

R W S

Friday 27th June 2025



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WHERE'S TOBI?
Which page has that
cheeky pup got to
now?



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are enjoying the recent sunny weather and taking the chance to spend some time outdoors. It has been another busy two weeks here at Ravens Wood School, filled with student accomplishments, exciting events, and opportunities to connect as a community.

We recently marked the end of the GCSE and A Level examinations. We are incredibly proud of our Year 11 and Year 13 students for the maturity, focus and resilience they have shown throughout this period. We look forward to celebrating with them on their respective results days in August and wish them every success as they move forward. Thank you also to our staff for their guidance and support, and to our families for their encouragement throughout the exam season.

Our Year 10 students have been completing their end-of-year assessments. These assessments provide an essential checkpoint for both students and staff as we monitor progress and identify the next steps in preparation for Year 11. We encourage all students to reflect on their performance and use feedback to guide their ongoing learning.

Last week saw the exciting final of our Young Soloist of the Year competition. Congratulations to Adam Sokolowski, who impressed on the electric guitar and was the overall winner. We also celebrate Kayden Dixon, winner of the Inspire Prize, and Lewis Hayden, who earned the Endeavour Prize. Thank you to Mr Bamping and all staff involved for their commitment to showcasing our students' incredible musical talents.

Our Year 7 students showed great sportsmanship during their interform football event. These activities are a vital part of helping students build teamwork and feel a deeper sense of belonging within the school community.

Friday 20th June was a particular highlight, as we hosted our 19th Annual Sports Dinner—a prestigious evening celebrating achievement across a wide range of sports. The dinner was expertly served by our students, and we were honoured to welcome Ollie Tanner, an ex-Ravens Wood student now playing professionally for Cardiff FC, as our guest speaker. A huge thank you to our dedicated PE staff for their tireless efforts and continued passion in developing sporting excellence at the school, and to our PSFA for supporting the event.

Meanwhile, the Art department has been busy preparing for our annual Art Exhibition. It was a pleasure to welcome our Governors and parents and carers for a private viewing on Wednesday, and the whole school community will have the opportunity to enjoy the creative talents of our students over the coming week. Thank you to the Art staff for bringing this wonderful showcase to life.

On Tuesday and Thursday, our Year 10 Geography students visited Newhaven as part of their coastal defences fieldwork. These hands-on experiences bring classroom learning to life and help develop valuable skills in observation, enquiry, and critical thinking. A big thank you to the staff who supported and accompanied our students on this and other recent trips and events—your time and dedication make these enriching experiences possible.

Drama students in Year 10 have also been working hard on their Devising Drama Examinations. Their creativity, collaboration and performance skills have been fantastic to see in action—well done to all involved.

Yesterday, we welcomed both new and returning students to our Year 12 Induction Day, an important milestone in introducing students to Sixth Form life. It was also a pleasure to meet with Year 12 parents and carers in the evening. Building strong relationships with families—especially as students take this important step—is a vital part of our approach to ensuring every student is supported and encouraged to reach their potential.

Finally, today we held our fourth Inset Day of the year. Ongoing staff training is crucial to maintaining high standards of teaching and learning across the school. It allows us to reflect, refine, and innovate in the classroom so that our students continue to benefit from the very best educational experiences.

Thank you as always for your continued support. I hope you and your families enjoy a restful and sunny weekend.



Ms M. Lester

Headteacher



Important Dates

Dates for Applicants

- GCSE Results Day—Thursday 21st August
- Sixth Form Enrolment - Thursday 21st August (this is an 'in person event')



Dates for Year 12

- Work Experience Programme—7th to 11th July 2025



Dates for Year 13

- A Level Results Day—Thursday 14th August

YEAR 8 HPV VACCINATIONS

An NHS poster for HPV vaccination. It features three students (two boys and one girl) in school uniforms, smiling and raising their hands. The text on the poster includes 'NHS HPV vaccination', 'Protecting you from HPV cancers', 'Everyone should have it in year 8', and 'Scan here' with two QR codes. The logo 'arm against cancer' is at the bottom.

