



Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, welcome back after our two-week half-term break. I hope our families enjoyed some rest, relaxation, and managed to see a bit of sunshine. Our students and staff have all settled back into the school routine, with a range of activities underway and more exciting events planned for the coming weeks.

The Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge is in full swing, offering our students an engaging way to develop problem-solving skills. The Bebras Challenge introduces computational thinking to students worldwide and takes place in schools, under the supervision of teachers; thanks to Mr Worth (Head of Computer Science) for his dedication to supporting our students in this initiative. Additionally, Year 7 and 8 students have been participating in the Borough's Bikeability courses, which are invaluable for teaching road safety and awareness and enabling attendees to cycle skilfully and confidently.

Mrs Bristow accompanied a group of Year 8 students on the IET Faraday Challenge last week, (an annual competition of STEM activity days with a real-world challenge for pupils aged 12-13 years). Our students performed admirably and narrowly missed out on first place, coming a close second. Well done to all involved.

Meanwhile, our Year 11 students have been immersed in their PPE1 (pre-public examination) sessions, which will continue into next week. These practice exams, in formal examination conditions, help students to build confidence and establish effective revision habits as they prepare for their summer GCSEs. Thanks to all staff involved in the support of this year group at such an important time.

On Wednesday, we were pleased to welcome both internal and external students and their families to our Sixth Form Open Evening. It was wonderful to see so many current and new faces eager to apply to Ravens Wood for Sixth Form study. The event was extremely well attended, and we're excited to support our students as they consider their future academic pathways. Thanks to the Sixth Form Team and the students involved for their organisation and participation in this event.

On Thursday, we also held our Raising Achievement event for Year 10 students and their families, where we shared academic reports and discussed strategies for success. It was a productive evening focused on setting goals and supporting students' progress through the crucial GCSE years ahead.

Today, we held our second Staff INSET day of the year, dedicated to our staff's continued professional development. Providing time for teachers to develop professionally is essential, as it enables them to enhance their skills, keep up with best practices, and ultimately support the highest standards of teaching and learning for our students.

Wishing everyone a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Best wishes

Ms M. Lester

Headteacher

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## RWS Sixth Form News



## Sixth Form Open Evening

Sixth Form Application Process for entry in 2025
Useful dates for Yr11

- Application deadline 13th December 2025
- Induction Day 7th July 2025
- GCSE Results Day 21st July 2025
- Sixth Form Enrolment 21st July 2025

Email any questions to sixthform@rws.uk.net

We were delighted to welcome close to 1000 visitors to our Sixth Form Open Evening this week. It was fantastic to see so many of our Ravens Wood students and also to welcome many new faces through our doors. We very much look forward to receiving your applications. Please do not hesitate to email <a href="mailto:sixthform@rws.uk.net">sixthform@rws.uk.net</a> should your have any queries.











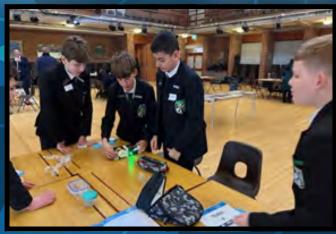


# FARADAY CHALLENGE

On Wednesday 6th November, our Year 8 pupils went to St Olaves School to complete the Faraday Challenge. This annual competition consists of STEM activity days that introduce students to engineering, inspire them to consider engineering as a career and help to develop their practical and employability skills, including team-working, problem-solving and creative thinking.



Competing against two teams from St Olaves as well as teams from Bromley High and Newstead Woods the students were given a design brief that we cannot disclose due to it being a National Competition. Throughout the day the students progressed from "apprentice status" to planners, designers and product technicians culminating in the final presentation of their product to the judges and peers. RWS came in a very close second to St Olaves on the day.



The Challenge Day is designed to be cross-curricular covering science, technology, engineering and maths.

Each Challenge Day gives six teams of six students, aged 12 to 13 years, the opportunity to research, design and make prototype solutions to real-world engineering problems.



