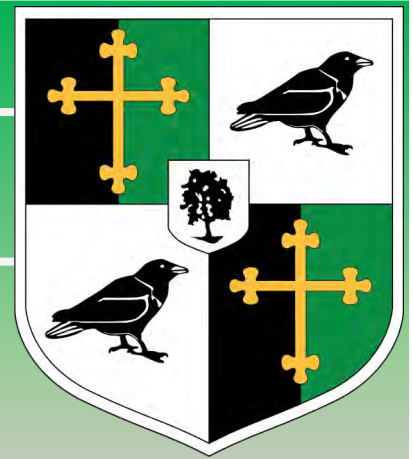


Friday 6th September 2019

Ravens Wood

Committed to excellence



Message from the Headteacher

Firstly I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new and established students and families to the first RWS Newsletter of the 2019/20 Academic Year. I hope you all had a fantastic summer break and students have returned refreshed and ready to achieve.

The Governors and Staff at the School were extremely proud of our students for their record breaking A Level and GCSE results and I would therefore like to take this opportunity pass on our congratulations to all.

I am pleased to report that our start of term has gone well, and we continue to see excellence everywhere. The behaviour of our students' and their exemplary conduct, character, work ethic, positive mind-set, aspirations and good relationships with staff is what makes us achieve at the top of the pyramid. This message was shared with our students in assemblies at the start of the year.

We were delighted to welcome our Year 7 parents on Saturday 31st August to the Sports Trials and pre-season training for the Rugby Academy. Our Year 7 students' have had a fantastic start to their time at Ravens Wood and are settling in well; we wish them a successful team-building Bush Craft trip next week, accompanied by their Form Tutors.

At Ravens Wood, all currency is important and we look forward to sharing with parents and carers our new Enrichment Brochure, with details of activities available to our students. Watch out for this document which will go live on our website on 16th September.

Our annual Awards Evening takes place on Thursday 12th September. This event highlights student achievement and endeavour in all subject areas; it is indeed a pleasure to see so many of our students commended for their accomplishments in a public forum.

Ms S Spence, Headteacher



IN THIS ISSUE:



Exam Success Pages 3 & 4



A message from our Governors on page 5



Year 7 Welcome on page 8

Dates for your Diary

PFSA Meeting (6.45pm–8.00pm) - Monday 9th September

Prize Day - Thursday 12th September

Open Day - Saturday 21st September

Y7 Information Evening - Wednesday 25th September

PFSA Event - Friday 4th October

PD Day (School Closed to Students) - Friday 11th October



Remember, you can keep up-to-date with all of Ravens Wood's latest news by following us on Twitter. Simply search for @rw_school and follow us.

ASSEMBLIES THIS WEEK

The theme for assembly this week was about
'Safeguarding' delivered by Miss Lester

Excellence, everywhere

Conduct
Character
Work ethic
Positive mindset
Relations with staff
Aspirations



How do we all ensure Ravens
Wood School is a safe place to be?



How do we all ensure Ravens
Wood School is a safe place to be?

1. Report any concerns you have about your own, or someone else's emotional or physical well being
2. Follow the school rules – first and foremost they are there to keep us safe e.g. no running in the corridors, mobile phone usage, anti-bullying, ICT usage
3. Do not bring anything into school that you shouldn't – this can put yourself and others at risk



Take care when you share.
If in doubt, speak out.

TAKE CARE
WHEN YOU
SHARE.
IF IN DOUBT,
SPEAK OUT.



ENRICHMENT AT RWS

Welcome back to a new academic year at Ravens Wood School. We at Ravenswood are extremely proud of our rich and varied Enrichment Programme and strongly encourage you to review the offering which will commence the week beginning 16th September 2019.

Items that have a fee and therefore require a payment to secure a space, will go live on Parent Pay on; Monday 16th September 2019. Please be aware that places are limited and are on a first come first served basis.



Welcome to Miss Wood



We would also like to introduce our fantastic new Outdoor Education teacher Miss Wood, Teacher of Science.

Miss Wood joins us with a wealth of experience in outdoor education and SCUBA diving. Miss Wood's knowledge and expertise have enabled her to work in various locations such as Turkey, Cyprus, Australia and The Cayman Islands.

