

# R W S

Friday 9th January 2026



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Toby is away  
this week



Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back after the Christmas break, and wishing you all a very happy New Year. It has been a pleasure to welcome students back to school on Tuesday, refreshed and ready for the Spring Term.

Our previous newsletter was published on the 12th December, and the final week of term was full of festive activity. Two Christmas concerts showcased our wonderful Year 7 massed choirs alongside the impressive talents of our student musicians. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Mr Grant and Miss Berry from the Music Department, as well as all staff who supported these events and helped make them such a success.

Before each concert, our PSFA hosted Christmas Markets, providing refreshments including mulled wine and mince pies, as well as a range of festive gifts and decorations. All profits raised will go directly towards supporting our students, and we are extremely grateful to the PSFA team for their generosity and the time they gave so willingly.

We also thank the team at Accent Catering, who prepared a delicious Christmas lunch with all the trimmings on Thursday 18th December. The festive atmosphere was enhanced by seasonal music in the servery, and the event was thoroughly enjoyed by all. On the final day of term, students were invited to wear Christmas jumpers for a voluntary donation, raising funds for the school's nominated charity, Cardiac Risk in the Young and Save the Children. Thank you to everyone who took part — there were some fantastic jumpers on display. Assemblies on the final day, led by myself and the Deputy Headteachers, focused on our school values, and how we had demonstrated them throughout 2025.

The spring term has begun in earnest with a staff training day on Monday. The focus of the day was on raising achievement, developing pedagogy in practice, and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion training. High-quality professional development is essential in ensuring we continue to provide the best possible education and care for our students, and I would like to thank staff for their engagement and commitment.

This week also marks the start of additional afternoon interventions for our Year 11 students, with the day extended to 3.30pm. These sessions provide daily subject-specific revision with specialist teachers in preparation for summer examinations. Feedback from both staff and students has been extremely positive, and we are confident this support will help students feel well-prepared and confident for their GCSEs.

Our welcome-back assemblies this week have focused on ambition, linking this to the New Year Honours and the value of setting high aspirations for ourselves and others. Students were encouraged to reflect on their own goals and the impact they can have within our school and wider community.

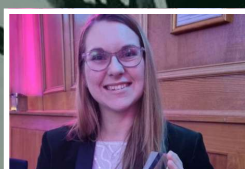
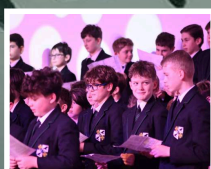
Today, our Year 11 students visited Tate Britain with the Art Department. The trip provided valuable inspiration and enriched students' understanding. Thank you to the Art staff who organised and accompanied the visit.



As we begin a new year, it is a timely opportunity to reflect on wellbeing and the importance of our Black and Green values — particularly community, pride, kindness and integrity — in everything we do. By supporting one another and taking pride in our shared values, we can ensure a positive and successful term ahead.

I wish all families a very enjoyable weekend.

Ms M. Lester  
Headteacher





# Above and Beyond Awards



Kirol in 13F helped with the introduction of a new student and family to Ravens Wood. Kirol joined a tour of the school with Mr Frondigoun and translated everything as well as passing on his experience of being a student. He was beyond helpful with describing the school, routines, uniform and passing on all information needed to get the new student started. It was really impressive to see.



William in 10E, for playing Korfball for England in Belgium



Evan in 12B



Ed in 12RAM



Astrid in 12D



For taking a leading role in RWSocieties. They have created a sharepoint folder and regularly update it with ideas for events, R2L and assemblies. They also led the RWSocieties launch fair and a different activity every Wednesday lunch time. They have been brilliant for championing minority groups and making everyone feel seen in our community.



Jack in 13F



Ben in 11A



Karina in 12D



Archie in 11G for his ongoing support of younger students in Wellbeing. He helped encourage a Year 7 student in Wellbeing and then spent time before school chatting with him and cheering him up. He was not asked to do any of this.



