



November Update on  
Page 2



Road Safety on  
Page 8



Sports News on  
Page 11



Twitter on Page 13

R  
W  
S

Friday 1st December  
2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to December! The festive season is almost upon us and we have certainly been feeling celebratory after an incredibly close game of Rugby. Last night, our 1st XV played Eastbourne College in the South East Regional Final of the National Vase. The game was evenly matched and could have gone either way until the very last moment but Ravens Wood secured the win with a final score of 23-22. Congratulations to the players and coaches for a fantastic result.

Thank you and well done to everyone who participated in our November initiative - as you will see on the following page, we have raised a huge amount of money for this cause, almost doubling the amount raised in 2022. We cannot thank everyone enough for this level of support and generosity.

We have recently written to families with students in Years 7-11, sharing a letter from the NHS Vaccination Team offering students a flu vaccination. This will be offered on Friday 15th December and is of course optional. More information can be found on page 4 and the Nursing team ask that you complete the form to confirm if you consent or decline. It should only take a few minutes, and we thank you for your time.

A letter has been shared with families regarding the upcoming Christmas Concerts, to be held on Wednesday 13th December and Monday 18th December. Tickets are available to purchase on ParentPay and we look forward to seeing many of you there; for parents of students in Year 7, please remember that students on the R side will perform on Wednesday 13th and students on the W side will perform on Monday 18th, so please do make a note of this when purchasing tickets.

I would like to remind students in Year 11 who are applying to our wonderful Sixth Form that the deadline for this is Friday 15th December so please ensure you have submitted your application in time. We look forward to hearing from you! If you have any queries, please visit our website or email [sixthform@rws.uk.net](mailto:sixthform@rws.uk.net).

More information will be shared with families regarding our arrangements for the end of term, but please make a note that on Tuesday 19th December we will be offering students a Christmas lunch menu in the canteen, and this will coincide with Christmas Jumper Day!

Have a wonderful weekend,

Ms M. Lester  
Headteacher





# Ravens Wood Does Movember 2023



This month has seen the first school wide Movember fundraising campaign. Students and staff alike have joined together to raise money and awareness for the prevention of male related diseases and illnesses, including depression, suicide, testicular and prostate cancer.

On the left we have our winners and competitors for our first ever staff and student bleep test. The overall winners for each key stage were:

**KS3** – Finn

**KS4** – Nathan

**KS5** – Harry

**Staff** – Mr. Galler

A massive thank you to all students who took part, every entry ticket went towards our fundraising total!

On the right is the finalists for our 'Spell for Movember' event for KS3 students, with the overall winner (and spelling champion) being Adam in Year 9!

All the students who took part through each stage of the competition were phenomenal, and we are so proud of them for the efforts made!

Although the final total is yet to be decided, we have raised a whopping £3,500 for Movember. Thank you to everyone that has taken part in raising awareness or money so far.

If you would still like to donate, please click on the following link to our team page, or scan the QR code shown.

<https://movember.com/t/ravens-wood-does-movember?mc=1>

Together, we are helping to change the face of men's health.

Mr. Parfett and the Movember Captains.







# RWS MUSIC NEWS



## Year 11 Solo Performances

Our Year 11 students performed their solo pieces for their GCSE exam on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Their hard work and commitment was evident and we are proud of their performances.



## Music in the community

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November Ethan, Tom and Rohan performed Christmas Jazz covers in central London.

James, Erik, Trey, James and Ben in Year 11 and 10 performed at Ronnie Scott's as part of the Arts Train programme run by Bromley MyTime.

Mr Grant – Head of Music



# CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Ravens Wood School  
Music department

## Concert for Christmas

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Monday 18<sup>th</sup>  
December 2023, 7pm

Starring  
RWS7

and

RWS Academy of Music

Tickets are still available for our annual Christmas Concerts which will take place on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of December in the Main Hall. As is tradition, Year 7 will be the stars of the event showcasing songs from Shakin' Stevens, Wham and Keane. Tickets are available on ParentPay costing £5 each.





Years 7 - 11



Hounslow and Richmond  
Community Healthcare

NHS Trust

This information has been  
shared with us for  
Parents/Carers by Bromley  
Local Authority

Trust Headquarters

Thames House  
180 High Street  
Teddington  
TW11 8HU

Tel: 020 8973 3000

Date: September 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

**Your child's annual flu vaccination is now due.**

This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu.