We look forward to working with her in developing our Outdoor Education programme and providing our students with new and exciting experiences and opportunities.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FORM GROUPS BELOW WHO HAVE ACHIEVED THE TOP ATTENDANCE SCORE IN THEIR YEAR

Top Forms for Attendance w/e 30th August 2019

1st Place with 100% = 7E, 7G and 9E

2nd Place with 99.4% = 9H

3rd Place with 98.6% = 8B

Congratulations!

RECORD BREAKING RESULTS!



Ravens Wood School celebrates record-breaking GCSE results

Ravens Wood School is delighted to report an outstanding set of GCSE grades in 2019. The School's results are once again improved across all thresholds, including:

- Mathematics 9-7: 32%
- Mathematics 9-5: 65%
- Mathematics 9-4: 85%
- English 9-7: 26%
- English 9-5: 66%
- English 9-4: 83%

RWS11 students achieved an incredible **500** 7-9 grades across all subjects (26% of all grades) – a new record for the School. Of these, **77** elite Grade 9s were awarded to Ravens Wood students.

The number of students securing both English and Mathematics at 9-5 grades has increased to 56%, with 78% achieving a Grade 4 or above in both English and Mathematics. In addition to the superb English and Mathematics results outlined above, other high performing subjects include:

- Physics – 75% 9-7 grades
- Chemistry – 69% 9-7 grades
- Biology – 65% 9-7 grades
- R.S – 39% 9-7
- Geography – 32% 9-7 grades
- Computer Science – 32% 9-7 grades
- Design Technology – 31% 9-7 grades
- History – 28% 9-7 grades



Some examples of truly outstanding achievements by Ravens Wood RWS11 students include:

- **Joseph Sampson:** Nine Grade 9s (English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Geography, German, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Statistics);
- **Edward Cotes:** Eight Grade 9s (English Literature, Mathematics, History, Geography, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Statistics);
- **Enzo Martins:** Seven Grade 9s (English Language, Mathematics, Geography, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Design Technology);
- **Oliver Williams:** Seven Grade 9s (Mathematics, History, Geography, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Statistics);
- **Giga Peters:** Five Grade 9s (English Language, Mathematics, Geography, Chemistry and Design Technology); and
- **Dan Shaw:** Four Grade 9s (Mathematics, Geography, Computer Science and Biology).

Commenting on the terrific results, Headteacher, Sally Spence, said, *“We are delighted with these superb results, which have risen to new heights in 2019. To achieve 500 Grade 7-9s is remarkable. Our students’ performances across such a wide range of GCSE subjects shows the value and success of our broad and powerful KS4 curriculum. The vast majority of our students have secured grades which will unlock doors throughout their lives, and we are very proud of them. The hard work and dedication of our incredible staff make this possible”.*

Deputy Headteacher, Rob Leitch, added: *“We are absolutely thrilled for our students – they have worked so hard for these superb results. Our bespoke RWS11 programme seeks to ‘make every day count’ for Year 11 students, and with 26% of all qualifications being achieved at the elite 9-7 grades, our students have truly risen to the challenge.”*

RWS celebrates continued success

Once again, Ravens Wood School are celebrating a tremendous set of A Level results in 2019. These excellent results build on those achieved in 2018, which led to the School securing a positive progress score for A Level (Level 3 Value Added).

With over 200 students receiving A Level results, Ravens Wood students achieved over 550 qualifications. Of these, 23% were awarded A*-A, 46% graded as A*-B, and 76% A*-C. The School's overall pass rate (A*-E) remained at an extremely impressive 98% in 2019. We are incredibly proud of our students; they have once again continued Ravens Wood's fine tradition of securing excellent A Level outcomes.

Ravens Wood students continue to benefit from a broad Sixth Form offer; in 2019, students have particularly excelled in the Humanities, with Geography (27% A*-A, 77% A*-B), Politics (40% A*-A, 60% A*-B), Economics (67% A*-B), History (57% A*-B) and Sociology (82% A*-B) all achieving impressive outcomes. Likewise, the School's languages continue to thrive at KS5, with French (33% A*-A) and German (25% A*-A) both performing strongly. Finally, Ravens Wood's Science results remain extremely high, including Physics (21% A*-A, 57% A*-B).

