

R W S



Friday 8th May 2026



Happy Birthday Sir David Attenborough! on Page 2



London Metropolitan University Visit on Page 5



Junior Mathematical Challenge on Page 6



SLT Assembly on Pages 7-8



Mini Marathon on Page 14



RWS Social Media Activity on Page 19

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we move further into the summer term, school life continues to be as busy and enriching as ever, with students across all year groups embracing a wide range of opportunities both inside and beyond the classroom.

Over the past two weeks, students have enjoyed thought-provoking assemblies. Mr Frondigoun, Head of Year 7, led assemblies marking St George's Day, reflecting on identity, courage and community. Meanwhile, Miss Prescott, Deputy Headteacher, delivered an engaging assembly inspired by Factfulness by Hans Rosling, encouraging students to think critically about the world around them and reminding us that, despite the challenges often presented in the media, the world is in many ways improving.

Our enrichment programme continues to thrive. Students recently visited The Magic Circle on a fascinating trip led by Mr Ralph, while Mr Visser supported students with their scuba preparation through a practical pool session ahead of this weekend's much-anticipated trip to the Lake. We wish all involved a safe and memorable experience.

Last week, our RWS12 students completed their Assessment Week, an important milestone as they continue their sixth form journey and prepare for the challenges ahead. We were also delighted to welcome Year 11 students and families to our Raising Achievement and Celebration Evening on Wednesday 29th April. It was a wonderful opportunity to recognise all that this year group has contributed to the school community during their time at Ravens Wood, while also supporting them as they approach their GCSE examinations. We are incredibly proud of the maturity, resilience and character they have shown throughout their five years with us and hope to welcome many of them back to Sixth Form.

This week has also brought further opportunities for our students. Our historians welcomed visitors from the Coldstream Guards, providing valuable insight into military history and leadership, while Year 12 students benefited from a Next Steps Seminar designed to support them as they begin considering university, apprenticeships and future career pathways.

Today, we were especially pleased to host our Year 13 Leavers' Breakfast, attended by students, families and staff. This annual event is always a significant moment in the school calendar — an opportunity to reflect on the achievements, friendships and experiences that have shaped our Year 13 students during their time at Ravens Wood. As they now prepare for their A Level examinations and the exciting next steps beyond school, we wish them every success and look forward to hearing about all they achieve in the future.

Public examination season is now upon us, with GCSE examinations having started yesterday and A Level examinations beginning next Monday. Structured revision programmes and support plans are firmly in place for both year groups, and I would like to thank staff, students and families for the commitment and support being shown during this important period. To all of our students sitting examinations over the coming weeks: work hard, stay balanced, and remember that we are here to support you every step of the way. We wish you every success in both your revision and your exams.



Thank you, as always, for your continued support of the school.

Yours sincerely,

Ms M. Lester

Headteacher



HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH



On his 100th birthday, David Attenborough stands as one of the most influential voices in the history of nature and environmental storytelling. Across decades, he has transformed how humanity sees the natural world, bringing the wonders of the planet into millions of homes with groundbreaking series like Planet Earth and Blue Planet. His calm, distinctive narration and curiosity have inspired generations to appreciate biodiversity and recognise the urgency of protecting it.

Crucially, his work has had a profound impact on young people, sparking curiosity about science, wildlife, and the environment in classrooms and living rooms alike, and motivating many to pursue careers in conservation, biology, and filmmaking.



By making complex environmental issues accessible and emotionally compelling, he has empowered the next generation to respect the natural world and see themselves as guardians of the Earth. Beyond television, his advocacy has helped elevate global awareness of climate change, influencing both policymakers and a growing wave of youth-led environmental movements. Reaching a century of life, his legacy is not just in the breathtaking footage he helped create, but in the lasting shift in human consciousness.