Please use the link provided to access the electronic consent form.

<https://sav.hrch.nhs.uk/flu/2023/bromley>

Please complete one consent form for each child to ensure your child receives their vaccination. Our team will visit your school on Date: **15 December 2023**

You will be offered the live nasal flu spray or the injectable porcine free flu vaccine. The nasal spray vaccination is a quick and simple spray up the nose. Even if your child had it last year, it is recommended to have the flu vaccine again this year due to changes in flu strains circulating each year. The injectable porcine free vaccine is now available in school.

Since the programme was introduced, most children offered the vaccine in schools have had the immunisation.

Please complete the consent form even if you decide you do not want to vaccinate your child against flu this year. Completion of the consent form is not mandatory if you do not want your child to be vaccinated. However, as providers of the school age vaccinations, NHSE requires that we provide numbers of parents that do not consent to their child being vaccinated. Therefore, we will only use this information to provide numbers of parents declining consent, no other details will be shared. If consent forms are not completed, you may be contacted by phone or text. If you have returned a no consent, we will not make any further contact this year. Please see our privacy notice if you require further details [Privacy: Hounslow & Richmond Community Healthcare \(hrch.nhs.uk\)](https://hrch.nhs.uk)

If you have any queries, please contact the relevant immunisation team below.

Bromley Schools: [HRCH.ImmunisationTeamBromleyMailbox@nhs.net](mailto:HRCH.ImmunisationTeamBromleyMailbox@nhs.net) Tel: 0203 903 3375

Yours sincerely,

Aminata Khaliq  
Immunisation Lead

# RWS Sixth Form News



Preparing for Success

## Sixth Form Application Process for entry in 2024

### USEFUL DATES FOR YEAR 11

- Application deadline **15<sup>th</sup> December 2023**
- Induction Days 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> July 2024
- GCSE Results Day Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2024
- Sixth Form Enrolment 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2024
- First day of Term **2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024** (provisional)

Email: [sixthform@rws.uk.net](mailto:sixthform@rws.uk.net)



## Year12 PPE1

Congratulations to our Year 12 students who have completed their first round of formal assessments. Early assessment provides us with the maximum opportunity to provide additional support and interventions where needed. Students have used their independent study time to revise, work through PLC's, review specifications and complete practice questions. Well done to our Year 12 cohort for conducting themselves with a sense of maturity at this time.

#LearnLeadExcel

## RWS 'Spurs' Bethany on...

Name: Bethany

Position: Defender

Current Club:

Tottenham Hotspur FC

Previous Clubs: Petts Wood FC, Crystal Palace

Subjects: Mathematics, Economics, Physical Education



**How have you found balancing your football career and your academic studies?** I found balancing my studies alongside playing football a little difficult to manage at the beginning of year 12 due to training 5 times a week and a step up in workload, which was different to what I was used to. However I have developed a suitable structure and good habits in order to catch up on missed work. My teachers have also been very supportive in ensuring I have all the resources I need and I attend subject interventions when possible.

**What are your next steps after Ravens Wood?**

After this academic year, I am going to Indianapolis University in Indiana to continue playing football alongside a degree in Economics through their scholarship programme. I was first introduced to this idea as a few of the girls I played football with have joined several different American universities to carry on playing football and this encouraged me to look into this pathway. I am looking forward to carrying on playing and studying there for the next four years.

## Sixth Form Safe Driving Assembly



We welcomed a representative from Bromley Council to deliver an assembly to both Year 12 and Year 13 students about the importance of safe driving and how they can make more informed decisions before getting behind the wheel. Topics discussed included; the legalities of driving, the impact of driving under the influence of drink and/or drugs and the importance of wearing a seat belt. Many of our Sixth Form students drive or are in the process of learning to drive so a very important and informative assembly.

This assembly forms part of our bespoke 'Keeping Safe in Sixth Form' programme.