The following students performed exceptionally well across each of their subjects:

George Herbert - Physics (A*), Mathematics (A*), Further Mathematics (A*) & Computer Science (A*).

Edward Holloway - Physics (A*), Mathematics (A*), Further Mathematics (A*), Biology (A).

Ben Jordan - Mathematics (A*), Geography (A*) and Further Mathematics (A*).

Sean Kenny - Mathematics (A*), Further Mathematics (A*), Computer Science (A) and Music (A).

Jack McCabe - Geography (A*), History (A*) and Biology (B).

Once again, Ravens Wood students are now accepting prestigious places at some of the top universities in the country, as well as some of the highest quality apprenticeships. Ravens Wood's Headteacher, Sally Spence has congratulated all students: *"We are extremely proud of all of our Sixth Form students, they have worked incredibly hard to secure truly remarkable results, across an impressive range of academic subjects. These excellent outcomes are only possible with the dedication, subject knowledge and hard work of our teachers. Congratulations to all of our students; we wish them the very best of luck in their next steps."*



Ready to Learn

As you can see, we cover a wide variety of topics during Form Time !

The collage features several educational materials:

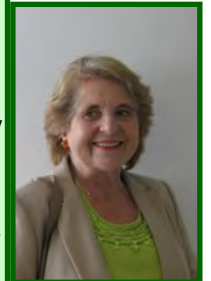
- News Article:** "The Guardian" article about a bridge collapse with a word search and a "START" puzzle.
- Word Bank:** A list of words including "banished", "ongoing", "hopefully", "unacceptable", "equal", "too many", "youself", "sai", "got", "specialist", "tressed", "in schools etc", "no longer fit for purpose", "I am pleased to learn", "meet with", "saccharin", "disappointment", and "I now understand your concerns".
- Dilemma for a lady or gentleman:** A scenario about a woman looking for a healthy body and a man looking for a healthy body, with a choice between "x23" and "x23".
- Word of the Day: PROROGUE:** A definition and a challenge to solve a puzzle using the word.
- Who Am I?:** A personality quiz with a green circle and a question "Who Am I?".
- History and Etymology for prorsogue:** A short history of the word.
- Dilemma for a lady or gentleman:** A scenario about a woman looking for a healthy body and a man looking for a healthy body, with a choice between "x23" and "x23".

The RWS Governors

The RWS Local Governing Body met for the first time this year on Wednesday evening. Our first meeting of the year focuses primarily on reviewing the results for GCSEs and A levels. We look at a number of measures and review how the school has performed in each one, in comparison to previous years and against what was expected of this cohort and in relation to the performance of all students nationally. As you may have seen on the website, the results were superb. We heard that this year there have been a large proportion of top grades, but importantly many students have achieved well beyond what might have been expected of them.

We know that students have worked hard and we congratulate them on their success. A huge word of thanks goes to all staff at the school who work together to support the students in achieving this success. Thank you all for your hard work.

Dave Kenny—Chair of Governors
Chair of Governors



The Impact Multi Academy Trust

As you will be aware, Ravens Wood and Hayes Schools are part of the Impact Multi Academy Trust. This Trust was formed in April 2017, and the partnership continues to be an excellent driver for school improvement and for supporting our sustainability, especially in these times of financial educational cuts. The schools are working more and more closely and can see the real benefits of the partnership for our students, staff and schools.

As a Trust, we have always been interested in growth where there are clear mutual benefits for all schools involved. Therefore, we did undertake consultation with Charles Darwin Secondary and Biggin Hill Primary Schools to explore them joining the Impact MAT. Whilst there was a great deal to recommend this, it has been decided not to proceed with the merger.

The Impact MAT is a strong Trust, comprising of two excellent Senior Schools, who collaborate well together whilst continuing to retain their individual strong identities and ethos. We are very happy to remain a two school MAT, but will also be open to discussions with other schools and Trusts to consider joining together in the future for the benefit of our schools.

For further information about the Impact MAT, please see the Trust website at <https://www.impactmultiacademytrust.co.uk/>. The CEO, Mr Kieran Osborne, can be contacted via the Clerk at the following address: Email: office@impactmultiacademytrust.co.uk.