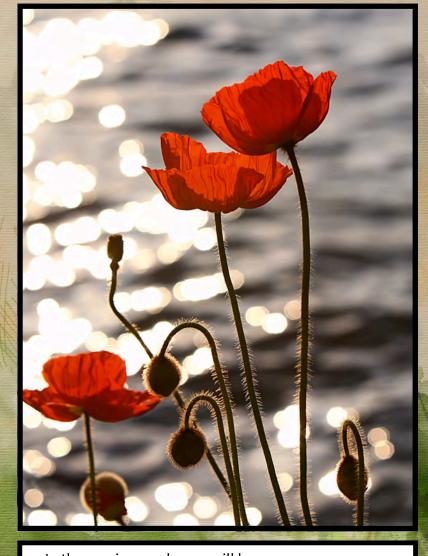
# REMEMBRANCE PEBBLES

On Wednesday 6th RWS' History Club took part in a session in the Art department to paint Remembrance pebbles. The leaving of pebbles on a graveside is a Jewish tradition there are many interpretations as to where this tradition comes from including the fact the Hebrew word for pebble is tz'ror which also means bond. In addition, it is felt that the pebbles are lasting whereas cut flowers wither and die and the money spent on them should instead be donated to a good cause. Some of the boys took their pebbles with them but others left them with the school, and they will be displayed in the quiet garden. In conjunction with this, we looked at how nature has been used in Remembrance poems and some of the Remembrance flowers of other nations including: Marigolds (India), Poppy on a Shamrock (Ireland) and Cornflowers (France).

The History Club is open to students in all the key stages, over the past few weeks we have had presentation from the boys about topics in history that interested them. We also watched 'BBC Ghostwatch' from 1992 for Halloween

to explore how the national broadcaster was capable of shocking and how the trust people had in the BBC as an institution took the footage at face value and believed the haunting was real.





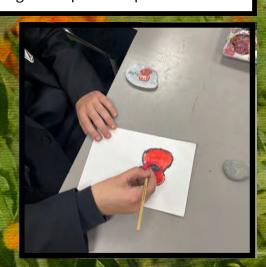
In the coming weeks, we will be exploring the content of a loan box from the Bank of England and the role the bank played in the slave trade and as we move into December looking at different Christmas based historical activities.



History club is on Wednesdays after school in HU7 with Miss Davey and Mr Millard, if you are interested free to come along and explore the past.









up their breaktimes to raise money for the Poppy Appeal.



The Ravens Wood School community remembered all those who lost their lives in the two World Wars and other conflicts, with a two minute silence on Monday 11th November. This was followed by the simultaneous playing of 'The Last Post' from various locations around the school by five students. Well done to our wonderful musicians who helped to mark this important event and thanks to Mr Grant, Head of Music.

## Christmas Shoebox Appeal





Well done to our Year 9 Citizenship classes for their hard work organising this years' Shoebox Appeal.

78 shoeboxes were donated by our wonderful RWS
Community. Many were packed, wrapped and labelled
by our RWS9 Citizenship and RWS12 Community
students, before being taken to our chosen charity.

Thank you for all the wonderful donations that were received this year. We really appreciate your support with our most successful year yet!

Ms Brown





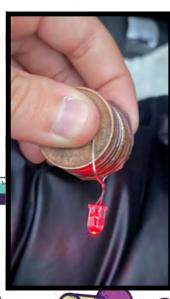
# SCIENCENEWS

We have now had 4 successful weeks of Whizz Bang Science Club – please see photos and updates submitted by students, Tom G and Marko M, below.



'On Tuesday the 8th of October we used acids and universal indicator to change colours in our test tubes to form a rainbow in a test tube. This experiment was great! This week, we made a battery using 2p coins which are made from copper, pieces of cardboard that had been soaked in vinegar and foil. Then we stacked the cells together, and used our battery to power an LED' - **Tom G, Y7** 

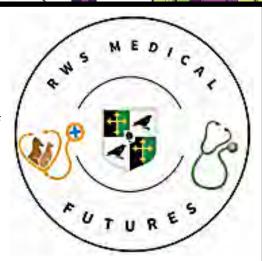




## RWS Medical Futures

Last half term saw the launch of our new RWS Medical Futures lunchtime club, which supports students who are interested in careers in healthcare. This term, Y10 and Y12 students have read and discussed the importance of medical literacy, looked into different medical specialisms and learnt to reflect on their experiences. This week we heard from a practicing veterinarian. Meanwhile, Year 12 students have started online work experience programmes.