## Sixth Form Key Dates




- 15th December—RWS UCAS deadline
- 11th January —Yr12 Parents Evening. Further info to follow



# TEACHING INFORMATION WEBINAR

 **DATE**  
1st December 2023


 **TIME**  
4.00PM – 5.00PM


 **LOCATION**  
Online

**Do you know someone  
that would make a great  
teacher?**

**Book your place by emailing  
[administrator@gradteach.uk](mailto:administrator@gradteach.uk)**

 Information on the application process, funding, salaries and bursaries

 Discuss routes into teaching

 Learn more about our approach to providing professional training.



## Student News



Year 10 students attended Charles Darwin School for the Geography GA Worldwide Quiz this week, coming first with a score of 51/70. Congratulations to Daniel, George, Freddie, George and Max!

Thank you to our Sixth Form students for making our Reception area so festive!





# RWS Aquis Investment Club



On Thursday 16th November, we hosted Alisdair Haynes, Founder and Ceo of Aquis Exchange. He presented to 25 Year 12 Economics and Business Studies A Level students for the RWS Aquis Investment Club. We guide the students through a series of presentations, from market leaders, then let them loose with £10,000 of virtual funds to invest on stocks, using the specially designed trading app. This is an invaluable addition to their UCAS applications and CV's, and a wonderful insight into city trading. The next meeting will be Thursday 14th December.



This certificate is awarded to

**Ravenswood  
Secondary School**

In special recognition of  
having raised  
for the Poppy appeal

**£222.23**

**THANK YOU FROM HAYES  
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**

**2023**



**EVERY POPPY COUNTS**

The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal supports  
the Armed Forces community, past and present.

To donate please visit [rbl.org.uk/poppyappeal](http://rbl.org.uk/poppyappeal)



**easyfundraising**



Ravens Wood School are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself!

These donations could really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment.

You can find our easyfundraising page at

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ravenswood/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=pmc&utm\\_content=gs-email1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ravenswood/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-email1)

or you can use the QR code ABOVE

On Thursday 9th November the RWS community came together to share two minutes of silence in memory of all those who lost their lives in the two World Wars and other conflicts. Thank you also to our wonderful musicians who performed 'The Last Post' to mark the event.

We would also like to thank our Year 7, 8 & 9 students who sold poppies and memorabilia during break and lunchtimes, and we have raised a huge £222.23

Thank you also to parents and carers, staff and students for helping us support this worth cause.



Please, please, please, can I  
have an e-scooter AND ...



A £300 fine

Fixed Penalty Notice for no insurance

Six penalty points on my drivers licence

E-scooters are **illegal** to use in all public areas in Bromley.  
You can only ride an e-scooter on private land with the  
landowner's permission.

OR

As part of the government  
trial rental scheme, **Bromley**  
**is not** part of this scheme.

For more information visit  
[bromley.gov.uk/e-scooters](http://bromley.gov.uk/e-scooters)

Or scan the QR code



**e-scooters**  
**are illegal in Bromley**  
**except on private land with the**  
**landowners permission!**

## e-scooters and the law

Under Government regulations, e-scooters are classed as 'powered transporters' – a term used to cover a variety of novel and emerging personal transport devices which are powered by a motor.

This means they are treated as a motor vehicle and subject to the same legal requirements such as MOT, licensing, tax and insurance.

As e-scooters don't have number plates, signal ability and don't always have a visible rear light, they can't be used legally on the roads.

Their use is also prohibited on cycle lanes and pavements.

e-scooters are currently only legal to ride on:  
- private land with the landowner's permission,  
**or**  
- as part of a Government trial rental scheme, which Bromley is not part of.

Any **illegal** e-scooters stopped by the Police can be seized, and riders can be **fined in excess of £300.**



Scan the QR code for  
more information









**The Children's Commissioner for England has recently launched 'The Big Ambition' to hear directly from children, young people and parents across the country.**

**We want to hear from all children, in every part of the country and in every setting.**

**This is your chance to tell key policymakers what is important to you ahead of the general election. Take part now and ensure your needs are reflected in the decisions that will affect you in years to come.**

Scan the QR code to  
take part



[www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition)







## RWS PE, Sport & Outdoor Education Department

### Basketball

Basketball has been busy at Ravens Wood with two Kent Cup games having been played last week.

An unfortunate defeat for our year 11s who balled out and played a tough second half, unlucky on the result.