DATE CHANGE TO 4TH JULY FOR **CATCHUPS**

If you haven't already spoken with the immunisation team, please email medical@rws.uk.net; even if you do NOT wish your son to have the vaccine. The nurses need to know either way.

Many thanks,
Mrs Lewington



RWS MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS.....



RAVENS WOOD STOCK

2 0 2 5

Doors Open 5.30pm Event starts at 6pm

WEDNESDAY 2ND JULY

TICKETS £5 ON PARENTPAY

CONCERT IN THE GARDEN (WEATHER PERMITTING)

**Imperial College
London**

Science in Medicine School Teams Prize 2024



THE CHALLENGE:

Design an ePoster, which illustrates an idea for combining science and engineering with health research to improve lives. Currently there are five contests, each focusing on different medical conditions.



5 CONTESTS TO ENTER*:

- British Heart Foundation Cardiovascular Prize
- The Lung Prize
- Scleroderma & Raynaud's UK Prize
- Vasculitis UK Prize
- Global Health Prize

*Schools can enter one poster per contest

PRIZES FOR EACH CONTEST:

1st Place - £3000

2nd Place - £2000

3rd Place - £1000

to support science-related activities.

WHO CAN ENTER:

- Any school within the UK
- Collaborations between schools welcome
- Teams of 2-6 students

**Scan the QR code
to find out more!**



**Deadline for Submission:
5pm, Monday 1st July 2024**

Supported by the National Heart and Lung Institute, the British Heart Foundation Centre of Research Excellence, Scleroderma & Raynaud's UK, Vasculitis UK, and the Imperial NIHR Biomedical Research Centre.

CELEBRATING SPORTING EXCELLENCE AT THE 19TH ANNUAL SPORTS DINNER

On Friday 20th June, Ravens Wood School proudly hosted its 19th Annual Sports Dinner, an evening dedicated to recognising the outstanding sporting achievements of our students. With over 800 students actively participating in sport at Ravens Wood, it simply isn't possible to invite everyone — but this year, 150 award winners were specially selected to attend the celebration, joined by their proud families and staff.



We were honoured to welcome back Ollie Tanner, current Cardiff City footballer and former Ravens Wood student, as our guest speaker. Ollie gave an inspiring talk about his journey in professional football, reflecting on his time at Ravens Wood and encouraging students to stay determined, humble, and passionate about their goals.

A huge thank you goes to everyone who helped make the event possible — from staff and organisers to the families who support our students week in, week out.



The evening, though very hot, was filled with warmth in more ways than one — from the lively atmosphere to the heartfelt speeches and shared moments of pride.



Here's to another year of teamwork, talent, and tenacity in Ravens Wood sport!





HELLO SUMMER



We've been taking full advantage of the sunny weather lately with outdoor reading sessions. Students have been delighting in their books on new picnic blankets generously donated by the PSFA. Year 7 and 8 classes have been able to enjoy some fresh air while soaking up a bit of extra vitamin D.

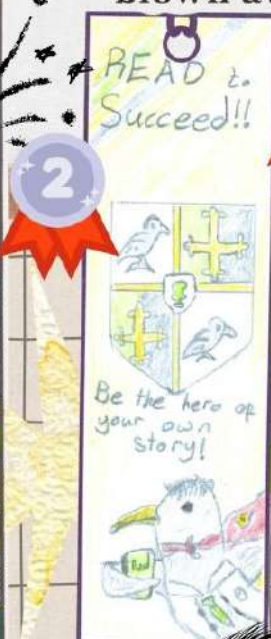


Our community reading program has been a success, with Year 12 students regularly pairing up with Year 7s to support their reading and help build confidence. The library provides a calm and productive atmosphere, and both groups have responded positively to the chance to connect over books in a relaxed setting.

AND THE WINNER IS..

This term, our Year 7s took part in a special competition to design a bookmark for next year's incoming students. The winning design will be professionally printed and handed out with a new book, generously provided by the PSFA — a warm RWS welcome for the new cohort! Congratulations to Rory Tootell in 7D for his brilliant design, and well done to our fantastic runners-up: Tristan Rajap and Levi Cooke. Thank you to everyone who entered — we were blown away by your creativity!

WINNER



POETRY POWER:

OUR STUDENTS
GET
EMPOWERED!