Calling all
Year 10, 11, 12 and 13
students

Parents/ guardians: a letter was sent this week regarding screening. We hope as many eligible students as possible benefit from this opportunity. Please consider it for your child.

CRY's mission is to identify those that are at risk from sudden cardiac death. Young people involved in sport, in particular, stress their heart the most and if they have an underlying cardiac abnormality, they are more likely to be at risk. It is important to emphasise that exercise is **NOT** harmful and sport itself does not cause cardiac arrest, but can exacerbate an undetected condition.

At a screening, your son/daughter will receive an electrocardiogram (ECG) that examines the electrical activity of the heart, and if required, an echocardiogram, as well as a physical examination. The ECG is a simple, non-invasive and painless test that will only take a few minutes to complete and is performed by qualified cardiac physiologists.

For more details or enquiries, contact Mrs Millar – enrichment@rws.uk.net

Where?

Here at Ravens Wood – in the Learning Commons

When?

Tuesday 15th October 2019

How do I organise it?

Book directly with CRY – details on the letter

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Free School Meals/Pupil Premium Payments are available to all eligible pupils attending Bromley maintained schools.

An application must be submitted to secure both Free School Meals and the Pupil Premium Payment. Pupils who have been eligible for Free School Meals since April 2018 do not need to renew applications until April 2022.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Parents of children aged four or over attending a maintained school in Bromley who received Child Benefit for the child/children and one or more of the following:

- * Equal Based JSA / ESA
- * Income Support (IS)
- * Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- * Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA)
- * Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190
- * Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- * Where a parent is entitled to Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment someone receives for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying of Working Tax Credit
- * Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- * Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 as assessed by earnings.

HOW TO APPLY

Application forms are available from Bromley Schools, or you can apply online:

https://www.bromley.gov.uk/site/xfp/scripts/xforms_form.php?formID=180

WHAT NEXT

Once Bromley Council have received your application, your details will be checked via the Eligibility Checking Service and you will be advised by letter whether or not your claim is successful. Confirmation of eligibility will also be sent to the school.

From April 2018 the criteria used to determine eligibility has been updated to reflect the roll out of Universal Credit Payments. To ensure families are not disadvantaged during the roll out period the following arrangements have been put in place.

Any child eligible for Free School Meals on 1 April 2018 will retain their eligibility until the end of the roll out in March 2022 regardless of family circumstance change. Once the roll out of the Universal Credit is complete no child will lose their entitlement and it will continue until the end of their current phase of education.

If you have any questions about this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me on the School's telephone number or via finance@rws.uk.net

NEW YEAR 7 STUDENTS

A big welcome to our new Year 7 students! And what a week it has been! It's been great to meet so many fine young gentlemen as they embark on their Ravens Wood adventure! I've already had the pleasure of witnessing some exceptional sportsmen in action at the Year 7 Sports Trials on Saturday. It was great to see many proud parents watching them on the side lines and I am looking forward to seeing the Year 7 develop their survival skills in the up coming Bushcraft trip later this month.

We've got an exciting year ahead, including numerous sports fixtures, further school outings and of course the Christmas Concert.

All of the staff are looking forward to seeing the Year 7 students all develop into the gentlemen we know they will become, and wish them every success in all their endeavour here at Ravens Wood.

Mr Buntain

Head of Year 7



PSFA Cheese & Wine Evening

This week we welcomed new parents and carers to our annual Cheese and Wine evening. Thank you to everyone who attended. Our PSFA do an amazing job in securing extra funds that make all the difference to our students. Mr Ralph's Magic Club members are pictured below, wowing our new families with their tricks!

And remember, you don't have to be new to the school to join the PSFA, everyone is welcome!

For more information, please email Rachel at rachel_e_chandler@hotmail.com

If any students are interested in joining the Magic Club or any other club please see our Enrichment Programme which is going live on our website on 16th September!





Silent Study begins for Year 11!

On Thursday 29th August 92 Year 11 students completed their first silent study session in the Learning Commons. This is a great start but we will be urging even more students to attend future sessions! Students worked in silence for one hour completing homework and revision tasks. Over this half term we will be building up resources from across the curriculum, which students can collect at the start of each study session to support their learning. Students will also have access to flashcards. These will be really important throughout Year 11 to aid students with ‘retrieval’ of key information. Please see the image below illustrating the focus and maturity of our Year 11 students.



