





Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed the Bank Holiday weekend and had the opportunity to spend some quality time with family and friends.

As we commemorated the 80th anniversary of VE Day, the school community joined the nation in observing the two minutes' silence at midday yesterday. This moment of quiet reflection allowed us to honour those who gave their lives in the service of our country. In assemblies this week, Mr Tysall has thoughtfully explored the significance of remembrance and the enduring legacy of our veterans, offering students a chance to engage with this important aspect of our shared history.

Last week, assemblies were led by Mr Snell, who spoke about Earth Day. His presentations challenged

students to consider their own impact on the environment and the actions they can take to protect our planet for future generations.

Since our last newsletter, our Year 12 students have completed their end-of-year assessments. We are proud of their focused approach and commitment during this important phase of their academic journey. In addition, our Scuba Diving Team took part in a pool session last Wednesday, developing their skills and teamwork under the guidance of our dedicated staff and instructors.

This week has been equally busy. Our Year 7 students have also undertaken their end-of-year assessments and impressed us with their maturity and resilience. On Wednesday evening, we held our Performing Arts Awards Ceremony, a wonderful celebration of the creativity and talent within our student body. It was a pleasure to recognise the exceptional achievements of our performers and those who contribute behind the scenes.

On Thursday, we met virtually with parents and carers of our Year 10 students for their Parents' Evening. This was a valuable opportunity to discuss progress and look ahead to the crucial year that lies ahead as students begin preparing in earnest for their GCSEs.

Our public exam season officially began yesterday, and we are pleased to report that the first sessions have gone smoothly. We would like to remind all students of the importance of arriving on time, adhering to examination procedures, and bringing the correct equipment with them to every exam. These measures help ensure the smooth running of the examination season and give every student the best chance to succeed.

Finally, this morning we welcomed the families of our Year 13 students to join us for a Leavers' Breakfast. It was a heartfelt occasion, celebrating both those who joined us in Sixth Form and those who have been with us for the past seven years. We are proud of all they have achieved and wish them — along with our

Year 11s — the very best of luck in their forthcoming examinations. It was a privilege to mark the end of their time at Ravens Wood in such a warm and personal way. Thank you for your continued support. I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend.

Ms M. Lester

Headteacher















Important Dates

Dates for Applicants

- RWS12 Induction Day—Thursday 26th June 2025
- GCSE Results Day—Thursday 21st August
- Sixth Form Enrolment Thursday 21st August (this is an 'in person event')



Dates for Year 12

- Year 12 Next Steps and UCAS Information Evening Thursday 5th June 5.30-7pm
- Work Experience Programme—7th to 11th July 2025

Dates for Year 13

- Exam Contingency Date—Wednesday 25th June—all students should be available until this date, even if their last exam is prior to this date.
- A Level Results Day—Thursday 14th August

2025

Sign up for the St Christopher's event of the year!

We're back! Fun Walk 2025 will take place on Sunday 11th May and once again we need your help to make it bigger, brighter, and even more fun than before.

You can choose to walk 3, 5, 8, or 11 miles on the day - whatever works best for you, but whatever distance you choose, it's always more fun with friends and family so please encourage them to come along too! It's going to be a great family day out with live music and entertainment as we come together to support St Christopher's and raise much

needed funds for our hospice.

Sign up to Fun Walk





St Christopher's provides end of life care in the boroughs of Bromley, Croydon, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark and as a charity we have to raise over £16 million each year. We are so pleased to be doing our Fun Walk again on 11th May on Keston Common and busy doing all the organisation at the moment. This is our biggest fundraising event of the year and in 2024 we raised over £200,000 so we can keep providing services for patients and the people who love them.

TEDAY

On Wednesday 7 May, the Ravens Wood History Club came together to enjoy an afternoon tea to celebrate and commemorate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day.



After a slice of Mr Tysall's homemade Victoria Sandwich Cake and other sweet treats, students listened to an interview between the social media stars Jess and Norma and the historian Shalina Patel. Norma lived through VE Day and told Shalina and her granddaughter, Jess, about her experiences.

The Club then read a letter from John Eskdale, a 101-year-old VE Day veteran who had written to the students about his experiences in the war and of VE Day. John's explanation of his experience of being one of only 107 survivors of the sinking of HMS Charybdis really resonated with students, who then had an impressively mature discussion about the traumatic impact of conflict on veterans. They also talked with great respect

about John's message that he hoped they never had to experience conflict like him. It was lovely to hear from some students that they would like to write back to John and thank him for his letter and for his service.









Speaking afterwards, Ms Lester, who joined the celebration and commemoration, commented: "I was incredibly impressed by the in-depth conversations students were having, especially the insightful discussion they had about how John Eskdale's experiences impacted on the rest of his life."



