

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first Summer Term edition of the School Newsletter. I hope you all had a wonderful break over the Easter period.

You may recall that before the break, I wrote to families to advise of our new method of reporting absence to the school, using the StudyBugs application. There is more information on this on Page 3, as well as details about the MCAS (My Child at School) website and app, and this includes important information on how to download and use these online tools. I also recently shared information about changes to the school day to accommodate the Public Exam period, so please do make a note of this.

We had a wonderful Spring Concert on Wednesday this week, and it was clear how much effort has gone into rehearsals and planning for this production, so well done to all involved, especially the performers, the Music Department and the IT technicians. It was a wonderful performance and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Thank you to those who voted in our Parent Governor election. The deadline for voting was today at midday and we look forward to sharing the result with you in due course. Thank you to both candidates for putting themselves forward to join our Governing Body.

Year 10 students have been invited to their Parents' Evening which takes place on Thursday 2nd May. A letter was sent out on 16th April to advise familes on booking instructions and we look forward to seeing you at these invaluable appointments. A copy of this letter, as well as letters regarding StudyBugs/MCAS and school day changes, can be found on the school website under 'Information' and 'Letters Home.'

We welcomed back our Year 9 studens from Valencia who had a wonderful time. Please do check out the Twitter video that was shared and the link can be found here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qLXCXxLMvo&t=3s

As we look ahead to the Summer Term, we have two Duke of Edinburgh trips fast approaching (Bronze and Silver) so good luck to all involved we hope the expeditions are a success and that the weather is kind.

Have a wonderful weekend

Ms M. Lester Headteacher





Above & Beyond



The following students have been presented with the prestigious 'Above & Beyond' award for their contributions as follows;

- James in Year 9 for competing in the National Mathematics challenge and gaining a Silver Award
- George in Year 10 for competing in the National Mathematics challenge and gaining a Gold Award
- Benjamin in Year 10 for competing in the National Mathematics challenge and gaining a Gold Award
- Benjy in Year 11 for competing in the National Mathematics challenge and gaining a Gold Award
- Henry in Year 10 for competing in the National Mathematics challenge and gaining a Gold Award
- Matthew in Year 12 for representing England in U17's Rugby
- Jasper in Year 12 for Senior debut for the London Broncos (Rugby)
- Alfie in Year 11 for competing in the International Hawkstone International Motocross

The following staff have been presented with the prestigious 'Above & Beyond' award for their contributions as follows;

- Miss Adams, Librarian for the amazing and creative displays in the library and producing engaging themes and games to inspire students' reading.
- Mr Morrissey, Teacher of History for his exemplary Pastoral support.
- Miss Hemetsberger, Teacher of MFL and with responsibility for Reading for her organisation of the German Exchange and taking older German students for Work Experience.
- Miss Hawkins, Data Manager for being super helpful in setting up a programme for the Parent Governor voting system, her attention to detail and conscientiousness always outstanding.
- Ms Ware, Exec Chef Accent Catering for working so well with the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion programme this year at the school, organising decorations for the canteen, as well as bespoke menus and key food items without being asked (for example Red Nose Day, Diwali menu, Cultural Fair).

Studybugs for Parents and Carers



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Bromcom

MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) **Parent Guide**

https://docs.bromcom.com/ knowledge-base/mcas-pare nt-guide/







New Summer Menu















New Snack Pod

We are excited to announce the opening of our new 'Snack Pod' in the playground area.

This will be open at break and lunch time for Students in Years 7-11 from Monday 22nd

April. Below is a sample of what will be on offer;

MORNING BREAK

A selection of different hot items such as Pizza,
Wedges/Twisty
Fries/Potato Puffs,
Quesadilla's, Burritos,
Jamaican patties.

DRINKS

Water Radnor Splash Radnor Fizz

LUNCH

Sausage rolls
Steak/Chicken Slice

SNACKS

Popcorn
Nachos
Waffles
Homebakes
Jelly
Fruit
Chocolate Mousse







German Exchange

We are pleased to announce that we will be offering the **German Exchange Trip** again next academic year to pupils in **years 8, 9, and 10 who study German** as an academic subject at Ravens Wood.

The programme has been very successful for several years with many pupils forging strong friendships with their partners.

We travel to a place called Leer in Germany, close to the Dutch border. Your son will stay with a German family for a week in the second Autumn half term. He would meet up with the other Ravens Wood pupils every day during the week and take part in a number of activities planned for us by our German hosts. Last visit's activities included visiting a local history museum and a traditional German Christmas market, as well as going on a walk with alpacas!

The trip has been going strong for over 30 years and the MFL department remains very committed to its continuation because it enables our students to experience a different culture and to discover the German language outside of the classroom environment.