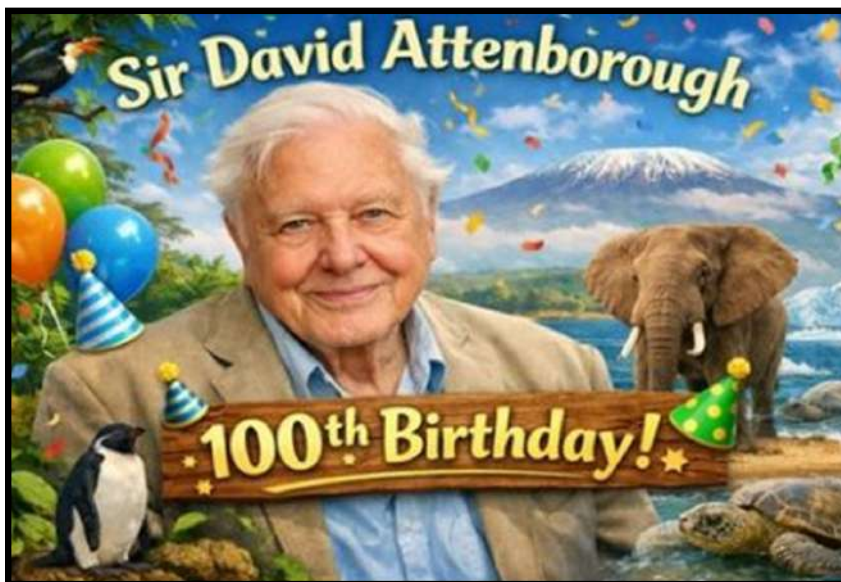




RWS Fieldwork



RWS Fieldwork



To celebrate the Birthday of the Iconic Environmental Activist- we are announcing a photography competition open to all years!

(Prize details to follow)

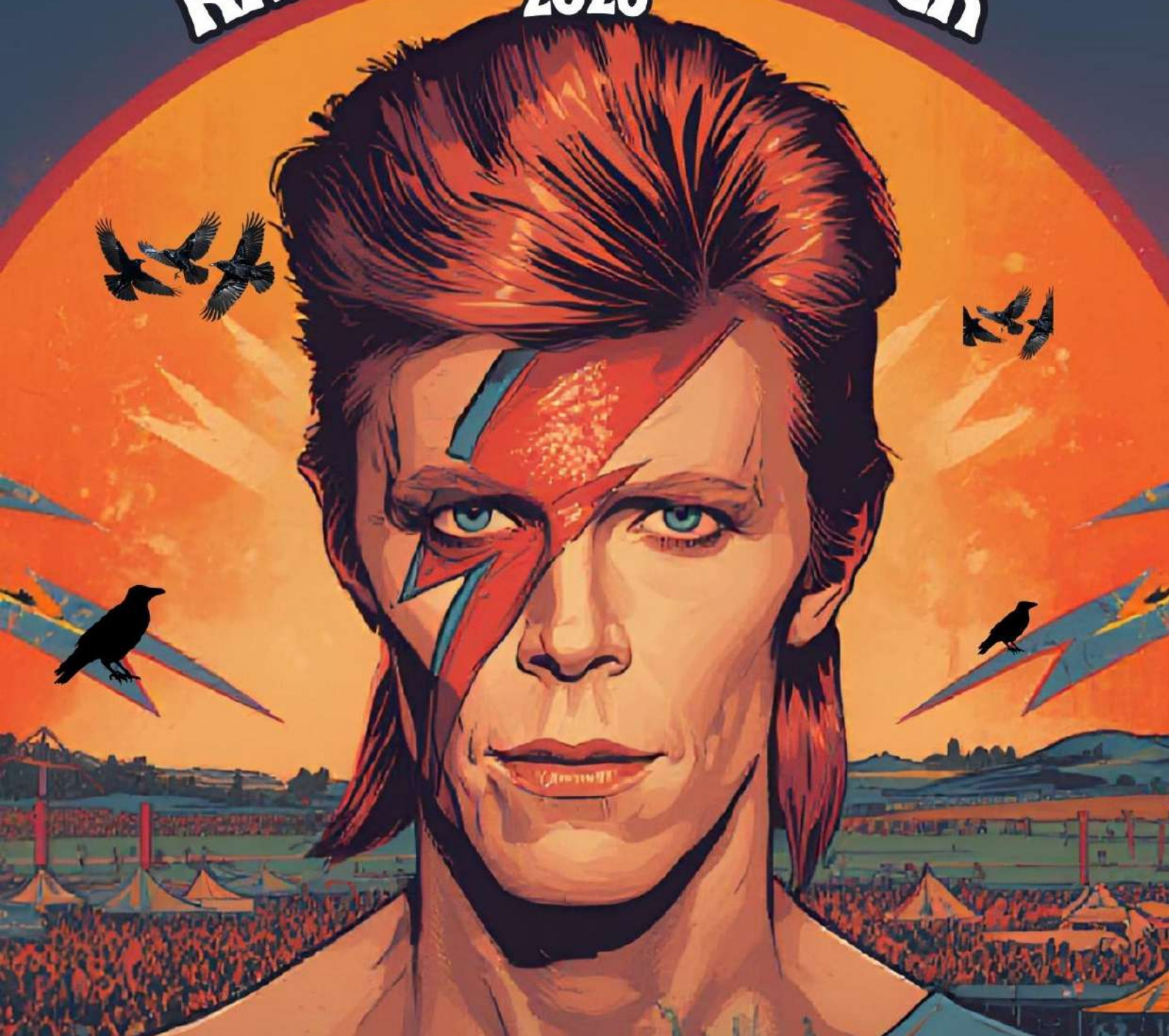
Have you got a photograph you have taken of a majestic animal, a glorious woodland or a jaw dropping landscape that you want to put forward?