If you are in Years 10-12 and are interested in joining RWS Medical Futures, please speak to Miss Winter.



### **Extracurricular Science Schedule**

What?	Where and When?	Who?	This week's activities
Whizz Bang	Tuesday 3.10, Lab 3	Year 7	Technicians in Trouble challenge
RWS Medical Futures	Thursday, 1.10, Lab 10	Years 10-12	A day in the life of a veterinarian  – online talk
Women in STEM Support	Wednesday 1.10, Lab 10	Year 12 and Year 13	Revision support – drop in with teacher help available

## WOODLAND MANAGEMENT

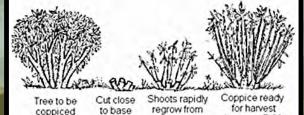




To support students with their understanding of Paper 1- Changing Landscapes of the UK the Geography department have taken the whole year group to Padmall Woods to discuss and demonstrate human management strategies in Deciduous woodlands.

This involved methods such as Coppicing, footpath management, Education, Sustainably using resources, Green belt areas and Native species replantation.

This demonstrates how aspects of the specification work in real life examples, which we believe helps support the education and long term memory of such practises for success in their summer exams.



stool the

following spring







between 7-20

vears

The PE department have a limited stock of our RWS bobble hats for both students and parents to purchase, perfect for the changing Autumn weather.

The hats are available to buy now on ParentPay for £15 while stocks last!
Once payment has been made the hats can be collected from Visitor Reception



## MOVEMBER -

Ravens Wood School has currently raised around £1,500 for the charity (including the badge purchases and donations from staff) which is a fantastic amount to start with. A massive thank you to everyone who has got involved or donated in some way. All the conversations we are having about re-framing Men's health will have untold positive effects for the students, and hopefully the wider community, for years to come.

We would love to once again fight for a top 10 spot in the national leaderboard, but are currently sitting around 38th place! We need your help to raise even more money for the charity so we can once again compete with the private schools and be one of the top comprehensives in the country.

We would love for parents to get involved and download the Movember app too. If you are unable to download the app and fundraise personally, please pass the following link around to your own friends and family and share what we are doing to try and change the face of Men's health. The more people we share our page with, hopefully the more donations we can receive!

https://movember.com/t/r avens-wood-does-move mber?mc=1



### **Pick for Movember**

**Date: Saturday 30th November** (1.30pm-3pm) Location: West Wickham high street (Meeting point TBC) Event details We need as many student volunteers to help with our big event of the year, a sponsored litter pick through West Wickham. By sacrificing our time and effort on a weekend, we will show the local community how dedicated we are to changing the face of men's health and preventing suicide, prostate and testicular cancer. You will be placed in a team led by a member of staff, and will go around all the streets of West Wickham picking up any and all litter you see along the way. If you

are free, and are
willing to help,
please ask a
parent/carer to scan
the QR code shown
on the right and fill
in the consent form



to confirm your attendance at the event.

### **Run for Movember**

This event is a month long effort to try and run the equivalent distance of the width of Africa (Approx 10,000km) in the month.

We need all students, staff and family members who are willing and physically able to take part to try and reach this massive target. The personal target for each person should be around 30-60km by the end of the month depending on age and fitness level. We need as many volunteers for this challenge as possible.

In order to take part this event, complete the following steps to make an account with Movember, and join our team page.

- Download the Movember app on your phone from your app store
- 2. Create an account using your school email (if student) or personal email (if staff or family member)
- 3. If student You must put your first name as your initials, and surname as your form group with no pictures. You will not be accepted onto the team page unless this is done correctly.
- 4. If staff Your teacher name (Mr. Parfett)
- If family member your preference of name (Initials or full name is fine, as is pictures)
- 6. Once you have made your own account, you can search for 'Ravens Wood does Movember' in the 'join a team' section or type in our team ID '2444827'
- You can then either link a fitness tracking app (Garmin, Fitbit or Strava) or you can log your distance manually on the app. Our distances will then be combined so we can track our progress.