# HAPPY NEW YEAR

## >>> KEY DATES & REMINDERS

14th JAN

Year 13 National UCAS  
deadline 6pm



UCAS clinic Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Jan in MU2

Period 1, 3, 4 & 5

Register in silent study before attending

Ensure payment has been made and  
everything is completed, ready to be  
checked and sent off



W/C 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>  
FEBRUARY

Year 13 Practice Exams

The sessions below are open to ALL students for Practice Exams & Summer Exams

### RWS13 SUBJECT SUPPORT SESSIONS



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch					Music ING   MU1
Period 5	DT MAR/MCU   DT-B  A Level Media BES/JLE   MS2/MS3  BTEC Media SKI   MS2  Politics (Week A) RDA   HU12	DT MAR/MCU   DT-B	DT MAR/MCU   DT-B  A Level Media BES/JLE   MS2/MS3  BTEC Media SKI   MS2  Psychology LEP   HU3	DT MAR/MCU   DT-B  Economics PGU   BS1  A Level Media BES/JLE   MS2/MS3  BTEC Media SKI   MS2  BTEC Business (Week B) SBA   MA11	DT MAR/MCU   DT-B
After School	Physics SJB   L10	Economics PGU   BS1	A Level Business NMC   BS2  Physics SJB   L10		PRE LB   HU1T

### Public Exams

Monday, May 11,  
2026, to Tuesday,  
June 23, 2026

Contingency Date for  
all students; Weds  
24<sup>th</sup> June

Study Skills Support Session for *targeted* students will take place  
Thursday 15th January (invite to follow)

# >>> KEY DATES & REMINDERS



15th JAN

## Year 12 Parents' Evening

YOU WILL HAVE RECEIVED AN EMAIL FROM 'SCHOOL CLOUD' WITH BOOKING INFO

W/C 27<sup>th</sup> APRIL

## Year 12 Practice Exams



MAY HALF TERM

## Year 12 Work Experience deadline



We are proud to support the whole school community with

**The Wellbeing Hub** 

— From Teen Tips —

Creating an environment that nurtures mental health and wellbeing is a top priority at our school.

We are delighted to provide you with free access to this interactive online portal, designed by experts.



Take your camera out and scan here



### RWS 12 & 13

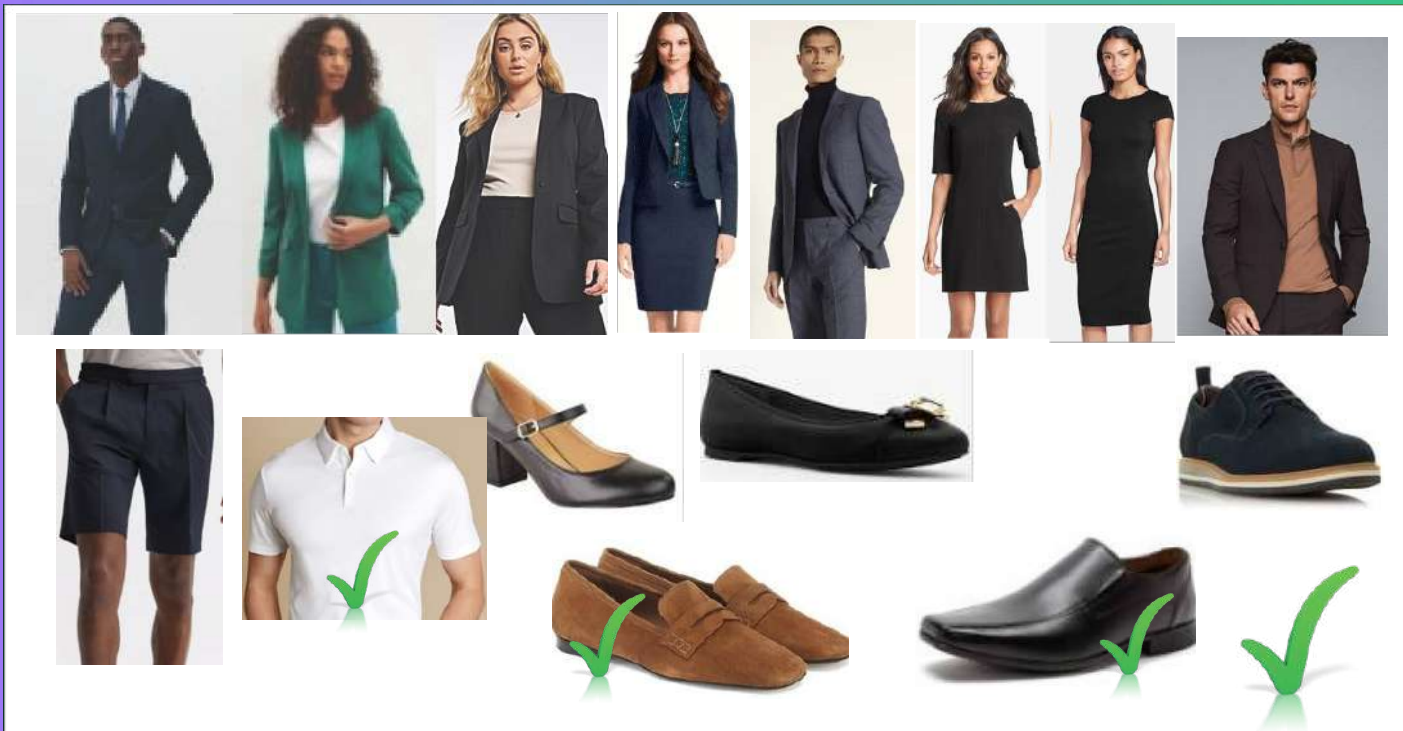
**Absences must be reported by parents/carers, via StudyBugs or [sixthform@rws.uk.net](mailto:sixthform@rws.uk.net) ~ Students MUST sign out when leaving school before their end of day**