More information will be shared via an **information letter** to those who have registered their interest. To do this, please **email** <u>ahe@rws.uk.net</u> with the subject line <u>"German Exchange 2024"</u> and your child's

name and current form group by 3rd June.

"I really enjoyed

"I really enjoyed

visiting Leer and

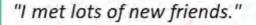
experiencing

experiencing

family life."

German family life."

"I would recommend the trip as it's good life experience and you get to visit new places."



"I learnt independence and lots of new vocabulary."







Science

This week, seven of our fantastic Year 8 Scientists took part in the Institute of Engineering and Technology's Faraday Challenge 2024. This is a national STEM competition, involving nearly 300 schools across the UK, with the final taking place at Silverstone later in the year. The Challenge was hosted by Darrick Wood School, and our team competed against other local schools, including Darrick Wood, Charles Darwin and Bullers Wood School for Girls.

The students were given an engineering brief by National Highways and The Rees Jeffrey's Road Fund (which we have to keep secret!) and have had to work collaboratively to design a prototype model that could solve a real-world problem. The team allocated roles, with Noah taking on the important challenge of being the group accountant, in charge of managing how many 'Faradays' the team were spending at the shop on equipment for their model.

The team's first challenge was to take on the 'Engineering Apprenticeship' to build an electrical circuit involving a buzzer. From here, they had two hours to design and build their prototype, as well as time to plan how they would present their ideas at the end of the day. The Ravens Wood team did a fantastic job of their presentation, commenting on how they could improve their design to make it more sustainable, and being critical of how they worked as a team. Overall, the Ravens Wood team scored 76 out of a possible 100 points, and were crowned the winning team for the day!

Congratulations to Arjun, Alexander, Noah, Jonathan, Oliver, Owen and Tyler - what a fantastic achievement!

Miss Winter Teacher of Science











For ASD Awareness Month, the Speech and Language Forum took place on 27th March with students and parents participating.

Some of our older students shared experiences from their own time at school and tips for younger students as well as advice for the future. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon, it was a great success.

Thank you to everyone who attended.

Mrs McDonagh and Marco, Student, Year 11













Attendance

1st Place with 97% - 9A, 7A, 7E & 7D 2nd Place with 96% - 11G & 8D 3rd Place with 95% - 7F



Dates for your Diary

A Level Art Practical Exams - w/c Monday 22nd April



Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition - Friday 26th - Saturday 27th April

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Practise Week - Thursday 2nd - Saturday 4th May



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

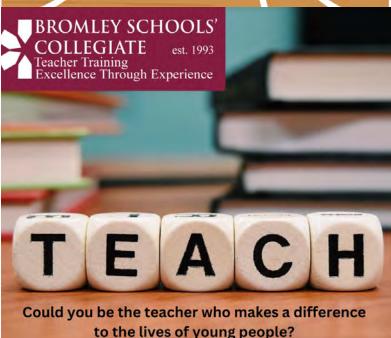
Basketball News





The Year 8 Basketball team have made Ravens Wood history by becoming Kent Cup Champions and winning the competition for the first time in 12 years! The boys made the final for the second time in the last two years and secured a strong win against Bullers Wood School for Boys with the end result being 65-46 to Ravens Wood. It was a team effort all round with notable performances and lots of points on the board from Larry, Orion and Charlie.





Call 0208 300 6566 or email your CV to administrator@gradteach.uk to discuss your first steps in to the profession



KoothTalks training: How you can support your pupils to manage exam stress

Please complete this form (link below) if you would like to attend this 45 minute virtual training session on how you can support your pupils to manage exam stress.

The training will cover the following:

- 1. An overview of how Kooth works as a mental health service
- 2. How to support your pupils to manage exam stress
- 3. How we support you to refer young people to Kooth
- 4. Tips when talking to young people about their feelings
- 5. O&As



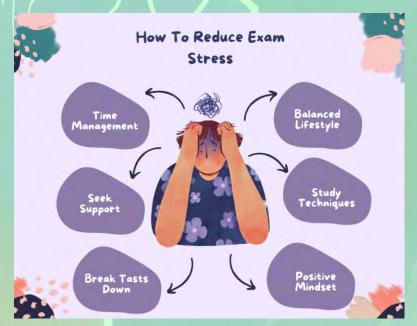
Don't worry if you are unable to attend any of the live date(s) we're offering. Simply select the 'I cannot attend' option below and we will send you a recording of the session and related resources.

*Please note that Kooth do not pass on your personal data to any external party that we have collected through your personal registration. Your information may be used to send future Kooth correspondence, if you wish to opt out, please click 'No thank you' in the final question on this form.