# GROWING GREENS IN THE QUIET GARDEN

'The Growing Greens Gardening Club have been making great efforts in the Quiet Garden that you may have seen on the School's Social Media.

We are now in need of some equipment which we would be very grateful to receive to carry on the fantastic work:

- Bags of compost
- Planters for flowers
- Leaf rake
- Garden rake
- Spring/summer bulbs
- Seed packets especially vegetables
- Support canes
- Potted plants

Any donations would be much appreciated and can be handed into main Reception.

Many thanks,

Ms Saunders (msa@rws.uk.net)





# BOIN GODA 3\ The British Academy



71% AGREED THAT FUTURE
EXECUTIVES WOULD NEED
(FOREIGN) LANGUAGE SKILLS
& INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE.



52% OF ALL SMES AGREED THAT
ADDITIONAL FOREIGN LANGUAGES WOULD
BE HELPFUL TO EXTEND BUSINESS
OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FUTURE
(OF THOSE ALREADY USING
LANGUAGES IT WAS 78%).

### OF THE SMES THAT USE LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH ...



69% AGREE THAT
LANGUAGES ARE
ESSENTIAL
FOR THE UK'S
ECONOMIC RECOVERY.



HALF AGREE THAT LANGUAGES ARE ESSENTIAL FOR THEIR OWN ORGANISATION'S SUCCESS.



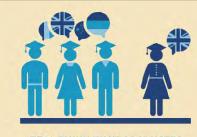
79% AGREE THAT
LEARNING A FOREIGN
LANGUAGE SHOULD
BE COMPULSORY UP TO
SCHOOL LEAVING AGE.





Source: The British Academy: Born Global Project

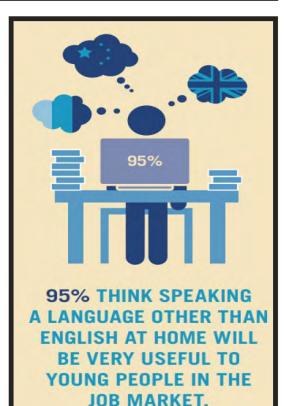




75% THINK THAT GRADUATES
WITH ENGLISH-ONLY ARE
AT A DISADVANTAGE
IN THE LABOUR MARKET



82% THINK LANGUAGES
ARE AS IMPORTANT AS
STEM SUBJECTS.



'It always brings acompetitive edge, helps with idea association and analytical thinking and overall allows for greater level of culture.'

### Senior Manager, Bank of America

'It is not just the languages themselves but understanding the culture of another country that is equally vital in achieving success at work.'

#### Freelance HR Consultant

'...gives aperson a wider/more global view and flexibility in dealing withpeople.'

Senior Manager, Ernst Young









# duolingo

Not using Duolingo regularly yet? Then now is your time to start! Presenting:

# THE DUOLINGO CHALLENGE

THE GOAL IS TO ACHIEVE A 31 DAY STREAK IN DECEMBER WITHOUT USING FREEZES.

IF YOU DID SO SUCCESSFULLY,
SEND A SCREENSHOT OF THE APP
UNTIL THE 8TH OF JANUARY TO
MBN@RWS.UK.NET TO GET A
LITTLE GIFT AS A REWARD AFTER
BREAK.

**Viel Spass!** 

Only applicable for learning German via Duolingo Only one reward per person.

Rewards may change because of limited amount



# DUOLINGO REWARD

Have you been using Duolingo
for a while now,
to improve your German?
Well this is your time to shine.
If you have a 500 (or higher) day streak, and/
or a 50 day (or higher) streak without using freezes,
a reward is waiting for you.

SEND A SCREENSHOT NOW

showing you have a 500 (or higher) day streak and/ or a 50 day (or higher) streak without using freezes to mbn@rws.uk.net.

You will then be told when and where to pick up your reward.