# RWS CAREERS

## CAREERS FAIR FRIDAY 30TH JANUARY 8:30-3:30

Please think about what questions you might have for potential employers, recruiters and universities

# SIXTH FORM DRESS CODE



Students' dress will be monitored throughout the day by all members of staff. **Students who are not dressed for a smart school environment will be asked to go home and change.** Reasonable adjustments may be made on a case-by-case basis in coordination with the Senior Leadership Team. Adjustments due to hot weather may be made and will be communicated to students and parents. If you are unsure, or would like more guidance, please contact the Sixth Form Team **before** purchasing items. If you are eligible for the post-16 Bursary, or are experiencing financial hardship, please contact Sixth Form Team for further information and support.



**SIXTH FORM**  
Preparing for Success



Students should have their subject folders in school every day



# The Headteacher Award

Term 1



Huge congratulations to **Toby Wright** in 7A for receiving the prestigious **RWS Headteacher Award**. His hard work, dedication, and perseverance has undoubtedly contributed to his success, and we are so proud to see him thrive as part of our school community.

## The Year Group Awards

Term 1

This is awarded in recognition of a student's hard work, dedication and exemplary character and highlights their commitment to our 'Black & Green' Values, as well as their consistent excellence across various areas, earning 'Teacher Points' through positive contributions both in and out of the classroom. Students were presented with their certificate and their blazer ribbon by Ms Lester.



Silver Award

Arthur Smith  
in 8A



Bronze Award

Toby Wright  
in 7A

Daniel Elliott  
in 7A

Ben Topaz  
in 7A

Alfred Fu  
in 7C

Charles Elliott  
in 7G

Jonathan Tanner  
in 7G



# CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Thanks to all students, particularly the Year 7 cohort, who created exceptional Christmas Concerts at the end of last term. We would also like to thank all parents, friends, families and staff who came to watch the performances. The event sold over 600 tickets, all proceeds from the concert will be invested in new instruments and equipment for the department. Finally a huge shout out to the PSFA who ran a Christmas market, raffle, tombola and sold drinks and snacks at the event.