A total of 170 Year 7 and Year 9 students participated in the Young Writers' 'Empowered' poetry competition, encouraging them to express their passions through poetry.

From hobbies, or school, to idols, and the environment, students have written powerful poems that capture a snapshot of today.

We are pleased to announce that we have secured 157 winners, who will now have their poems published in an anthology called 'Empowered - The Colours of My Mind', which will be available to purchase and preserved in the National Archives of the British Library forever!

All successful entries will be contacted for permission to publish.

Congratulations to all participants and to our future published poets!

— Miss. Adams and Mrs. Deeljur

YOUNG SOLOIST OF THE YEAR

The final of this year's Young Soloist of the Year competition took place last Thursday in a tense yet electric atmosphere, as 11 outstanding live finalists—and a first-ever video submission—gathered to showcase their musical talents. The standard was incredibly high, and the anticipation was palpable throughout the room.

It was a truly celebratory evening of music, demonstrating not only technical skill but also a wide spectrum of musical expression. From the quirky charm of the Wallace and Gromit theme to the intensity of My Chemical Romance, and from the sophistication of Duke Ellington to the soaring vocals of Sam Ryder, the programme was as diverse as it was impressive. Each performer handled the pressure with professionalism, poise, and passion.

The judging panel consisted of Mr. Bamping and two distinguished guest judges from Trinity Laban Conservatoire: Ms. Christina Minton and Mrs. Isabelle Gray. Christina also delivered an inspiring speech about forging your own path in music—"the road less travelled"—and treated the audience to a stunning Bach violin solo. The judges were unanimous in their praise of the students, highlighting the maturity of performance and admirable stage presence on display.



Adam in 10A took home the title of Young Soloist of the Year with his explosive and expertly executed rendition of Iron Maiden's The Trooper. His win was wholly deserved, capturing the spirit of individuality and musical risk-taking. Other awards included the Endeavour Award, given to Lewis in 9A, and the Aspire Prize, awarded to Kayden 7D.



Our winner Adam later revealed that he was moving from this final to playing two gigs with his band, The Bandanas, over the weekend making it a heavy finish to the week with 3 performances in 4 days.

The evening proved that musical talent at the school is thriving across every year group—from those just beginning their journey to those with ambitions to go professional. It was a night to remember and a fitting celebration of the joy, discipline, and brilliance that music brings to our community.

A congratulations to all our competitors from the music department from all round. You are what makes the music department and we are already looking forward to next year's competition.



YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK 7 – 11 JULY 2025

This is a final shout out to remind our Year 12 students to log work experience placements on Unifrog as soon as possible.

It is really important we have this information recorded - thank you to those who have already done it!

If you need any help, feel free to get in touch with Mrs Borley at lbo@rws.uk.net



YEAR 9 WORK SHADOWING DAY – FRIDAY 11TH JULY 2025

Job Shadowing Program



Our Year 9 Work Shadowing Day is fast approaching. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to experience the world of work by spending the day with a parent, carer, or another trusted adult in their workplace.

The event will take place on Friday 11th July 2025.

If you haven't done so already, please make sure to complete the online form shared in previous correspondence as soon as possible.

All students taking part in the Year 9 Work Shadowing Day will receive a workbook to complete during their placement. This should be handed in to their tutor on Monday 14th July, upon their return to school.

A prize will be awarded for the best overall completed workbook – so encourage your child to put in their best effort!

We would also love to celebrate the day by sharing photos of students at their placements. If you are happy to take part, please email any photos to: careers@rws.uk.net

Thank you for your support in making this a valuable and memorable experience for our students!

JUST SAY
Cheese



SPRINGPOD

VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AGED 13+



EXPLORE YOUR FUTURE WITH SPRINGPOD

Springpod is a free, award-winning online careers platform designed for students aged approximately 13–19 years and offers a wide range of virtual work experience programmes from medicine and engineering to media, law, and many more!

Open to all students and is completely free to join – just create your own account!

Virtual Work Experience (VWEX):

- Immersive programmes created in partnership with top employers like NHS, Siemens, JLL, Meta, and the CAA
- Includes interactive tasks, quizzes, webinars, and self-reflection, allowing students to “try before they apply”
- Earn certificates and build confidence, skills, and insight into industries.