History Club meets on a Wednesday after school in HU6.
Please speak to your History teacher if you would like to get involved!

Mr Tysall, Head of History and Politics



RSC CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD 2025



Last term the Year 12 and 13 Chemists took part in the Royal Society of Chemistry's Olympiad, it is a competition aimed at testing students beyond what they learn in their A-Levels. It is a very stern test which is internationally run and Ravens Wood's students were up against some of the best budding Chemists in the World!
Congratulations to year 12 students Benjamin and Jack who achieved a Silver Medal, a remarkable achievement which puts them in the top 25% of A-Level Chemists, well

Also a big well done to Anna, Farhan, Nadine, and Abinheet of Year 13 and Maia, Kansika, and Raahil of Year 12 for achieving a Bronze Medal. Well done all, and we look forward to seeing more great achievements from our Chemists in the future!

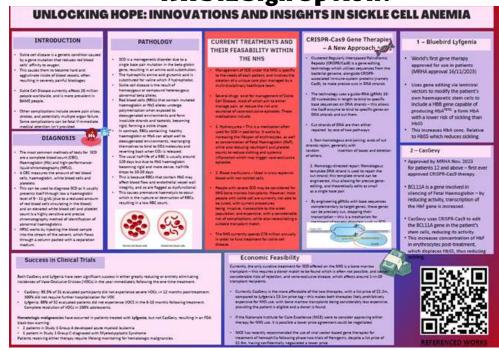
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Imperial College Healthcare Teams Prize 2025

During the summer term, RWS12 students who are studying Biology or Chemistry, and who wish to study for a Biology or Healthcare related degree at university, will be entering the prestigious Imperial College Healthcare Teams Prize. The competition challenges students to suggest and present innovative, non-therapeutic solutions to healthcare issues such as how to effectively educate patients about their treatments, or how to incorporate apps into a patient's journey, or how to combat medical conditions associated with climate change disasters. The themes this year are Heart and Lung, Cancer, Global Health Challenges, and Rare Autoimmune Diseases. This was launched at a lunchtime meeting on Tuesday 29th April and in lessons this week.

If you have not yet chosen from one of the 5 poster themes or joined a team - it's not too late! This is fantastic opportunity to complete a piece of independent research, collaborate with a team and make a university application stand out. Last year's entrants all discussed their research in their applications and at interviews, and many have since received offers from excellent universities. If any parents or students have questions about the competition, please email Miss Winter (ewi@rws.uk.net) or scan the OR

code for more information.



One of last year's poster entries!

I M P E R I A L Science in Medicine School Teams Prize 2025

THE CHALLENGE:

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

5 CONTESTS TO ENTER*:

- British Heart Foundation
 Cardiovascular Prize
 - . The Lung Prize
- Rare Autolmmune Rhaumatic Disease Alliance (RAIRDA) Prize
- The Global Health Prize on the impact of climate change
 - Cancer Research UK Convergence
 Science Centre Prize

*Echools con unter 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 a UK school and another school in UK
 - or abroad welcome
 - Teams of 2-6 students

Scan the QR code to find out more!



Deadline for Submission: 5pm, Monday 30th June 2025

Email: school-teams-prize@imperial.ac.uk

RWS SCUBACLUB

MAKING A SPLASH TOWARDS CERTIFICATION

We are thrilled to announce that all students participating in our new RWS Scuba Club have successfully completed the pool-based skills portion of their PADI Open Water Diver training. Over the past few weeks, these enthusiastic young divers have been training at Glassmill Leisure Centre, where they've demonstrated impressive progress, commitment, and resilience.





The PADI Open Water Diver qualification is the world's most recognised entry-level scuba certification and is a gateway to underwater exploration across the globe. To achieve this qualification, students must complete a series of theoretical knowledge reviews, confined water (pool) dives, and open water dives – all designed to build confidence, safety, and competence under water.

During the pool training sessions, students have learned and demonstrated a range of core scuba diving skills, including:

- Mastering breath control and breathing through a regulator, the essential device that delivers air from the scuba tank.
- Removing, replacing, and clearing their mask underwater, a vital skill for dealing with water leaks while diving.
- Regulator recovery and clearing, ensuring divers can always regain access to their air source.
- Establishing neutral buoyancy, which allows divers to hover effortlessly in the water, conserving energy and protecting the underwater environment.
- Equipment assembly and buddy checks, reinforcing safety and teamwork.

