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Friday 23rd February  
2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a pleasant half-term break. All students have started back in earnest, and our Year 11 students have completed the first week of their PPEs, which will continue into next week - well done and keep up the good work.

Some of our students had a wonderful ski trip to Austria over half term and you can read more about this on Page 5. Thank you to all the staff who accompanied students and helped make such a memorable trip.

You will see a poster for our School Production of Alice within this edition of the newsletter. Tickets are now available on ParentPay and we encourage you to book early to avoid disappointment nearer the time. We are really looking forward to this annual event and seeing all the hard work in rehearsals really pay off.

We had a very successful staff training event just before half term, where staff from schools across the Borough visit and share their own best practises whilst taking part in seminars. This is a really valuable and essential part of staff's continued professional development.

You will see from our lovely library article that we have a Scholastic Book Fair taking place in school across several days starting on Friday 1st March. Please do refer to the letter that was shared with families on 6th February regarding how to purchase books, as this is a cashless event. This letter can be found on the 'Letters Home' section of our website.

Our Year 9 students are on the cusp of making their GCSE subject choices for Year 10 and 11. An assembly was held today, explaining the process to them. More information will be shared with home shortly and we ask that students and their families take time to discuss and really consider subjects that they enjoy and are good at.

Thank you for your support, as always.

*Ms M. Lester*  
Headteacher





# Above & Beyond

**The following students and staff have been awarded the Headteacher's 'Above & Beyond' prize for February**

Henry and Alexis were nominated for their hard work and dedication as Independent learners on obsidian level for Duolingo.

Lea has been awarded for conducting herself as a role model for younger students, proactive in helping them keep organised throughout our German Exchange trip.

Kosi was proactive in organising a stall at the Careers Fair, he is an Ambassador for British Airways – Kosi spoke to students all day at the fair, engaging them with his in depth knowledge of the aviation industry.

Mrs Coxon received the Headteacher's 'Above and Beyond' award on her retirement on 9th February. Mrs Coxon had worked at the school since September 2001 in several roles, including a Higher Level Teaching Assistant, Head of Year, and most recently the pastoral Behaviour and Welfare Manager. Happy Retirement Mrs Coxon.



**Well done to you all, we are very proud of you**

## British Library Trip

### Live Q&A with Malorie Blackman

This week, a group of Year 9 students had the opportunity to meet renowned author and former Children's Laureate Malorie Blackman OBE at the British Library.

Malorie Blackman answered questions that had been submitted by our students and other schools prior to the event. We learnt a lot about why she wanted to become an author, where she draws inspiration from and the resilience it took to become a published author, after receiving 82 rejection letters early in her career.

We are very lucky to have been gifted a beautifully illustrated limited edition copy of *Noughts and Crosses*, which is now on display in our school library.







**Could you be the teacher who makes a difference  
 to the lives of young people?**

**Call 0208 300 6566 or**

**email your CV to [administrator@gradteach.uk](mailto:administrator@gradteach.uk) to  
 discuss your first steps in to the profession**

## Attendance

**1st Place with 98% - 7E**

**2nd Place with 97% - 7A**

**3rd Place with 96% - 11C & 11G**



**IMPACT**

Multi Academy Trust





Please refer to our Letter on 6th February on how to purchase tokens for the book fair!

## SELF: On Display

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E

This month's displays are celebrating love in all its forms, starting with the most important relationship of all - the one we have with ourselves.

"21 ways to love yourself" is designed to promote self-love and self-care among our students.

Featuring practical and actionable tips for students to incorporate into their daily routines, empowering them to navigate challenges with resilience and positivity.

Additionally a curated selection of books are available focusing on personal growth, mindfulness and mental well-being. This aims to offer valuable resources for nurturing a positive relationship with oneself. We encourage students to explore the display, discovering new ways to prioritise their mental health and embrace self-compassion.

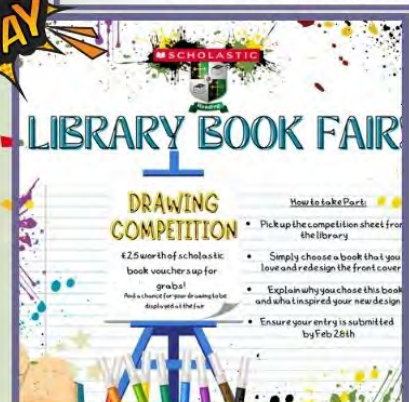


## Books we Love:

This display brings together a diverse array of books that hold a special place in the hearts of our wonderful school community. This serves as an inspiring guide for students seeking independent reading choices. It enhances the library's role as a dynamic space for intellectual exploration, endorsing a love of reading and learning. This display hopes to strengthen the teacher-student bond by opening a window into their literary preferences and fostering a connection beyond the classroom.