Student Benefits:

- Explore career paths and industries safely from home.
- Gain employer-led insight & experience.
- Boost CVs, UCAS personal statements, and apprenticeship applications.
- Earn certificates recognised by employers
- Participate in webinars and virtual sessions at your own pace.

Get started today at:

www.springpod.com

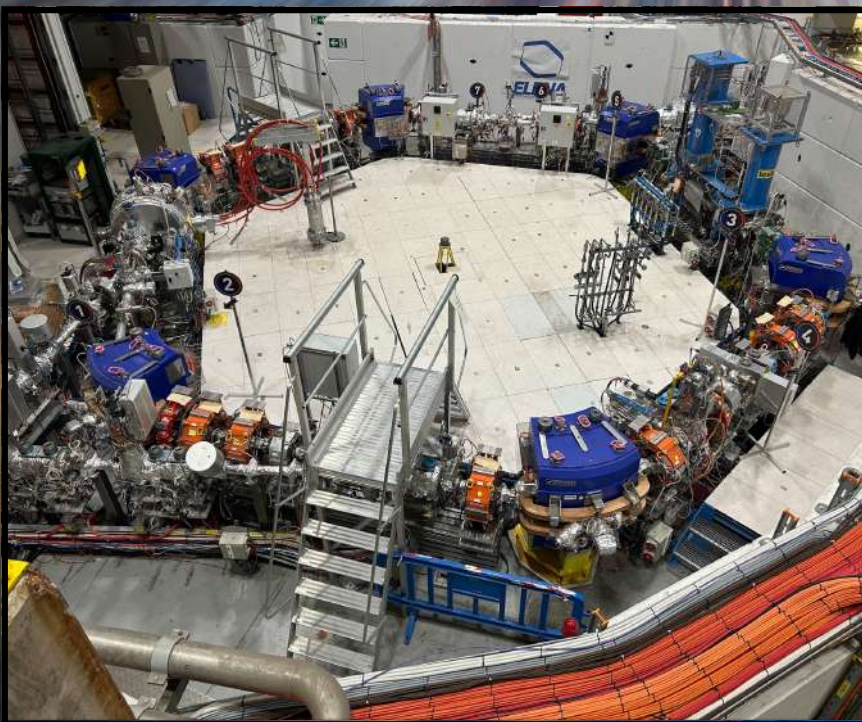
If you have any questions or need help signing up please contact Mrs Borley in our Careers Office lbo@rws.uk.net



YEAR 12 TRIP TO CERN



Year 12 students visited the Large Hadron Collider at CERN as well as the Headquarters of the Red Cross to enhance and broaden their learning opportunities. As part of the visit, we had several Physicists talk to the group, explaining aspects of what they do, this was then followed by a visit to the source of the world wide web (which was started at CERN and continues to be supported there).



Students also had the opportunity to visit the antimatter factory where they are producing antihydrogen. We are still unclear how antihydrogen will behave; it is however an exciting prospect to deliver future energy needs.

SOUTH COAST SURVEYS



In recent weeks Ravens Wood Geographers have been busy collecting data out in the field.

160 Yr. 10 Geographers visited Newhaven and Rottingdean on the South coast. They were investigating whether longshore drift was active at Newhaven West Beach and evaluating the coastal defences at Rottingdean. The trip gave a valuable insight into fieldwork techniques and key case studies which will be examined in their GCSE examination.



Our 55 Yr 12 Geographers have tested a range of hypotheses' across a variety of the finest locations the South East of England can offer. This included the impact of the Turner Gallery and Dreamland on the regeneration of Margate, coastal processes and an evaluation of the effectiveness of defences at Reculver, contrasting regeneration strategies at London Docklands with the new Kings Cross initiative through to sand dune succession at Camber Sands.



We are proud of the works our students have carried out and the resilience they have shown in some challenging weather conditions. We look forward to seeing how the students utilise the skills and knowledge gained when answering examination questions and completing their NEA's.