Please forward a photo onto ESH@RWS.UK.NET – you've got to be in it to win it!*

**Photographs must be your own work and not AI generated (we do know the difference)*

RAVENS WOODSTOCK 2026



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE HERITAGE OF LONDON TRUST



1ST JULY



6PM IN THE GARDEN

LONDON METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY VISIT

This week, RWS12 students took part in a Healthcare Degrees Discovery Day at London Metropolitan University. The day was jam-packed with opportunities for students to take part in introductory sessions for a variety of degrees linked to Biology and Healthcare – Medicine isn't the only option!



We started in a Food Technology kitchen used by BSc Dietetic undergraduates, where RWS12 students made two different smoothies and learnt about which macronutrients and micronutrients came from each ingredient. From there, students explored a simulation ward used in Adult Nursing courses, and students learnt to take each other's vital signs including blood pressure and heart rate. Following this, we went to a session about Physiotherapy degrees, where we were introduced to cardiac and respiratory physiotherapy – it's a bit of a myth that physiotherapy degrees only lead to careers in Sports Physiotherapy, when in fact there are lots of different physiotherapy roles within the NHS. We learnt about auscultation, where listening to the lungs can be used to diagnose different conditions.

After a BBQ lunch in one of the courtyards on campus, students visited the 2nd largest undergraduate teaching laboratory in Europe, where up to 208 undergraduate students complete labs at any one time. Here, RWS12 students completed a chemistry practical where they synthesised aspirin and learnt about pharmaceutical chemistry, which was followed by a biology practical where they extracted DNA from strawberries and viewed this under the microscope. In just one day we were dieticians, nurses, physiotherapists, chemists and molecular biologists!



JUNIOR MATHEMATICAL CHALLENGE

Success!



United Kingdom
Mathematics Trust

We are delighted to celebrate the fantastic achievements of our students in this year's UK Mathematics Trust Junior Mathematical Challenge.

The competition encourages students to develop problem-solving skills, think logically, and apply mathematical reasoning in unfamiliar situations — providing a real challenge for even the most able mathematicians.



This year,
30 students

from Year 7 and Year 8
were selected to take
part in the challenge.



The Junior Mathematical Challenge is one of the UK's most prestigious mathematics competitions, with around **70,000 students** taking part from over 4,500 schools across the country.

WE ARE PROUD TO SHARE OUR IMPRESSIVE RESULTS



3
GOLD
AWARDS



10
SILVER
CERTIFICATES



10
BRONZE
CERTIFICATES



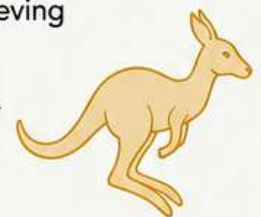
A HUGE WELL DONE
TO ALL OUR
PARTICIPANTS!



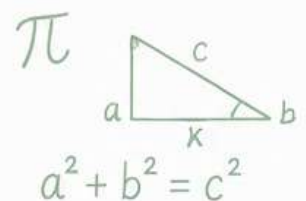
A special congratulations goes to **HUMPHREY ASSHETON** for achieving the highest score in the school.

Humphrey has also qualified for the next round of the competition — the prestigious **MATHS KANGAROO**.

This is an outstanding achievement — well done, Humphrey!