Summer Booklet

Our Year 11 tutor team are in the process of reviewing work on the Summer Booklets, which was set for students over the Summer holidays. We have already identified some outstanding work that has been celebrated in assembly. Please see some outstanding DT work by a student below. You can see that this student has carefully considered the design features of domestic products. We look forward to celebrating more outstanding work over the next week.

Environmental Snapshot	Product Snapshot
<p>however could be unstable.</p> <p>No dangerous plants or objects in the room</p> <p>Could potentially have thin tall cage = more storage = more space for houseplants</p> <p>Dark and Dimmy therefore could have light</p> <p>Spare Room</p> <p>Cage would have to satisfy colour scheme + Dark brown + Blue</p> <p>Space is clean meaning cage can be easily</p> <p>plenty of space for a free standing cage</p> <p>Could incorporate wicker furnishing</p> 	<p>potentially LED lights to make it a brighter happier home</p> <p>potentially have a built in hiding hut</p> <p>potentially have a large open lid - easily accessible</p> <p>Small door - awkward to fit hand - might be accessible</p> <p>82 cm - have a door here</p> <p>Get a Slope in the corner remove tube</p> <p>have a large storage space underneath</p> <p>potentially Nor much space for toys or objects.</p> <p>potentially have a home living side e.g. sandpaper, nest, food bowl, water bottle, and a activity side - slope to access 2nd level running wheel. 37cm</p> <p>lighter wood than makes it easier to make wider for smaller so more toys</p> <p>48cm</p> 

Year 13 – Wish You Were Here! Art & Design Trip to Margate July 2019

Art, Photography and Graphic Design students visited the Turner Contemporary Gallery in Margate on 12th July (end of Year 12), to see the 'Seaside Photographed' exhibition; featuring well known photographers such as Martin Parr and Iain McKell. Students were particularly impressed with artist Anthony Gormley's sculpture which is located outside the gallery on the beach, entitled 'Another Time' which interacts with the coastal tides. All students were a credit to our school and demonstrated a proactive approach to gathering resources ahead of their Year 13 Personal Investigation projects.

Mrs Hemming, Art & Design



RWS STEM

where student centred problem solving meets real world application

Newsletter

2018/19 Round-up



RWS STEM Form Group 2018/2019

2018/19 saw the creation of the RWS Stem form group at Ravens Wood; a vertically structured team comprised of 10 students from Year 8, 9 and 10. The students were selected by the Heads of Department from Science, Design and Technology, Computer Science and Mathematics. Throughout the year the group had the opportunity to work on a wide range of STEM related projects and competitions.



KVRA Centenary War Memorial Project

At the beginning of the 2018/19 academic year, Mr Hunt was approached by the Keston Village Residents Association, to help them with the design of an interpretation board to mark the 100 years since the original war memorial in Keston was installed. A STEM design team was created from the form group; Bode Robinson, Thomas Jackson-Clark, Mohan Slade, Charles Mullen began work on the project.



After a number of meetings with the Residents Association project leaders throughout the year and a great deal of hard work, the team presented their draft design to a very receptive audience at the KVRA Annual General Meeting. The feedback on the design was superb, on returning to Ravens Wood, the team began work of the second improved iteration which will be being installed in Keston Village next to the War Memorial on Saturday 10th October 2020

The Institute of Engineering and Technology Faraday Challenge Day 2019 Competition Winners



On the 1st of April, STEM's year 8 representatives went to Langley Park School for Girls and competed against other school in the IET Faraday Challenge. Teams were tasked to create a product to help the scientists and engineers at the Northrop Grumman's Redondo Beach facility build the James Webb space telescope. Separated into teams of six, students began by assigning roles of authority to members, all of which had their own specific job to do in the group such as; electric manager, design manager and group leader. With only a small sum of money, the groups had to plan out their ideas and estimate the cost of the supplies their group required. After a days' worth of engineering and creativity, all four groups came out with a finished manufactured product and a presentation to present to the judges. After much deliberation, one of the Ravens Wood teams came out on top with one of the Langley girls' teams being a close second followed by the second Ravens Wood teams; a great result for the school and the students participating in the winning team. This was a national competition where each team scored points, when the last Challenge Day had been completed there were 189 schools in the league table, with the Ravens Wood team coming joint 7th with 88 points from 100 available. The top 40 teams were then invited to the National final. The full league table can be found here: <https://faraday-secondary.theiet.org/faraday-challenge-days/league-tables/>