Well done to our year 8As for sealing their second Kent Cup victory so far this season, winning 59-39 against Langley Park. Notable performances from Seb, Orion and Yusuf

- Mr Richards, Head of Basketball



### Rugby

Rugby continues to perform across all age grades, with 25 teams and over 400 students representing the school. The 1st XV have their U18 Regional Final on the 29th November, they will play Eastbourne College away at 14:15. Our U14s continue their Cup run, as they wait to play local rivals Langley Park in Round 4 of the National Cup. This weekend we will play our 10th weekend block fixture of the season, versus Wallington County Grammar School.



### Tag Rugby Tournament

On Friday 17th Nov a group of 6th form girls helped coordinate a Y5 Girls rugby tournament for local primary schools at Bromley Rugby Club. It was a great success and thank you to everyone who helped make it happen

- Mr J Forrest  
Head of Rugby



## WHAT IS VAPING?

Vaping is the use of an electronic device to inhale vapour derived from a heated liquid. The main ingredients are vegetable glycerine and propylene glycol, but most e-liquids also contain nicotine, which must be no more than 2% or 20mg per ml, as well as small amounts of flavourings and sweeteners.

## SMOKING VS VAPING

Smoking is much more harmful than vaping. Tobacco smoke contains carbon monoxide and tar, a sticky soup of around 250 toxic chemicals, 69 of which are known to be carcinogenic, causing disease, disability, and early death.

## HOWEVER, VAPES ARE NOT HARMLESS

Short-term effects can include:

- coughing
- headaches
- dizziness, and
- sore throats.

Long-term effects are, as yet, unknown.

## WHAT ARE THE CONCERNS WITH VAPING AND CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE?

Most children and young people don't vape or smoke. However, in 2022 the number of 11-17-year-olds in Great Britain currently using vapes rose to 7% compared to 4% in 2020. Whilst this increase is concerning, it is important to note that most vaping is experimental, with regular vaping mainly confined to children who currently smoke or have done in the past.

The increase in youth vaping has coincided with the arrival on the UK market of a new category of cheap and attractive disposable vapes that have proven particularly popular with children and young people and have been promoted extensively on social media. We are working hard nationally and locally to address these issues.

## HOW DO VAPES HELP SMOKERS QUIT?

Like nicotine patches and gum, vapes containing nicotine are a useful aid to quitting as they deal with the cravings smokers get when they try to stop. Nicotine vapes are proven effective and have become the most popular quitting aid for smokers in recent years. However, vapes are not recommended for non-smokers, particularly children.

## THE LAW AND VAPING

Vapes and vaping products containing nicotine, like tobacco, are age restricted. It's illegal to sell them to under 18s, and for adults to buy them on their behalf.

If you know of anyone who does sell vapes or tobacco illegally, you can report them to trading standards through the Citizens Advice online portal: [citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer](https://citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer)

Advertising of all tobacco products is illegal, but if you see advertising for vapes that you feel is trying to encourage children and young people to try vaping, you can report it to the Advertising Standards Authority: [asa.org.uk](https://asa.org.uk)

For more information about vapes and stopping smoking, visit the Smokefree Sheffield website: [smokefreesheffield.org](https://smokefreesheffield.org)

Children and Young people can find out more information on vaping on the FRANK website: [talktofrank.com/drug/vapes](https://talktofrank.com/drug/vapes)

Or read the ASH Briefing: [ash.org.uk/uploads/ASH-brief-for-local-authorities-on-youth-vaping.pdf](https://ash.org.uk/uploads/ASH-brief-for-local-authorities-on-youth-vaping.pdf)



**OUR ADVICE TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IS:  
DON'T SMOKE? DON'T START TO VAPE.**

We always welcome new people, so please get in touch if you are interested in getting help from us or you'd just like to ask some questions. Feel free to bring someone with you on your first visit.

If you know a young person who might benefit from our support please visit our 'For Professionals' section to find out more.

We can offer training to you and your team, to give you the knowledge and confidence to respond to a child or young person using drugs or alcohol.

Parents and carers, we are here for everyone so if you would like more support around your child or young person's substance use - please do get in touch.