Please follow this link to register;

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLS di3U4FINkn3_JHnSGh0R9gEftgkExHY99ZNhQ wAy2VWo-xPg/viewform



RWS Sixth Form News



RWS Scholars Programme

It has been a busy but exciting week for the RWS Scholars Programme. We were fortunate to welcome two fantastic guests in Charlotte Regan, award winning film director and ex Head Student Chris Leek. Charlotte hosted a screening of her latest film 'Scrapper' followed by a Q&A session about her career so far and gave some



fantastic advice to our Media and Film students about their next steps with the industry. Chris Leek delivered an engaging and emotive seminar to all Yr12 and Yr13 students about his successful Arch to Ac challenge. Chris discussed the importance of resilience, ambition goal setting which are all very much part of our RWS core values. Thank you to Miss Hollingsworth and Mr Lewis for organising such excellent events. This year, we have held 11 seminars with 989 individual attendees. #LearnLeadExcel #RWSCoreValues #StudentEnrichment #BeyondTheClassroom





Key Dates

Please see some key dates for your diary. These have been shared with students and further information for some of the key events will be shared in due course

Date	Event	Notes
Tuesday 30th April	Yr13 Structured Revision Programme launch	Students will have an assembly
Wednesday 8th May	Yr13 Leaver's Breakfast	Parents/Carers will receive an invite and further information
Monday 13th May	A Level Exams	This is the official start date of A Level qualifications
Tuesday 4th June	Yr12 UCAS and Next Steps Event	Universities, Apprenticeship providers and employers will be attending
Monday 24th June	Yr12 EOY Assessments	Students will be on study leave. Timeta- ble to be shared next week
Monday 1st July	Yr12 Work Experience	Any Yr12 student struggling to get a placement should speak to Mrs Borley





HOW TO TREAT HAY FEVER

Hay fever is very common, affecting 1 in 5 people at some point in their life. There are lots of different ways to relieve your symptoms - here are some common treatments:

Antihistamines

Antihistamines block the action of the chemical histamine, which the body releases when it thinks it's under attack from an allergen. Antihistamines, such as BENADRYL® Allergy Relief, help to relieve 7 symptoms of an allergy; itchy nose, runny nose, sneezing, itchy eyes, watery eyes, hives and itchy skin.



BENADRYL® Allergy antihistamines are available in tablet and capsule formats BENADRYL® Allergy Natural Relief Nasal Spray (from birth) is a medical device



Nasal Sprays

There are a number of nasal sprays available to help with allergy symptoms too; including saline sprays and corticosteroid sprays such as BENADRYL® Allergy Natural Relief Nasal Spray

Saline sprays can be used to help cleanse your nose, whilst corticosteroid sprays help to relieve nasal congestion and other nasal allergy symptoms. They work by reducing inflammation in the nose.

BENADRYL® Allergy Natural Relief Nasal Spray (from birth) is a medical device

Antihistamine eye drops

These are very effective at treating hayfever symptoms affecting the eyes including redness, itchiness and watering. The drops that contain antihistamine which help to reduce any inflammation.





Decongestants

Some people can experience nasal congestion when suffering from allergies. Decongestants can help to alleviate nasal and sinus congestion by shrinking swollen blood vessels in the nose. This opens your nasal passage, making breathing easier. You can get them in tablet, capsule and nasal spray formats.

BENADRYL® Allergy Relief Plus Decongestant Capsules contain both an antihistamine and a decongestant and is available in pharmacies.

Benadryi*

Hayfever Season Advice



- Always carry tissues some brands offer allergy specific tissues/wipes that help remove pollen and allergens
- Take once-a-day anti-histamine before leaving for school in the morning.
- Wear wraparound sunglasses when outdoors – this protects the eye surface from exposure to pollen.
- Wash your hands regularly to avoid transfer of pollen.
- Avoid rubbing your eyes this can be tricky when they are itchy but will aggravate your symptoms
- Avoid contact lens wear during the day (pollen count is lower at night) as pollen can accumulate on the lens surface and make your lenses uncomfortable.
- Switching to Daily Disposable lenses during the summer months can help as using fresh lenses at each wear will limit irritation.
- Wear your glasses on days that the pollen count is high.
- Medication that needs to be administered at school should be taken at break or lunch time. Medication can be kept at school as long as parents/carers have completed a consent form.
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Ravens Wood School @rw school - 13h

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Ravens Wood School @rw_school · Mar 26







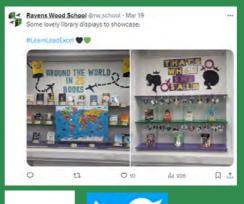
Ravens Wood School @rw.school - Mar 28 Have a lovely Easter break from all at RWS.

#WeAreBlackAndGreen ***











RWS PE. Sport & Outdoor Education Department @RWS PE $^{+}$ Mar $^{-}$ 30 $^{-}$ 44. The last two games from the tour ended with two losses, but the boys gave it their all

It's absolutely incredibly to have 6 teams touring and playing competitive football in another country!

All 83 players have done RWS proud!