# 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](mailto:PSHE@rws.uk.net)

**Head of PSHE**  
**Ms Brown**

Year	PSHE topic of the fortnight	The Wellbeing Hub resources
7	<b>Introduction to British Values</b>	<a href="#">1. British values at Ravens Wood School</a>
8	<b>Conception and contraception</b>	<a href="#">1. Sexual health and having awkward conversations</a> <a href="#">2. Contraception</a> <a href="#">3. The importance of sex education</a>
9	<b>Understanding sexual consent</b>	<a href="#">1. What does consent look like?</a> <a href="#">2. Relationships and consent: a pupil's perspective</a> <a href="#">3. How to talk to young people about consent</a> <a href="#">4. How to talk to your child about sex, consent and pornography</a>
10	<b>Dealing with exam pressure</b>	<a href="#">1. Revision and mocks: advice for parents</a> <a href="#">2. Setting yourself up for exam success</a> <a href="#">3. Strategies for overcoming exam anxiety</a>
11	<b>Sexual violence and how to set and respect boundaries</b>	<a href="#">1. Action breaks silence podcast</a> <a href="#">2. Sexual offences involving young people</a> <a href="#">3. Talking to your child about pornography</a> <a href="#">4. Understanding sexual abuse</a> <a href="#">5. How to talk to young people about consent</a>
12	<b>Respectful relationships</b>	<a href="#">1. Healthy and unhealthy relationships</a> <a href="#">2. Relationships and consent: a pupils perspective</a> <a href="#">3. What age can you use dating apps and are they safe?</a> <a href="#">4. How to set healthy boundaries</a> <a href="#">5. FAQs: friendships and relationships</a> <a href="#">8. Understanding coercive control</a>
13	<b>Sexual violence and how to set and respect boundaries</b>	<a href="#">1. Action breaks silence podcast</a> <a href="#">2. Sexual offences involving young people</a> <a href="#">3. Talking to your child about pornography</a> <a href="#">4. Understanding sexual abuse</a> <a href="#">5. How to talk to young people about consent</a>





# FIRST TECH CHALLENGE

On the 5th December the Junior and Senior STEM Academies travelled to Langley Park Boys school to take part in the first meeting for the First Tech Challenge.



First off - for the sake of you, dear reader being able to understand what this was - the FIRST Tech Challenge is a competition where students design, build and program a robot to complete a specific task in the form of a game. This year, the robot needs to pick up purple and green balls (known as Artefacts) and shoot them into a box in one corner of the arena. Each match is 2 minutes and 30 seconds, with the first 30 seconds being an autonomous period, where the robot moves under pre-programmed instructions with no player input, with the rest being controller inputs by the designated humans on the team to score as many points as possible.

Our time at the Scrimmage was mostly spent working on our Robots, gaining ideas and making sure the robot can perform basic functions at the end of it as a minimum. Many people from each team were focusing on improving their existing design and using the schools on site arena to test intake and launching mechanisms, while others were using the time to chat with other teams, see what they were doing and being able to bond over the common interest in the First Tech Challenge and perfecting their Robot.





Some of us also attended conferences being held by the former National Team for the UK, and they talked about everything, between various engineering tips like comparing different intakes used by Robots and a talk about maximising earning Judge's Awards, which by extension covered everything from how to effectively perform Community Outreach and tips for design of the portfolio and the Judge's Interview itself. Their expertise on the matter was greatly appreciated.



At the Scrimmage we were able to meet the other teams for the first time. This was important because it gave us the opportunity to see the strategies of the teams we might be competing with or against in the competition, as well as allowing us to see how much of their robots they had built and determine who could become powerful enemies or useful allies. We were also able to trade with them in order to gain the parts we needed to continue building our robots.

In the end, all teams were successful in having a working robot to varying degrees, with our junior team being able to make their robot move effectively and the Year 13 team being able to have an effective intake and launching mechanism. However, as with anything, all teams still have a lot of room to improve and the time to grow their robots into the best they are able to be.

**Written By Jack Allet (Yr13) and Jess Spiceley (Yr12) Senior STEM Academy**



### Quotes from the Junior STEM Academy

**Kleidis**- "I really enjoyed today as I was able to build the robot and we got the robot able to move around creating great progress."