OTHER NEWS

A PLEA FROM THE PSFA

If you have any preloved uniform items you would like to donate to the school so they can be sold on, please could you bring them to the Main Reception by Friday 27th June. The uniform must be in good condition and not stained.

We are looking for ties, rugby tops, green PE socks, PE T-shirts, PE tracksuits tops and tracksuit bottoms, and blazers.

Thanks for your help!

P.S. If you can't deliver by Friday, we will still happily take your donations for next week's sale.

YEAR 7 INTERFORM FOOTBALL



It was really well attended despite the heat, lots of passion from the students, an excellent display of Pride and Community, very exciting matches with 7H being the winners



Year 12 chemists used balloons as part of a review lesson on the VSEPR theory and molecular geometry.

Congratulations

to Henry Pragnell for passing his Grade 8 Cello exam with merit last week!

Withdrawal of the 654 Bus Route

I am writing to update you following the public consultation held between, Monday 27 January 2025 and Sunday 09 March 2025, [proposing changes to the bus service for route 654](#). We received 83 responses to the consultation and would like to thank everyone that took part.

Our proposal was to permanently withdraw the school bus route 654.



Our decision

Following careful consideration of the consultation responses and a further review of what was proposed, **we have decided to proceed with these proposals** as set out in the consultation.

The money saved will allow us to better use our limited resources; operating a more efficient bus service helps us make financial savings that can be reinvested in other parts of the London bus network, including in areas where there is not enough bus capacity to meet customer needs.

Today we have published our [consultation report](#) which confirms this decision. The report also includes our response to the key issues raised, including concerns related to capacity and reliability of other local bus routes and concerns that journey times will be longer.

Next steps

We intend to make the bus service changes during July 2025, with the **654-bus service stopping operating after the end of the 2024/25 academic year**. Customer information will be issued in advance of any changes to ensure customers are aware.

Once the changes are implemented, as part of our continual review of the London bus network, our monitoring will continue to ensure services match passenger demand.

Thank you again to everyone that took part in the consultation.

Yours sincerely,

Geoff Hobbs
Director of Public Transport Service Planning



RWS PSFA NEEDS YOU!



Volunteers needed to
cover the many
events coming up
towards the end of
June into mid-July!



Please email
ravenswoodpsfa@yahoo.com
if you are able to help out in
any way



**A rocking day filled with live music, friendship and fun.
All are welcome!**

(We will not be providing separate activities for U16s)



Sunday 6th July 2025

Doors open at 1pm Music from 2pm til 10pm

Doors close at 10.30pm



Oakley House, Bromley Common, Bromley, BR2 8HA

Tickets £12 General (4 for £40) Carers and U18s (£10)

Including Burger/hotdog or vegetarian option.

Light snacks available at an additional price.

No Picnics allowed due to Health and Safety.

Buy in Advance Online

Scan QR code or use:

<https://buytickets.at/creativeandneurodiverseinnovationscandi/1673654> =



Tickets also available to buy with cash from:

Rhiannon's Cafe or ORB Gateway in person or

on the Door on the day (Food not guaranteed)

Together
ness

Celebration

Acceptance

Community



**Check out what else is happening alongside
the great music and entertainment line-up!**

Raffle
Silent Auction
Face Painting
Stalls
Ice Cream Van
Amazing Dance and Drama groups

**Please dress appropriately as we hope to be outdoors.
If the weather forecast is wet then the festival will be inside.**

This is a Music Festival so there will be loud Music!
There is a sensory room providing a quiet calm space if needed.
We have a limited amount of Ear defenders available.

<https://buytickets.at/creativeandneurodiverseinnovationscandi/1673654> =

Check out and follow the official Facebook page for more updates;

<https://www.facebook.com/people/IF-Inclusivity-Festival-2024/61565248014112/?mibextid=ZbWKwL>

How to get there:

The following buses 61, 261, 320, 336 and 358 stop nearby
the entrance, Fisher's Wood Grove.

The bus stop is called Bromley Common/Turpington Lane (BL or BT)

There is parking and the entrance is just by the

(BT Bromley Common/Turpington Lane) 📍 bus stop.