We would also like to recognise all students who achieved Silver and Bronze awards for their hard work, resilience, and mathematical talent. Taking part in the Junior Maths Challenge requires perseverance, creativity, and confidence in tackling complex problems, and every participant should be extremely proud of their efforts.



Well done to all students who represented Ravens Wood School so brilliantly — we look forward to even more success in future mathematics competitions!



$$2x+3=7$$



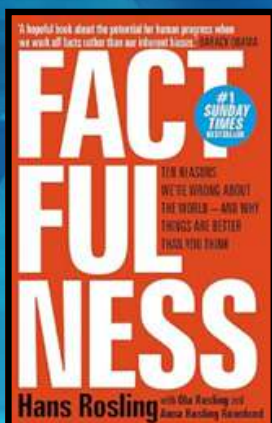
$$(a+b)^2$$

$$y=mx+c$$



THIS WEEK'S SLT ASSEMBLY: IT HAS NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO BE ALIVE!

This week, students came together for a whole-school assembly delivered by Miss Prescott, Deputy Headteacher, with a powerful and reassuring message: the world is not as bad as we sometimes think. In a time when headlines can often feel overwhelming, the assembly invited students to reflect on an important question: ***Are we seeing the full picture—or just the loudest part of it?***



Drawing on the work of Hans Rosling, a global health expert and author of Factfulness, students explored how easy it is to develop misconceptions about the world around us. His research shows that while serious challenges do exist, many aspects of life across the world are improving—sometimes in ways we don't always hear about.

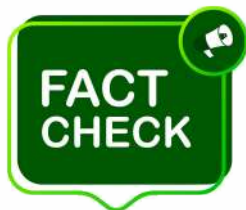
One of the most striking ideas shared was this: ***It has never been a better or safer time to be alive.*** At first, this may feel surprising. We are constantly exposed to dramatic and negative news stories. However, these stories often represent the most extreme events—not the full reality of everyday life across the world.

Why Do We Sometimes Get It Wrong?

As humans, we are naturally drawn to stories that are emotional, urgent, or shocking. These are the stories that stay with us and shape our perceptions.

But while bad things do happen, it is equally true that the world is improving in many ways—in health, education, and global development.

Understanding both sides of this picture helps us think more clearly and respond more thoughtfully.



What Is “Factfulness”?

At the heart of the assembly was the idea of factfulness—a way of thinking that helps us make sense of the world more accurately.

Factfulness means:

- Looking at evidence, not just assumptions
- Questioning what we hear
- Checking facts before deciding what to believe

When we hear statements like “everything is getting worse”, factfulness encourages us to pause and ask: ***Is that really true? What do the facts say?***

Living Our Black & Green Values

This message connects directly with our Black & Green values, which guide how we think and act as a school community.

- We show integrity when we value truth and evidence
- We demonstrate thoughtfulness when we take time to question and reflect
- We act with responsibility when we think carefully about what we believe and share
- We show ambition and optimism when we recognise that progress is possible—and already happening
- By practising factfulness, we are not only becoming better learners, but also more informed and responsible members of our community.



The key message from the assembly is one of balance and hope.

The world is not perfect—but it is not as negative as it can sometimes seem. By focusing on facts rather than fear, we can develop a clearer, calmer, and more confident understanding of the world around us.

Final Thought

As we move forward this term, students are encouraged to remember:

Ask questions. Seek evidence. Look beyond the headline.

Because when we understand the world more clearly, we are better equipped to shape it for the better.

UNITY ALLSTARS CHEERLEADING

Elizabeth in 13D returned from the Cheerleading Worlds Championships in Florida as a silver medallist, in the under 18s co-ed division. Congratulations to Elizabeth and her club, Unity Allstars Cheerleading!