**Henry** - "The day was really cool as I got to code."

**James T**- "I enjoyed today as we made loads of progress."

**Will** - "It was fun collaborating with other schools and to see how they built their robot."

**Oisin** - "I liked the atmosphere of the whole entire school."

**James G** - "We accomplished making the robot move."





# Former RWS Head Student, Helayna Carole Jenkins, Principal Loneliness Champion, London Borough of Bromley, receives MBE for services to Tackling Loneliness.

We were thrilled to learn that former Head Student Helayna Carole Jenkins (formerly Helayna Carole Wade), has been recognised in the 2026 King's New Year Honour's List for her work in tackling loneliness in the London Borough of Bromley, (hooray, we're on the map!).

Helayna, who left Ravens Wood School in 2011, has had her Facebook and LinkedIn pages swamped with congratulations from friends and colleague - all of whom think this prestigious award is well earned for her tireless work.

"It is with the greatest honour to share that I have been recognised in the King's 2026 New Year Honours List and will be receiving an MBE for my work to tackle Loneliness. I will be forever grateful to those who thought the work that I have been doing over the last 3 years was worthy of such a personal and professional accolade. Tackling loneliness and improving social connection is a real team effort. Thank you to all my colleagues at London Borough of Bromley, organisations across the borough, those who I work with around the globe raising the profile of social connection, social health and helping to address loneliness.



Community Links: Bromley  
[Loneliness Training](#)



# 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) <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 96.3% = 7D**  
**2nd Place with 96.2% = 7G & 10D**  
**3rd Place with 96.1% = 8C & 8F**



## Dates for your Diary

- Controlled assessments in Art; Years 12 & 13 - Monday 12th to Tuesday 13th January 2026
- Year 12 Parents Evening - Thursday 15th January 2026
- Year 7 Assessments - Monday 19th - Friday 23rd January 2026
- Year 11 Maths in Action Trip to Emmanuel Centre - Tuesday 20th January 2026
- Careers World of Work Event in Form Time for Years 7 - 13 - Tuesday 20th January 2026
- A Level Concert - Tuesday 20th January 2026
- Year 10 Assessments - Monday 26th - Friday 30th January 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**

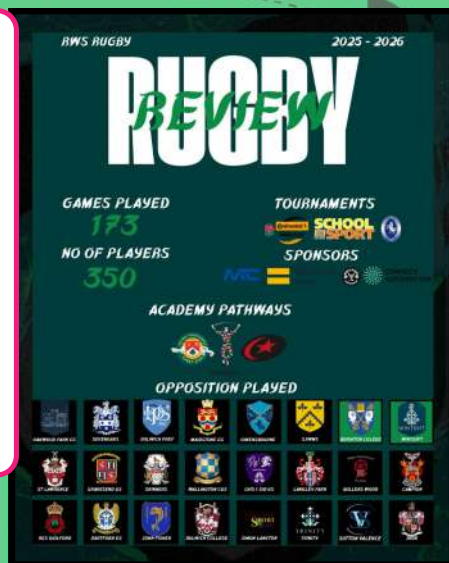


 ravens\_wood\_sport

A huge thank you to our rugby staff and coaches for their outstanding dedication throughout the season. Your time, commitment, and passion create the environment that allows our players to learn, grow, and succeed.

Thank you also to our parents for their continued support, and well done to our players for their effort and attitude on and off the pitch.


A great season built on teamwork and commitment.



# MUSIC SUCCESS

Well done to **Rupert Snee** for passing Grade 2 piano with Merit and **Sean Ludnow** for passing Grade 4 drums.

Please contact [ing@rws.uk.net](mailto:ing@rws.uk.net) to share any exam or performance success.

 ravens\_wood\_sport

Great first win of the season for our 1st VII Netball Team


This year we have an increased squad size and fielded both A and B teams with girls participation ever increasing here at RWS




 ravens\_wood\_sport

National Cup - Round 4!



 ravens\_wood\_sport  
1st XV

 ravens\_wood\_sport

Big congrats to Zach who has finished a strong cross country season by coming 1st in the last of the U13 boys XC races in the Kent XC league

This win means Zach has won the Kent XC league overall for U13 boys to become Kent XC Champion

