



rainbows
Brightening short lives

In Good Company

Business Newsletter July 2022

It's been amazing to see so many of our supporters get stuck into their challenge events over the past few months - some of which you can read about in this newsletter! We hope you're all enjoying the summer and some lovely weather.

We're really excited for our It's A Knockout event this month and look forward to meeting many of you there. If you can't make it this year, don't forget we have lots of opportunities to support Rainbows whilst team building!

In this newsletter you can read about Preston and how much his family value their time at Rainbows, and about how our Family Support team help our families to connect and socialise.

The Corporate Team at Rainbows

**Want to feature in our
next newsletter?**

Let us know what fundraising
you've been up to with
photos of the fun you've had,
we'd love to hear from you.

Preston's Story

Preston has a life-threatening heart condition but he doesn't let that stop him from running around, playing and enjoying life.

Preston was born six weeks premature with a complex heart condition. He was immediately taken to Glenfield Hospital in an ambulance. "It was very scary, I didn't even get to hold my baby," said mum Julia. "I couldn't go to him until the next day and he was connected to wires and had a mask on. I was able to hold his hand through the incubator and it was just heart-breaking."

Preston spent the first year of his life in hospital and underwent surgery to widen his heart's valves when he was just 10 days old. Since then, he has had two further operations on his heart. He has also had a tracheostomy tube fitted which is connected to a ventilator that he depends on.

To add to his heart complications, Preston only has the use of one lung. Because of this, parents Julia and Isaac, have been told their son cannot have further surgery.

"Preston will have a shorter life, we don't know how many years he has but we take each day as it comes," said Julia.

"I look forward to his birthdays so we can celebrate another year and celebrate making happy memories with him. We can't think about what might happen, we just have to take each day as it comes."

"Preston brings us so much joy, he is such a happy, friendly boy. He likes to play so much but he can't run a lot as it can affect his heart."



Julia and Isaac, who also have a daughter Febbie, first visited Rainbows in 2014. Julia said:

"At first, I didn't want to go to Rainbows as I was told it was a place where children go to die. But then I learnt more about it and realised it wasn't so we decided to give it a try. I wish we had come sooner. Rainbows is excellent."

Julia said, "Preston is safe at Rainbows and he gets to do things that he normally can't, like swimming in the hydrotherapy pool."

Febbie also benefits from the support of Rainbows through the charity's Sibling Support scheme. She added: "I really love my brother and when Preston first came home from hospital, it made me really happy and I kept on hugging him. Now he goes to Rainbows and it is a great place for children who aren't very well struggling to get better. I get to go on the sibling trips and have sleepovers and go to theme parks and I also get to spend more time with my mummy when Preston is being looked after."

Running for Rainbows

So many of our supporters have been running the miles to support us this summer, take a look at a few below...



This lovely group from William Hercock Ltd. In Leicester took part in a Wolf Run for Rainbows. They faced the muddy challenge in June and raised over £4,500!

A team of over 20 William Davis employees took part in the Prestwold Hall Chase the Sun run in June. With a company contribution they raised over £11,000 for Rainbows and had a great evening!



Great North Run - Sunday 11 September

Fancy taking part in your own challenge to support us here at Rainbows? Here's your chance! We have a limited number of spaces on Team Rainbows for the Great North Run and we've love for you to join us.

By running for Rainbows, you'll be making a huge difference to the children, young people and families who rely on us. We'll be with you every step of the way. We'll also provide you with:

- a stylish Rainbows high-spec running top / technical t-shirt
- support before, during and after the event – including help and support with your fundraising
- Team Rainbows Zoom calls prior to the event, to share details for the day and to meet your fellow runners

Get in touch to secure your spot before 29th July!



Supporting Families

At Rainbows our Family Support Team care for everybody in the family. They run several groups to allow family members to socialise and relax with others. Here are just a few examples of what they get up to...

- A Parent Carer Group regularly meet at the hospice to craft, have a massage, chat and get to know each other. This also led to the starting of a new Dads and Male Carers Group.
- Our Sibling Group had a successful meet up recently and are now planning a sleepover at the hospice!
- The Cultural Mums group recently went for dinner and shared with Lesley, from our marketing team, how valuable they find the group. Here's a quote from one mum,

"I used to think I was alone and people might judge me because I have a child with life-limiting conditions, but being with the Cultural mums group has given me confidence to speak up and access services"



Up for a challenge?

If you can't make our It's A Knockout event this July, don't forget you can join some amazing team building events with our partners, Adventurous Ewe.

All challenges have dates available throughout the summer. Get in touch with us to find the right one for you.

Snowdon Challenge

Experience the rugged landscape of Snowdonia with this one day action packed challenge of cycling, trekking and kayaking.

Lake District Challenge

The Lake District's postcard panorama of craggy hilltops, mountain tarns and glittering lakes paints the perfect landscape for your multi activity adventure! Trek, cycle and kayak this route.

Coast to Coast Cycling Challenge

Starting from the coast of West Cumbria, this challenging route covers 145 miles before reaching the welcome sight of the North Sea at Whitley Bay. Be inspired by some of the most dramatic scenery the UK has to offer.

Yorkshire 3 Peaks Challenge

Support Rainbows whilst taking part in this iconic, tough and incredible trek.





Your business can help us brighten short lives, for less than £1 a day...

Show your support with a monthly donation of £30 and join other like-minded businesses to help brighten short lives. Contact us to become a member today!

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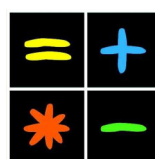
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