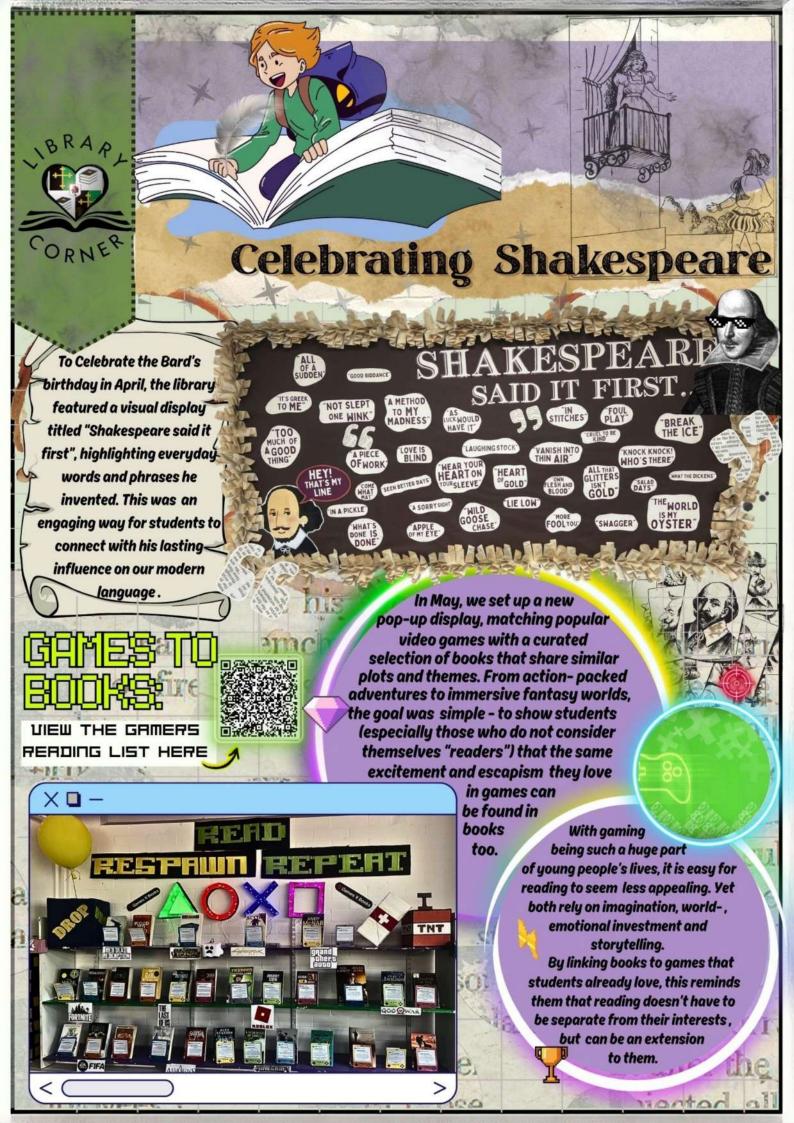
These foundational skills not only ensure diver safety but also lay the groundwork for more advanced diving experiences in the future.

We are immensely proud of the determination, courage, and teamwork these students have shown. Scuba diving is as much a mental challenge as it is a physical one, requiring calmness, focus, and self-discipline – all of which our students have displayed in abundance.

The next stage of their journey takes them to Leybourne Lakes this weekend, where they will complete two days of open water dives to qualify for their full certification. Here, they will put their pool skills into practice in a real-world environment, diving to depths of over 8 metres, navigating natural underwater terrain, and encountering aquatic life in a controlled and safe setting.

We look forward to sharing their stories and celebrating their success as certified PADI Open Water Divers!







MINI LONDON MARATHON

On Saturday 26th April, fourteen students from years 8 and 9 took part in the mini London Marathon on the streets around St James Park. They ran a 2.6km course which culminated in a sprint up The Mall to finish in the same spot as the London Marathon the following day.



The team after the race



The team before the race

RWS students Benj E, Talal A and Matthew T (year 9) finished 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively in their wave with Benj getting to run through the finishing tape at the end – a great achievement! All the boys who ran did the school proud and it really was a fantastic event with crowds out in full force to cheer them on.

Earlier that morning, Zach E (year 7) and Billy P (year 8) took part in the Championship borough competition on the same course helping to secure a silver medal for the U13 Bromley boys' team.



All in all, a very successful and enjoyable morning was had by all. Despite the crowds, it was an extremely well-organised event and we look forward to seeing RWS there again next year.



Billy and Zach running for Bromley U13 Team



1st, 2nd and 3rd Finishers



RWS students with special guest!