Friends of Ravens Wood Fund

You will recall that we wrote to you in May this year, regarding becoming a 'Friend of Ravens Wood School'. By giving a regular amount or annual donation to the fund, it makes a real difference in the school being able to keep resources and equipment up to date, enriching and enhancing the unique and special opportunities available to your child/children.

Donations have been made via standing order in the past, however, this system is changing to a 'Just Giving' platform. Donations can be made either monthly or as a one-off single payment as you prefer. The amount you donate is entirely your decision, but £10 per month or £120 per year is a suggested contribution rate. Please follow the URL: Ravens Wood School Fund - JustGiving or scan the QR code below to get started.

Reminder to update bank details

Please be advised that should you currently be donating via standing order you will need to cancel this with your bank, as the account currently being used is closing, and we would encourage you to use the new system.

In addition, if you are a UK taxpayer you are able to make a Gift Aid declaration which allows the school to claim tax you have already paid back from the Inland Revenue, meaning that every pound you donate will be worth an extra 25 pence. Please tick the relevant box when prompted on the Just Giving platform.

We are extremely grateful for the support we have received from our parents and carers, and do hope that you will consider helping the school in this way. Please scan the QR code or follow the URL link as detailed above.

Yours faithfully

The Finance Department
Ravens Wood School



ATTENDANCE

1st Place with 97% = 7F, 7G & 8E

2nd Place with 96% = 7C, 7D, 8F, 8G, 8H & 9D

3rd Place with 95% = 7B, 7E, 7H, 8A, 8B, 9A, 9E & 10C



Dates for your Diary

PD Day (school closed to students) - Friday 27th June

Uniform Sales - Friday 27th June (16:40), Saturday 28th June (9:15), & Saturday 5th July (9:15am).

Ben Morgan Run - Wednesday 2nd July

Sports Day - Thursday 3rd July

Year 12 Futures Day - Thursday 3rd July

A Level Paris Trip - Saturday 5th - Tuesday 8th July

Uniform Sale - Saturday 5th July (9:15am)



Please check the SOCS website for regular updates regarding sporting fixtures
<https://sport.rws.uk.net>



Learn To continually explore and discover new skills, ideas and knowledge

Lead To lead by example and inspire those around you

Excel To be the best you can be through effort and endeavour



Ravens Wood School

Welcome to all prospective sixth form students to our induction day today. We hope you have an informative and enjoyable time.



ravens_wood_sport

Well done to our Inter Athletics team today in the England Schools Regional B Final. There were some great performances, especially on the track, with plenty of top 3s throughout the day. Additionally, a big well done to our Year 7 and Year 8 Athletics teams who both competed in the Bromley minors yesterday. The year 7s finished 2nd and the years 8s picked up 3rd, which ensured we finished 3rd overall. Best of luck to our junior team who compete next week in their regional final.



ravens_wood_sport

A fantastic evening celebrating our amazing students here at RWS. Students were recognised for their hard work and effort as well as their sporting excellence. The big winners of the night:

Gallery Entrants:
D Snell, J Dako, C Phillips, M Branch-Holland, Z Finch, H Shepherd, 1stXI Football, U13B Football and U14B Football.

Sports Performance of the year:
U14B Football - English Schools National Champions

Sports Person of the Year:
Z Finch and M Branch-Holland (England U18s and Saracens Rugby)

Well done to all our award winners and all our students who represented the school this year. A big thank to our guest speaker and RWS old boy @ollietanner_ and thank you to everyone who helped organise the evening



ravens_wood_sport

A hot and busy week for the RWS cricketers! With the the BDL now concluded, we wait to see if we have qualified for the semi final stages! Huge well done to all involved!

CRICKET RESULTS				
16TH - 20TH JUNE				
YR8 B	51	vs	168-0	ELTHAM COLLEGE
YR8 A	168-6	vs	119	ST OLAVES
YR7A	79-3	vs	65-9	BULLERS WOOD
YR9 A	181-4	vs	130-4	HAYES
YR9 B	119-3	vs	120-8	ELTHAM COLLEGE



Ravens Wood School

We are loving our 19th Annual Sports Dinner. An amazing celebration of the sporting success of our students!



Thanks to Ravens Wood alumni and Cardiff City footballer, Ollie Tanner for presenting the awards.