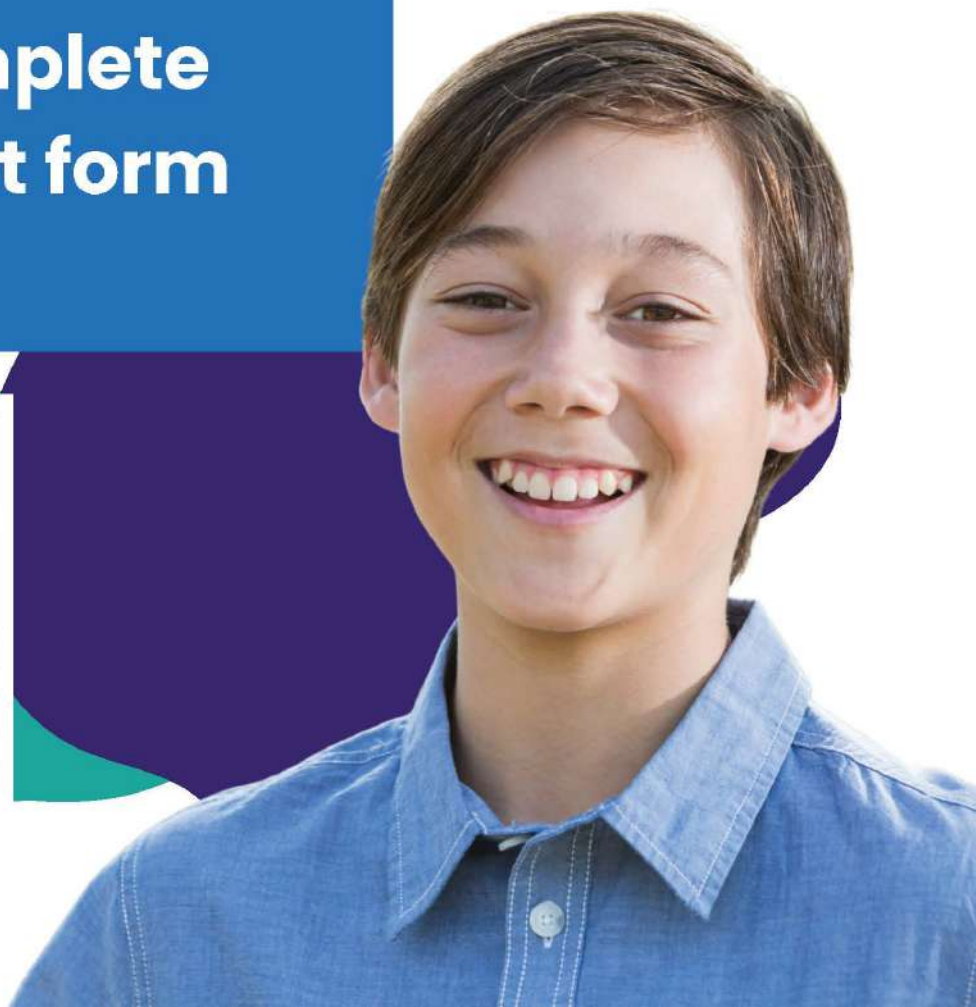


Did you know

**boys should have the
HPV vaccine too?**

Protect yourself against the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) which can cause a range of cancers, including head and neck, penile, and anal cancers.

**Make sure your
parents complete
your consent form
today!**



HISTORY CLUB

GOLDSTREAM GUARD VISIT

On Wednesday the RWS history club was lucky to be visited by former Coldstream Guardsman and RWS employee Graham Borley to deliver a Q and A session about his time in the army.

Graham had served in Northern Ireland, Belize, West Germany and had performed in multiple Trooping of the Colours. The boys asked many insightful questions and listened respectfully to all of Mr Borley's stories and memories. Mr Borley regaled the boys with the drawbacks of jungle warfare, what happened when the British army had to tackle drug cartels in Belize and what an 'egg banjo' is.



Mr Borley also spoke about a meeting he had with the late Queen Elizabeth II whilst guarding Buckingham Palace. Mr Borley was able to speak to some of the boys with military aspiration and talk to them about prospective career paths.



The RWS History club would again like to thank Mr Borley for taking the time to visit. History Club runs every Wednesday after school in HU10 – New members always welcome.



YOUNG SOLOIST OF THE YEAR

First Round: W/C 18th May

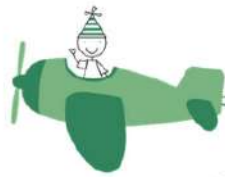
Second Round: 10th June

Final Round: TBC

Sign up sheet on the music noticeboard

Any queries, please contact Miss Berry

jby@rws.uk.net



The Bromley Children Project

Healthy Food Habits

Healthy Food Habits offers playful, practical sessions for families. In Seed to Plate, parents learn what's easy to grow, children plant seeds and decorate pots, and the whole family tastes, learns, and grows together

Wednesday 13th May

9:30-11am

Location: Biggin Hill Children and Family Centre, Sunningvale Ave. TN16 3TN

To book just call or email us on:



01959 571 694



bigginhillcfc@bromley.gov.uk

MAGIC CLUB REWARDS TRIP

On Monday 27th April, 44 students took part in a memorable Magic Club rewards trip to The Magic Circle headquarters in Euston. During the visit, students enjoyed a guided tour of the museum, where they learned about the fascinating history of magic.