The Institute of Engineering and Technology National Festival for Aspiring Engineers 2019 Aspiring Engineers Choice Award Winners

On the 26th of June, the winning team travelled to London to participate in the final round of the competition at The Institute of Engineering and Technology National Festival for Aspiring Engineers. The team had to create display materials and a presentation on the importance of space exploration and their ideas for where space exploration was headed in the future. The Ravens Wood entry won the top prize on the day, the Aspiring Engineers Choice award which was voted on by all who attended the day. Judges announced that our team had won by a landslide.

Year 5 STEM Challenge Day 2019; The International Year of the Periodic Table



On Thursday 27th June Ravens Wood School welcomed 120 Year 5 pupils from local Primary schools to the annual STEM Challenge Day. The United Nations General Assembly during its 74th Plenary Meeting proclaimed 2019 as the International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements. To mark this significant event, the students spent the day learning about the Periodic Table through a wide variety of activities and practical investigations. The event culminated in the students producing a human Periodic Table with each individual element handmade by the students during the day. Ravens Wood Year 10 STEM ambassadors were able to take an aerial photograph with a drone that they had built as part of the school's extended STEM curriculum. Feedback from the pupils involved was overwhelmingly positive, with many participants making Ravens Wood their first choice of secondary school. The school is looking forward to inviting students to the 2020 event.

MUSIC NEWS

Congratulations to the following students on their musical achievements:-

Adam Lockward (Y9) - Grade 2 Orchestral Percussion—Merit
Grade 2 Piano—Merit

Y13 Leaver and former Principal of the Music Academy, Joe Spiteri, achieved a Grade 8 Distinction in Jazz Saxophone last month. A fantastic way to leave RWS and head for a degree in Composition for Film and Gaming at the University of Hertfordshire

If your son/daughter is interested in learning a musical instrument then please see Mrs Potter Hicks in the Music department for BYMT application form

Music Enrichment Schedule <small>From September 16th 2019</small>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Elite (8am)	Percussion ensemble	Elite (8am)	Ravens Band	Garageband Club
Aspire to 9	Sunset Sax	Moonlight Sax		RWS Metal
Bach Street Boys	Rabble (3.15-4.15pm)	Big Band (3.15-4.15pm)	Rock School (3.15-4.15pm)	
	Guitar, Drum, String lessons		Singing, Piano, Brass lessons	Piano, Drum lessons

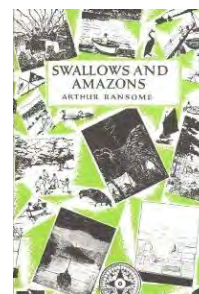
All clubs start at 1pm unless otherwise stated.
All clubs are held in the Music Department.
Peripatetic timetables are displayed on the board in the Music corridor.
See EPH if you are interested in joining a club or starting lessons on an instrument.



Competition Time!

Calling all Year 7 budding journalists!

Year 7 were each gifted a book from Ravens Wood to read over the summer: “Swallows and Amazons”. We hope they enjoyed it and now we’d like to know what they thought of Arthur Ransome’s exciting classic tale about an outward-bounding childhood.



What to do:

Write a review of no more than one side of A4—by hand or typed. Illustrations allowed.

Where next:

Hand the review in to their form tutor or Mrs Ashton directly—or email Mrs Ashton : nas@rws.uk.net. Make sure their name is on their work!

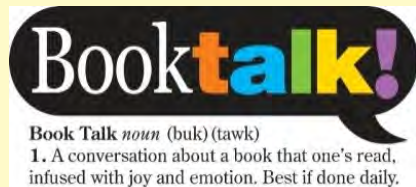
When: Deadline Wednesday 18th September. The winner will receive a book prize and teacher points and a selection of the best will receive 10 teacher points and be displayed on Open Day!

Our students will be living a little of “Swallows and Amazons” themselves when they enjoy their own adventure of discovery and friendship on their Bushcraft trip next week! Wishing all of our boys a fantastic time on their outdoor expedition and good luck in the competition!