Leading up to our School Book Fair coming March 1st we are holding a competition where students will have the opportunity to get creative by designing their own book cover. Not only will students have the chance to see their creations on display, they will also be in the running to win vouchers to use at the upcoming event - up to £25 is up for grabs!



<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers>





# RWS Ski Trip 2024



Over the half term, 52 students were whisked away to the heady heights of the Austrian ski resort of Obertauern, near Salzburg.

After a seamless journey, students got their heads down for a good nights sleep before an early Sunday morning trip to the ski shop. We were kitted out with boots, helmets and skis and after much anticipation, were ready for our first lesson on the slopes. With a variety of ages and abilities, the ski instructors put us into groups and off we went to master the snow and the mountains.

Our accomodation offered comfortable rooms and plenty of food. In the basement was a sports hall where Mr Griffiths and Mr Lovell refereed many a game of basketball! There was also a pool room plus a games room with table football, ping pong and air hockey, so students were kept busy even when they were tired from a full day of skiing.

The local town was a short but steep stroll which many students made each evening to stock up on local delicacies (Milka chocolate mainly) and as the week wore on, the sun came out and after a snowy start, we experienced a variety of ski conditions. Skiing is very challenging and tiring and staff were hugely impressed by how well the students adapted and overcame some initial challenges.

On our final morning, we hosted the historical 'Ski Awards' which included accolades such as 'Best Dressed' 'Most Improved Skier' 'Ambassador Award' & 'The Hemetsberger Language Award' among others. But most of all, students had a wonderful time, made new friends, and when asked on the homeward journey if they were looking forward to going home, all the students we asked replied, "Hmmm sort of, but could have done with one more day" which we took as a sign of a successful trip! Thank you to Mr Freds and Mr Forrest for all their hard work in planning such an enjoyable experience.



## Dates for your Diary

Year 9 Parents' Evening - Thursday 7th March

Year 9 Options Deadlines - Friday 15th March

RWS11 RWS13

Easter School for RWS11 & RWS13 will be running revision sessions from Tuesday 2nd - Friday 5th April. More information to follow



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



# Ravens Wood School Production

*This amateur production of "Alice" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd. [www.concordtheatricals.co.uk](http://www.concordtheatricals.co.uk)*

# Alice

*By Laura Wade*

*Wednesday 13th & Thursday 14th of March  
7pm*

*Tickets from £5*

*Tickets Now Available*





# Athletics News



A huge congratulations to Daisy in year 12 and Oscar in year 13 who recently competed in the U20 National Athletics Championships in Sheffield.



Daisy finished 2nd with a PB of 6.09m in the long jump. Oscar also finished 2nd and cleared 4.40m in the pole vault. The fact these students are competing up 2-3+ years shows the quality of their performances and we are extremely proud of them!

Both students are ranked extremely highly in the country and we can't wait to see what they can achieve in the outdoor season!

Mr Pillow, Head of PE



## ACCENT CATERING

Some of our lovely Valentines sweet treats were available before the half-term break.

Below you can see some of our students enjoying their Co-Curricular cooking club



Don't forget to top up Parent Pay accounts for break and lunch time



# Appeal for Equipment for the Quiet Garden

We are in the process of redesigning our Quiet Garden. If you have any of the following that you would be willing to donate to the school it would be most appreciated:

Shed, plastic greenhouse, plant pots, garden gloves, shears, garden forks, hand trowels, spades, rakes, hoe, watering cans, wheelbarrows, wellies, plants including fruit and vegetables and seeds.



If you are able to donate anything, please get in contact with Ms Saunders in the DT Department to arrange a drop off time.

Please do not give any equipment to students to bring into school:

[MSA@rws.uk.net](mailto:MSA@rws.uk.net)



## Bobble Hats



Our popular RWS bobble hats are on sale for students and parents to purchase via Parent Pay for £12.50.

They are perfect for the rainy weather and when supporting our students pitch side.

Once purchased, they will be available to collect from Visitor Reception.

#BlackandGreen



**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



#WeAreBlackAndGreen