They were treated to an impressive close-up magic performance before being taught a selection of magic tricks to impress friends and family. The experience culminated in an exclusive magic show performed by the President of The Magic Circle, none other than Marvin Berglas of Marvin's Magic.



The trip was an unforgettable experience for all involved and a fantastic reward for the students' commitment and enthusiasm.

MINI MARATHON SUCCESS

Ben and Zach proudly represented Bromley in the Mini Marathon and Borough Challenge, putting in fantastic performances and showing great determination.

Zach was also lucky enough to meet Nitro from Gladiators, and after the schools' race, Ben, Zach and Sam all had the chance to meet Olympic gold medalist Jake Wightman, making the day even more memorable.



Ben spotted Ravens Wood listed on the schools' board.

It's also worth highlighting that the new Athletics team vests were funded using last year's Mini Marathon money alongside the prize money Ben received after winning the Jack Petchey Award. Even better, the vest design was created by Ben himself!

Finally, a huge congratulations to Ben and Zach's dad, who completed the full marathon the following day in an incredible 2:47.

A fantastic achievement all round – well done to everyone involved!



PSHE

AT RAVENS WOOD SCHOOL



At RWS, we really value PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic) education as it plays a vital role in helping our students develop the knowledge, skills, and understanding they need to navigate life safely, confidently, and respectfully.

We've included this fortnight's PSHE topics below, along with links to relevant resources from The Wellbeing Hub. These are provided in case you'd like to continue these important conversations at home. If you still need to register for The Wellbeing Hub, you can do so [here](#).

If you have any questions about PSHE, please email PSHE@rws.uk.net

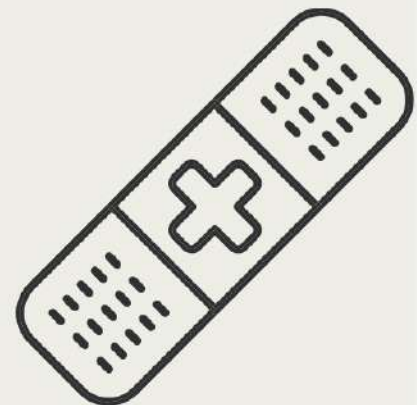
Head of PSHE
Ms Brown

Year	PSHE topic of the fortnight	The Wellbeing Hub resources
7 & 8	Antibullying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Antibullying resource guide 2. What to do about bullying 3. Bullying for ages 11-14 4. Banter vs bullying – what's the difference? 5. Top tips: supporting a victim of bullying 6. How to support someone who is being bullied
9	Managing conflict at home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supporting your child through family breakdown 2. Blended families podcast 3. Why eating as a family matters 4. Family life: your questions answered 5. Permissive parenting 6. Uninvolved parenting 7. Parenting for prevention 8. Neurodivergent parenting 9. Eating disorders for parents and carers 10. Parenting after separation or divorce 11. Understanding attachment theory: a parent's guide
10	Self-harm and suicide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Young suicide prevention podcast 2. Why do people self-harm? 3. What to do if your child is having suicidal thoughts 4. How to know if someone is suicidal 5. Young people who self-harm podcast 6. Understanding depression in young people 7. Support for families affected by suicide
11, 12 & 13	Exam intervention and preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How to prepare effectively for exams 2. Exam mindfulness 3. Setting yourself up for exam success 4. Overcoming exam anxiety 5. Techniques for effective revision

BITESIZE FIRST AID

Come and join our **FREE**
Family First Aid course for children and
families

Bitesize First Aid for Families is a short,
non-accredited course for parents,
carers, and children. Fun, friendly, and
easy to follow, it's a great first step into
first aid, helping learners of all ages
build confidence and essential skills
together.



