first 20 minutes lured viewers into a sense of mundaneness but as the first act ensued, we were all enthralled by impeccable acting, lighting, haunting sound effects and the anticipation of the infamous ghost herself. The enchanting and suspenseful gothic tale only got better in the second act as they opened the set up further and explored the end of the harrowing story and by the final twist, I was already ready to see it again."

Our students were not the only ones impressed. We were delighted to receive the following from a member of theatre staff - *"I was working at a performance of The Woman in Black at the Liverpool Playhouse. There was a party of students and staff from Rainhill High. A big thank you for their excellent behaviour and I hope they enjoyed the show"*.



This week our Sixth Form Arts Academy students took part in a zoom Q&A with practitioner Mark Wheeler who gave our students an insight into the process of creating their own verbatim play. Afterwards, Mark Wheeler commented; *"What a great and interested group they were, well done"*.

Feedback from Sixth Former Alice Lee; *"Our zoom meeting with Mark Wheeler was absolutely amazing, it felt surreal having learnt about him in the classroom and then there he was in our classroom! He was super helpful and personable; he even gave us ideas for our devising which was so insightful because he's so creative and just brilliant overall"*



Our final event this term saw Year 12 and Year 13 Drama and Media students taking part in a workshop with actor and filmmaker Andrew Games.



Feedback from Sixth Former Joel Michaels; *“Andrew Games shared stories of his life’s accomplishments in a competitive industry, as well as the failures which only fuelled his determination. As an Arts Academy student I found Andrew fascinating, upon being born with a birth defect his mother was told he would never amount to anything, he would attend speech therapy and despite the challenges he faced in his early years, found confidence in acting deciding he would pursue the subject as his career. The resilience he portrayed helped me to realise that anything is possible, with Andrew’s commitment a reminder for myself and the Arts Academy students to achieve and persevere no matter what”.*



Feedback from Andrew Games; *“I thoroughly enjoyed it, it was a great privilege to be able to share my experiences with aspiring artists, and inspire the next generation”*

Our students have been a credit to us throughout events and make organising visits and guest speakers thoroughly worthwhile.

Mrs Renison and The Performing Arts Team.

KOOTH OVER THE FESTIVE PERIOD

Kooth.com & Qwell.io are free, safe, and anonymous online mental health services. They are BACP Accredited, with no waitlists and no referrals. They provide online counselling, as well as self- help tools and community support resources. Kooth are still working over the festive period including the bank holidays, just with shorter opening hours. For more information or any questions, you can email parents@kooth.com.

**Kooth's live chat hours
over the holiday period**

24th December (Christmas Eve) - 4pm - 8pm
25th December (Christmas Day) - 4pm - 8pm
26th December (Boxing Day) - 4pm - 8pm
31st December (New Years Eve) - 4pm - 8pm
1st January (New Years Day) - 4pm - 8pm

Other days over the holiday period will follow our usual live chat hours of 12pm - 10pm on weekdays and 6pm - 10pm on weekends.

kooth.com

kooth



CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION



We were so thrilled to receive so many wonderful entries to our MFL Christmas Card competition. Thank you to the following schools who took part

Finham Park Primary
Radford Primary
Sidney Stringer Primary
Kings High School
Parkgate Primary
Newcastle Under Lyme School
King Edward Sixth High School
Tudor Grange Academy
Broadway Academy
Rainhill High School
Finham Park 2
Cawston Grange Primary School
The Westwood Academy

KEY STAGE 3

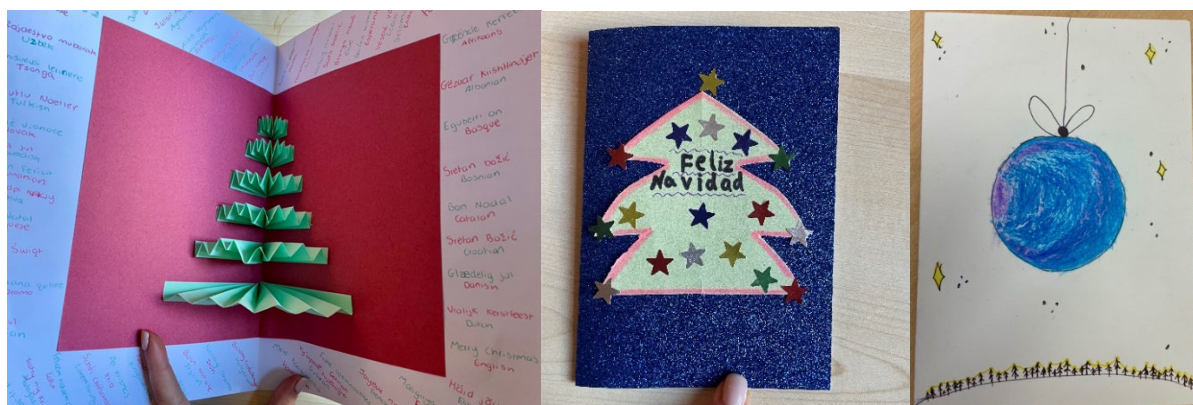
Peony Year 7 Tudor Grange Academy
Jessica Year 7 Kings High School
Ester Year 7 Finham Park 2
Emily Year 9 Tudor Grange Academy

The winners are.....

Although we weren't lucky enough to win, we chose our own Rainhill High winners:

- 1st Place: Zara Beedles Year 7 Stephenson House
- 2nd Place: Tom Pilkington Year 8 Perseverance House
- 3rd place: Emily Olberg Year 7 Braithwaite House

Well done to all the entries, winners please go and see Miss D'Anna for their prize.





THE WORLD OF GLASS



 **THE
WORLD OF
GLASS**

Museum

Christmas opening:
10am-4pm
Sat 23rd Dec
Wed 27th Dec
Thurs 28th Dec
Friday 29th Dec
Tuesday 2nd Jan

Kids trail

**Glass
Blowing**

Cafe

Garden

Exhibitions

FREE admission
to the Museum,
Art gallery, Tankhouse
& tunnels.

Plus

FREE Kids Admission to the
Glass blowing demonstrations
with every paying adult.

Chalon Way East
St Helens
WA10 1BX
worldofglass.com
01744 22766



ATTENDANCE NEWS

DECEMBER ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE

Our December Attendance Challenge is well underway.



There are **4 school days** until the end of term.

We are asking both students and parents to be **resilience**

- Attend when they don't feel 100%.
- Attend when it is 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.

We have scheduled all Christmas events as late as possible into the last week of term.

High quality teaching and learning as always will remain the focus until we break for Christmas.

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

Mrs Munro, Deputy Headteacher.



ATTENDANCE CELEBRATIONS

This week, Mrs Coxhill, acknowledged the consistent, improving and improved attendance of some of our wonderful Year 11 pupils. Well done Year 11, keep it up.





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.



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.