West Kent Athletics

Ravens Wood recently competed in the West Kent Athletics. We had huge success in both track and field. This included Daniel (Yr 11) in 100m, Troy (Yr 10) in 200m and Rory (Yr10) and Hammer Throw successfully meeting the standards for West Kent County. As well as this Troy beat the Yr10 school record for 200m with a time of 22.50 and Jack (Yr 8) beat the Yr8 school record for 300m with a time of 41.50 seconds. All of the boys who competed did brilliantly and represented the school brilliantly.



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GROWING GREENS RAVENS WOOD GARDENING CLUB



The waste collection company Veolia kindly donated strawberry plants to the School.



The Growing Greens made a good job of planting these in the Quiet Garden and look forward to the results!







ECAREERS



WORK SHADOWING DAY

FRIDAY TITH JULY 2025



Year 9 - A Day in the Workplace

We are excited to offer our Year 9 students, once again, the chance to spend a day in the workplace with a family member or trusted family friend. This initiative is a fantastic way to introduce students to the world of work, giving them a real-life insight into different career paths and helping them start thinking about their futures. It is a valuable opportunity to observe, ask questions, and spark inspiration for what lies ahead!







If you haven't already completed the online form for your child's placement, please note that the deadline has been extended to 23rd May 2025. If you need any assistance or have questions, please contact Mrs Borley at lbo@rws.uk.net.

Careers Support for Students



The Careers Team continues to meet with students to support them as they prepare for their next steps. Whether they are exploring further education, higher education, apprenticeships, or employment, we are here to help.

Support includes:

- CV writing guidance
- Advice on Further and Higher Education courses
- Information on virtual work experience opportunities
- Help with setting up LinkedIn profiles (for students aged 16 and over)
- Making the most of Unifrog

As we move into exam season, our Careers Team are available to meet with students in school to help guide them towards the right career path.

















































Bromley LOCAL OFFER.

The Bromley SEND Local Offer is a central hub of information and support for children and young people (aged 0 to 25) with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) and their families. It provides guidance on educational, health, and social care services, as well as connections to local organisations and activities.

Developed with community feedback, the SEND Local Offer also supports professionals working with families.

We are committed to delivering better outcomes for children and young people with SEND in Bromley. The Bromley SEND Outcomes that shape our work, have been developed by listening to families, children and young people across the borough, ensuring their voices and experiences are at the heart of everything we do.

We value your input to improve our services. Please take a few minutes to share your experiences and suggestions by completing the SEND Local Offer survey.

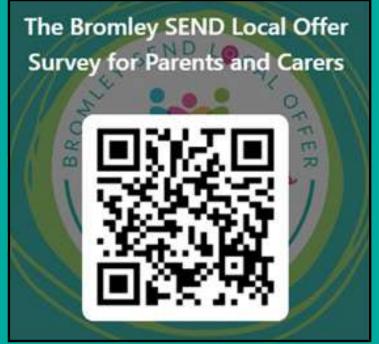


We have also attached a survey for children and young people to complete. Please support and encourage your child or young person to share their views.



Children and Young People SEND LO survey: https://forms.office.com/e/D6bkhA6j7q

Parent Carers SEND LO survey: https://forms.office.com/e/qi1c4jmi40





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







1st Place with 97% = 7D, 7F & 9D

2nd Place with 96% = 7C, 7G, 7H, 8E, 8F, 8G & 10C

3rd Place with 95% = 7A, 7B, 7E, 8A, 8B, 8D, 8H,

9A, 9E & 9G





Dates for your Diary

Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Practice - Saturday 10th May 2025

Scuba Trip - Saturday 10th - 12th May 2025

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition - Saturday 24th May

New York Media and Art Trip - Saturday 24th - 27th May 2025

Half Term - 26th - 30th May





@rw_school @rwspe @RWSMusicDept





Ravens Wood School @rw_school We had our Performing Arts Awards Evening today. Congratulations to the winners. Very much deserved.

#WeAreBlackandGreen



■ Ravens Wood School @rw_school We had the second session of our brand new extra curricular club yesterday. A small cohort of students and staff took part in our Scuba Dive club. Well done all!

#WeAreBlackandGreen





■ Ravens Wood School @rw_school Our RWS11 students received personal messages from family and friends today to motivate them and support them through the exam #WeAreBlackandGreen



ravens_wood_sport A huge well done to our Y10 and Y11 Basketball teams who won their district cup competitions this Thursday

Both teams showed great grit and teamwork in their finals to pick up the trophy. As a school we reached 4 of the 5 cup finals with our U13s and U14s finishing runners-up as well. A great way to cap off the basketball season.

Thank you to Bullers Wood for hosting all the finals this week

■ Ravens Wood School @rw_school Earlier this week we held our Black and Green Tutor awards. Well done to all the winners. Very much deserved! #WeAreBlackandGreen

