All Ages



Thursday 25th May
10:00-12:00 pm



To book or find out more info please call
or email:

01959 571 694

bigginhillcfc@bromley.gov.uk

Wellbeing Webinars

For Young People

Stress & Worry Management

Fri 22 May @ 5:30pm



Managing Academic Stress: Developing Healthy Study Habits

~~Mon 27 Apr @ 5:00pm~~

Mon 29 Jun @ 5:00pm

For Parents & Carers

Helping Your Child With Fears & Worries (Primary)

~~Mon 13 Apr @ 12:00 pm~~

~~Fri 8 May @ 12:00pm~~

Sat 20 Jun @ 10:00am

Helping Your Child with Fears & Worries (Secondary)

Sat 25 Apr @ 10:00am

Mon 18 May @ 10:00am

Fri 26 Jun @ 10:00am

Understanding Disordered Eating in Teens, for Parents

~~Thurs 23 Apr @ 6:00pm~~

Thurs 18 Jun @ 6:00pm

Helping Your Child With Sleep (Primary)

Mon 11 May @ 12:00pm

Fri 12 Jun @ 12:00pm

Emotionally Based School Avoidance

~~Fri 17 Apr @ 10:00am~~

Sat 16 May @ 10:00am

Mon 8 Jun @ 10:00am

Visit our [Eventbrite page](#) to book your place



bromley-y.org



@bromley_y_



@bromley_y_



@bromleywellbeing

Friends of Ravens Wood Fund

Becoming a 'Friend of Ravens Wood School' by giving a regular amount or annual donation to the fund, 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 can be made via the 'Just Giving' platform, 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 <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/ravens-wood-fund>
or scan the QR code below to get started.



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 96.8% = 7D**
- 2nd Place with 96.4% = 10D**
- 3rd Place with 96.0% = 8F**



Dates for your Diary

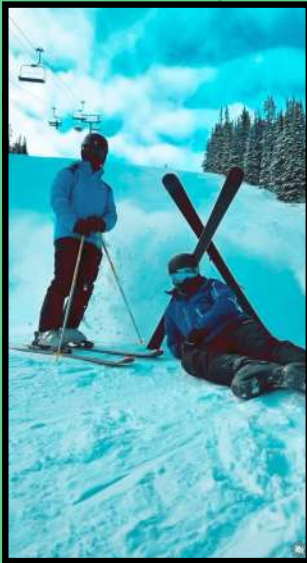
- GCSE Exams - Thursday 7th May - Wednesday 24th June 2026**
- A Level Exams: Monday 11th May - Wednesday 24th June 2026**
- Bridging Divides: Wednesday 13th May 2026**
- Year 9 DofE Training: Wednesday 13th May 2026**
- New York Art Trip: Thursday 21st - Tuesday 26th May 2026**



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

Our new WhatsApp broadcasting channel



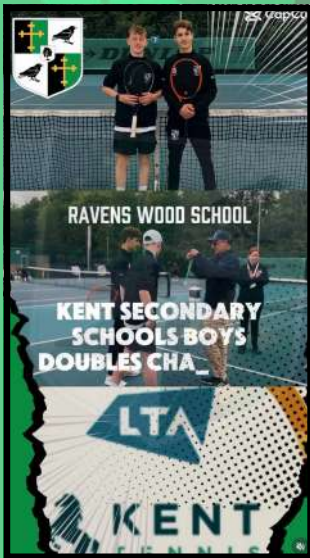
Snow, smiles, and unforgettable memories! Our School Ski Trip 2026 was one to remember!



Great effort from our amazing students at Saturday's @minilondonmarathon

It was great to see the students give it their all and represent the school so brilliantly

Well done to all involved and a big thank you to Mrs Butler for organising



Huge congratulations to our amazing Year 9 students, Harry and Tony!

They've smashed it and are now the Kent Secondary Schools Boys Doubles Champions (Year 9 & 10)!



DISTRICT CUP CHAMPIONS

A huge congratulations to our Year 7 football team who were crowned District Cup Champions last Friday!

An incredible achievement and a proud moment for the Y7 squad in their first year at RWS



DISTRICT CUP CHAMPIONS!

A huge congratulations to our Year 8 football team who were crowned District Cup winners last Thursday!

An outstanding performance from start to finish—showing resilience, teamwork, and real determination throughout the tournament

We are incredibly proud of this talented group and the way they represented the school both on and off the pitch

