



**EVERYONE MATTERS
SCHOOLS TRUST**

April 2025
NEWSLETTER



Welcome from the CEO

Welcome to the second edition of the Everyone Matters Schools Trust Newsletter.

Over the first half of the academic year everyone in the Trust has worked hard to move from being single school entities to become a community of schools within our Trust.

There have been some key moments of coming together such as our Governance Conference, our whole Trust inset day and our developing Trust network collaborative work.

As the coach of the Chicago Bulls Phil Jackson pointed out "The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team." As we develop together I am sure every school will go from strength to strength.



Ian Young
CEO and Principal
Rainford High School





Schools working together to make a difference

Whole Trust Inset Day January 2025

On a bitterly cold and snow flurried 6th January 2025 all the schools in the Trust came together for our the first Everyone Matters Schools Trust Inset day.

The event was held at Rainford High and all the staff came together to listen to key note by Mr Jonny Uttley the CEO of "The Education Alliance" who shared his inspirational views on the importance of teachers and why collaboration is the thing that will make the difference in education in the 21st Century.

After the keynote all the staff shared in a community brunch that led into some collaborative work across leadership teams and curriculum areas.

Staff feedback from the even has been very positive and has helped to cement the foundations of collaboration and belonging that will underpin the success of our Trust.



Jonny Uttley
CEO of TEAL

Trust Accounts and Report 2023-24

We are delighted to report that the Trusts annual accounts and report were published in line with all statutory requirements in December 2024.

As this was the first year of the Trust having multiple schools involved in the account and report writing process we would just like to thank everyone for their help and support during this process.

The annual report reflects the Trusts position and aspiration for the future and we are working hard to make sure that the 2024-25 report will reflect all our schools hard work on continuous improvement.

The annual accounts and report are available on the Everyone Matters Schools Trust website.



Residential Experience for Year 3

Year 3 went on their annual residential to Burwardsley, Cheshire. We stayed overnight in an old school house and took part in Stone Age & Iron Age activities. We found artefacts during an archaeological dig, visited a replica round house, explored artefacts, took part in a foam archery competition, created our own coil pots and enjoyed a campfire with roasted marshmallows. As we were away on pancake day, the staff brought pancakes and lots of sauces so we could enjoy a pancake or two before bedtime! On our way back, we stopped at the ice cream farm for crazy golf and an ice-cream!

I'm sure the children gained a lot from the experience but perhaps the most important thing they gained was a sense of growing in independence and confidence which forms part of our MAGIC ethos - Motivated, Aspirational, Growing in Independence and Confidence



World Book Day at Rainford Brook Lodge

In a break with tradition, children were asked to come dressed as an adjective of their choosing. Children (with parents help!) were really creative, as you can see. Our winners, 'Broken' and 'Celestial' both received book vouchers. This was a great way to celebrate not just reading books but the exciting range of vocabulary that can be used in books and how adjectives can be used to describe characters.

At Brook Lodge we really try to balance the teaching of the actual skills of reading and later comprehension with maintaining that love of reading and exposing the children to language and stories that they might not ordinarily have access to. We want children with the skills to read and a love of reading, and World Book Day is just one small part of that aim.



Rainford High students deliver a 'spooktacular' performance of The Addams Family

Rainford High students thrilled audiences with a delightfully 'creepy and kooky' production of The Addams Family, following four sold-out performances.

From Tuesday, 4 February, to Friday, 7 February, students took to the stage and brought the quirky, lovable Addams family to life in spectacular fashion.

Under the expert direction of Helen Abbott, curriculum manager for drama at the school, the talented cast delivered standout performances, with Sasha Giblin embodying the suave and charming Gomez Addams, while Charlotte Grange dazzled as the elegantly eerie Morticia Addams.

The audience was treated to incredible vocals, eye-catching costumes, and some truly magical stage effects that made the whole experience unforgettable.

One audience member said they were completely spellbound by the performance.



Girls in STEM Day

On Thursday, 13th February, Rainford's brightest female scientists came together to unravel the mystery of who poisoned Mr Kenyon as part of our Annual Girls in STEM Day. Over 130 girls from all year groups collaborated in this thrilling forensic investigation into who poisoned Mr Kenyon.

As the investigation deepened, students applied a range of scientific techniques, including blood spatter analysis, DNA extraction, titration, and chromatography, to uncover the culprit – Mr Rothwell. Many younger students shared that their favourite part of the day was working alongside their Year 12 mentors.

The event concluded with two fascinating career talks. Nuclear Radiation Physicist Anna Clark shared insights into her work, while Dr Amy Guy, Lab Manager at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, gave students a hands-on experience by bringing in live mosquitos for examination. The girls asked insightful questions and felt inspired afterwards as they collected their goody bags.



Macbeth chills at the Shakespeare Festival

Rainford High students recently took to the stage at the prestigious Coram Shakespeare Schools Festival, delivering a powerful performance of Macbeth at Shakespeare Playhouse North.

The festival provided students with a unique opportunity to perform in a professional theatre. They captivated the audience with their compelling interpretation of the classic tragedy.

A Year 9 student said: "I really loved taking part in the Shakespeare Festival as I liked how the whole company came together to create lots of amazing ideas for our performance." The school has participated in the festival for the past four years, and teachers have witnessed its profound impact on their students.



Holocaust Memorial

We were thrilled to celebrate Rosie in Year 7 who has been named one of ten national winners in the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust competition. Rosie's exceptional work earned her this prestigious recognition, and she was presented with her award by Mr. Blackledge, alongside Keith Trencher, who has done remarkable work in raising awareness in the community, and Jean Hensey-Reynard from the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust

We'd also like to congratulate Zara in Year 10 who spoke about her winning piece of Art for the Sophie School Awards at Wigan Council this month.



UHHS PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025

What an incredible year it has been for our Young Photographer of the Year competition! With a staggering 556 entries, the level of creativity, skill, and artistic vision on display has been truly outstanding.

Throughout the week, students and staff have had the chance to admire the shortlisted entries on the big screen in the hall, showcasing the impressive talent across all year groups. But, of course, the real spotlight belongs to our fantastic winners!

A huge congratulations to this year's year-group champions:



House Week 2

A huge THANK YOU to all the students who took part in House Week! From spelling challenges in PD time to cup stacking, hoop shooting, and pancake flipping – we've had so much fun watching your skills and team spirit shine.

Well done to Mandela house who achieved a staggering 4800 points! beating Parks into second place. The next event will take place during the next half term.



Young People get to Shine

This year saw the dawn of SHINE week in school, which will now become an annual feature in our calendar. This is a week off timetable and allows staff to plan and deliver opportunities for our pupils to experience new things.

The idea is to inspire pupils by showing them different careers and activities that may spark them into a future career or lifestyle that they have never previously known about.

The week was packed with activities with the whole school community getting involved! We had parents and grandparents in school completing activities ranging from mindfulness and mechanics to black history month inspired drams workshops and firefighter demonstrations.

School hosted a variety of visitors such as adventurer Matthew Blackwell, Wigan latics, St Helens rugby team and Olympic mountain bike world champion Danny Butler.



In addition to this, we have enjoyed Macbeth workshops and the fantastic production of the Addams family at Rainford High School.

The school band and dance crew taken off too this term, with the dancers performing at the townhall in February and the band performing in the same venue in March.

Our SEND unit- The Learning Lodge- is flourishing and attendance and performance indicators are healthy.