Mrs Ashton

Assistant Headteacher





This week Ms Coveney, Elliot Austin and Micah Gardner talk about why reading is important.

Ms C: I'm biased obviously, I'm an English teacher, so why do you think reading is important?

EA: It strengthens your vocabulary and widens it. The more you read, the more vocabulary you have.

MG: When you read something as well, you can see how it is spelt, if you just hear it, you might never know.

MG: It also improves your imagination: without it you will have nothing to think about and no new ideas.

EA: Yes, it can give you inspiration. When you read something in a book, you can find ideas of how to challenge yourself.

Ms C: Do you think it also opens you up to other perspectives? I read Bone Sparrow this year, and it really gave the perspective of a refugee in a way that I had never experienced before?

MG: I read The Hunger Games a while back and it put me in the shoes of someone whose childhood was being forced into doing something. Even though it's not real, there are children in the world who have no choices.

EA: Yes - it lets you feel what other people feel and see what other people see. It also shows you that your perspective is not always right.

MG: Oh yeah, when I read The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night time, I didn't understand autism and I maybe thought about it negatively because I didn't understand it, which is silly because I'm dyslexic. But, it helped me understand that people with autism are individual in the way that my dyslexia makes me individual.

MG: Why do you think people find reading difficult?

Ms C: That's a good question and I think that the simplest answer is that it takes work and effort; there are so many complex parts to reading that all need to work in unison. Today, there are so many other distractions that make it difficult for us to find the time to really focus on reading. I'm as guilty as anyone else when it comes to that, but I do try to make some time every day to read.

MG: Video games and movies also tell stories and they take no effort.

EA: I don't disagree, but the problem is that they don't really improve your creativity or your vocabulary in the way reading does.

Ms C: If you could give one piece of advice to a Year 7 about reading, what would it be?

EA: Take recommendations, not orders - you need to enjoy what you're reading. Ask your family, your English teacher, especially one in the Reading Room.

MG: Also, depending on what your other interests are - use that to make your choices. If you like football, read about football.

Ms C: My tip would be to get into bed twenty minutes earlier than you want to go to sleep and read then.

MG: And when your parents say "Turn off your Xbox", they probably will allow you to read a book!

Thank you Ms Coveney, Elliot and Micah !

German Music Tour July 2019

On the last week of the summer term, the Music department woke up very early to make their way to The Black Forrest in Germany. After the long process of security searches were over, the group departed from grey old England to sunny Stuttgart. Just a short drive and a couple of LIDL stops on the way and we arrived at our home for the next few days, Feldberg Youth Hostel. Shortly afterwards, the group were already in motion, climbing to the highest point in the Black Forrest for a lovely view and a trip on a gondola before the first rehearsal for the show the following day. The group rose early again, some getting more sleep than others, and we set off for Lake Tittisee, site of our first performance. It went spectacularly well, with both Rabble Chorus and The Bach Street Boys singing their well-chosen repertoire immaculately on the lakeside to an enraptured audience. There was just a quick stop for lunch before the next performance at Triberg National Park, which also went without a hitch. We then visited the waterfall and promptly headed back for a cheeky game of football and some traditional German bread baking around the campfire. The next day we headed to Frieberg where we had a tour showcasing the wonders of the town, such as the cathedral, the market and their specialty sausages! Our third outdoor concert in the park was a hit and featured an audience member singing along from start to finish! We then ransacked Europa Park, who will never forget our harmonious chants of 'We love you Georg' (our amazing ginger opera-singer tour guide). All good things must come to an end... roll on 2021!

By Oliver McGloin



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Fundraising Opportunity for Ravens Wood School

Ravens Wood School have signed up to the Easy Fundraising programme, whereby parents, carers, staff, families and friends can purchase goods through the portal, at no extra cost, and in doing so raise money for the students. Your support with this fundraising venture would be greatly appreciated. Please visit the link below to start raising donations every time you shop.

easyfundraising.org.uk/ravenswood

Choose from over 3,300 shops

John Lewis

ebay

amazon.co.uk

Argos

Booking.com

@rw_school - Recent tweets from RWS

Keep up with the latest news as it happens!