0208 289 1999

[referrals.bromley@cgl.org.uk](mailto:referrals.bromley@cgl.org.uk)



Changes  
Young People's Drug  
and Alcohol Service

Bromley

Further information go to:

**\*NEWS\*NEWS\*NEWS\*NEWS\*NEWS\*NEWS\***  
**Vaping: Australia to ban disposable vape imports from January**  
Australia will ban imports of disposable vapes from January, in an effort to curb nicotine addiction in children. New laws to stop single-use vapes from being made, advertised, and supplied in the country will also be introduced. It comes amid a broader push to phase out recreational vaping completely. Vaping has been marketed as a way to quit smoking, but Australia's health minister says it has created a "new generation of nicotine dependency".  
[Click here to read more.](#)

Read the news and then consider the questions below:

**Question** – Is it morally acceptable that vape companies are making their products appealing to children?

**Question** – Why do people (wrongly) assume they are less bad for you than cigarettes?

**Question** – How are vape companies exploiting young people?

## VAPING AND E-CIGARETTES: THE FACTS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS



# RWSCAREERS



On Wednesday, as part of our PSHE curriculum, Years 7 - 11 experienced an online lesson via our Careers Department. Sarah Wilson, co-founder of DigiLearning, delivered an engaging and informative session on careers in digital and ecommerce pathways, including gaming and other various technical career opportunities. DigiLearning is a charitable organisation and has supported over a 100,000 young people via their award winning DigiRise and GirlRise career experience programmes.

The students were engaged and addressed Sarah in answering lots of interesting and relevant questions at the end of the session

All students have access and are encouraged to use Unifrog which can be found here (Sign In - Unifrog) to explore career pathways, skills and opportunities





**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

@rw\_school

@rwspe

@RWSMusicDept



RWS PE, Sport & Outdoor Education Department @RWSPE · Nov 26  
RWS Rugby team of the week Rnd 9 a well done to all the players  
#leaders



Ravens Wood School @rw\_school · Nov 27

Congratulations to our Key Stage 3 students who received certificates following a really successful six week cookery course with @AccentCatering! #GBBO #LearnLeadExcel



Ravens Wood School @rw\_school · Nov 22

Our RWS11 Music students completed their GCSE solo recital this evening. Amazing performances all round #proud #WeAreBlackAndGreen #LearnLeadExcel



Ravens Wood School @rw\_school · Nov 22

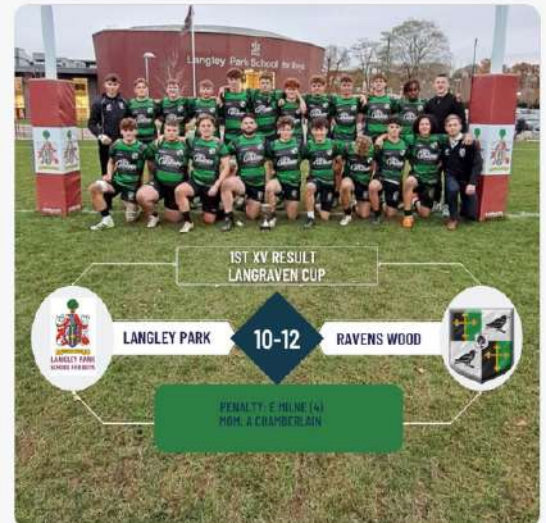
It's never too early to make things for Christmas! 🎄 This week the 'Off Cut Engineers' have been making Christmas tree decorations in Black and Green! Great work!  
#WeAreBlackAndGreen #LearnLeadExcel



RWS PE, Sport & Outdoor Education Department @RWSPE · Nov 22

Congratulations to our 1st XV for winning and retaining the LangRaven Cup for a 3rd year in a row.

Thanks @lpsb\_rugby for the game. We continue our block this Friday through to Monday with over 16 more games to be played.



Ravens Wood School @rw\_school · Nov 16

Our Head Students and Deputy Head Students met with our Year 7 Form Captains today. They had interesting and valuable discussions about all things Year 7. #LearnLeadExcel



Ravens Wood School @rw\_school · Nov 18

Well done to our 6th formers who helped facilitate a year 5 girls tag rugby tournament yesterday! #WeAreBlackAndGreen #LearnLeadExcel



#WeAreBlackAndGreen