Ravens Wood School @rw_school · Aug 28
 Following their tremendous GCSE success, our Year 12 students sat beside our new year 7 gentlemen in assembly this morning - what better way to inspire our younger students to achieve #aspirations #excellenceeverywhere



Ravens Wood School @rw_school · Aug 28
 Year 8 and 9 students in assembly this morning as we deliver key messages on conduct, character, work ethic, positive mindset & aspirations #topofthepyramid



Ravens Wood School @rw_school · Aug 29
 Excellence, everywhere this morning at RWS as our Sixth Form work hard in Silent Study. Building the right habits for success from the start.



Ravens Wood School @rw_school · Aug 30
 Mr Leitch, Deputy Headteacher, has been seeking excellence across the school during Period 3 today, and it is truly everywhere. Students making tremendous progress! A fantastic start to the new Term. #excellenceeverywhere



Ravens Wood School @rw_school · Aug 28
 Sixth form Rugby Academy in training today @RWSPE #committed #blackandgreen



Ravens Wood School @rw_school · Aug 31
 Our RWS Year 7 Sports Team Trials are underway this morning - a great opportunity to welcome all new students and their families to RWS at the start of the year. What a fantastic start these students have made! Well done @RWSPE



@RWSPE - Recent tweets from RWS PE

Keep up with the latest PE news as it happens!

Ravens Wood School @rw_school · Aug 31
 Our RWS Year 7 Sports Team Trials are underway this morning - a great opportunity to welcome all new students and their families to RWS at the start of the year. What a fantastic start these students have made! Well done @RWSPE



RWS PE @RWSPE · Aug 20
 Great session this morning with the Rugby Academy. Awesome work rate and skill levels from the boys. We can't wait I get cracking in a couple of weeks!



RWS PE @RWSPE · Aug 8
 Congratulations our @rw_school alumni @ChrisLeek8, who has become @EnduromanEvents #Arch2Arc record holder. Chris was a member of our 1st XV rugby team and Head Boy during his time at the school. He is raising money for @ParkinsonsUK - to sponsor chris please see the link below.



Chris Leek #41 @ChrisLeek8
 @rw_school @RWSPE As a previous Head Boy I wanted to share, on Monday I became the Non Wetsuit Record Holder for the @EnduromanEvents #Arch2Arc by completing it in 69hr 29mins! I did it to raise funds for ...

RWS PE @RWSPE · Jul 18
 A good first win for us on our tour yesterday against Botuka School. It was a great game, played at high altitude. But the boys battled hard through three thirds and came away 68-22 winners. It was fantastic to see the students socialising with our opponents afterwards. #RWS



RWS PE @RWSPE · Jul 21
 Day 6 – Vortrekker and Apartheid
rwssatour2019.wordpress.com/2019/07/21/day...



RWS PE @RWSPE · Jul 23
 Day 7 – Monkeying around in Mabula
rwssatour2019.wordpress.com/2019/07/23/day...



RWS SPORT—'THE BACK PAGES'

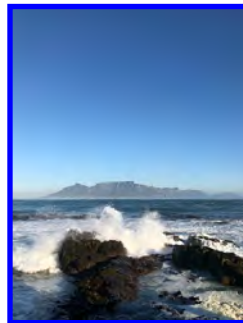
Ravens Wood Rugby Tour

South Africa 2019



In July, the U15 and U16 rugby teams embarked on a 17 day tour of South Africa. It is the third time the school has visited this country; with some superb rugby and a wealth of cultural and once in a lifetime experiences on offer, it is a great place to go.

We flew into Johannesburg and spent the first week playing local opposition, meeting Africa's 'big five' on game drives and enjoying the hospitality of Quins RFC that hosted us for a few days.



We then flew down to George on the south coast and made our way along the west end of the Garden Route to Cape Town. En route we played Punt High; a school that Ravens Wood have built a relationship with over the last few trips, enjoy some whale watching, visit Roben Island, take part in zip-lining, visited a township and were hosted by Wynberg Boys High School.



It was an extremely successful tour with the A team only losing one game and the B team giving a great account of themselves against some pretty hefty opposition. The man of the tour award was given to Abiola Afolabi for his conduct both on and off the pitch and Harvey Aris was awarded player of the tour as his pace and power gifted him a plethora of tries.

Mr N Freds, Head of PE