Only applicable for learning German via Duolingo.
Only one reward per person.
Rewards may change because of limited amounts.

# **ECAREERS**





A group of 6th Form students were given the opportunity to attend an exciting session at Langley Park Girls School on Monday 11th November 2024 organised by UES in conjunction with Match (Concourse).

Match (Concourse) is an online tool that brings students university offers without any extra effort. It's a stress-free way to explore more options and find the right fit for your future if studying abroad is one of the career paths you wish to follow. Please visit or contact the careers office if you would like further information about studying abroad.

Imagine universities around the world applying to you - and even offering you scholarships!

# YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE (WEX) PROGRAMME 7th-11th JULY 2025

The careers team held an assembly this week to launch the work experience programme for our Year 12 students. This scheme is a great way to bring students into direct contact with commerce and industry.

The expectation is for students to actively search for a suitable placement and we would strongly advise students to make contact with any prospective employers as soon as possible, as other Bromley schools will also be participating in work experience during this period.

All students need to have input their placement details on to **UNIFROG** by **Friday 21st February 2025.** 

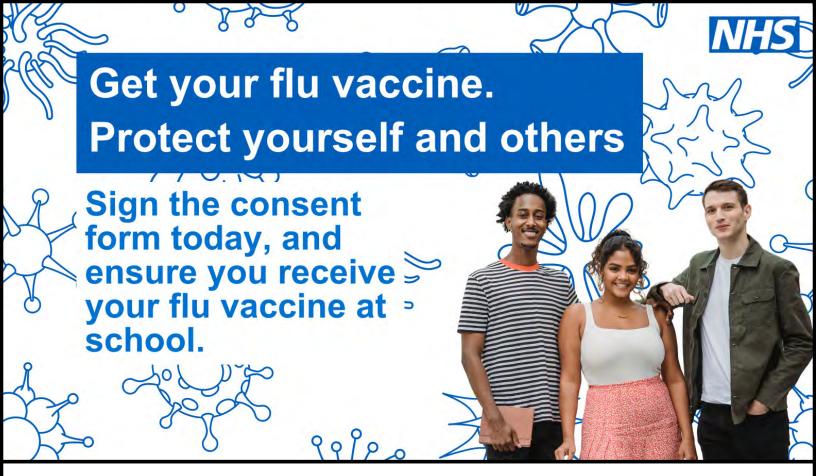
Please email Mrs Borley at <a href="mailto:lbo@rws.uk.net">lbo@rws.uk.net</a> if you have any questions.

Students can visit the Careers Office if they need any support with finding a placement.



We would also like to put a request out that if the organisation that you run, or work for, is in a position to offer a student placement, we would be most grateful to hear about it. If you think you can help with this, please email us at workexperience@rws.uk.net.





Flu can be a serious illness in children. Every child from Reception to Year 11 is offered the flu vaccine each year. The School Immunisation Team are visiting our school on Friday 6th December 2024. To ensure your child receives their flu vaccine, please complete this consent form.

https://sav.hrch.nhs.uk/flu/ 2024/bromley



## PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

Our Trust strongly encourages strong links with parents and our local communities. We believe that pupils benefit when the relationship between home and school is a positive one.

The vast majority of interactions between staff, governors and Trustees at our Trust and parents, carers and others are positive and constructive. On very rare occasions, interactions can involve aggression, verbal, physical abuse, unreasonable expectations or harassment towards members of school staff or the wider school community. Whilst rare, these instances can have a significant impact on the wellbeing of our staff and the wellbeing of our staff is a priority for us as a Trust.

The policy at the link below sets out the culture and approach that will be taken within the Trust, to encourage constructive relationships between home and school:

<u>Parental-Engagement-and-Responding-to-Unacceptable-Parental-Behaviour.pdf</u>



# BROMLEY SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITION

Well done to Cross Country runners who recently competed at Darrick Wood in the Bromley School competitions. There was a number of great performances and the boys really worked hard. The top 10 runners from each category will be eligible for the Kent Cross Country competition which means 7 of our 11 runners have qualified.



### Junior boys (3.3km)

(Y9) Finn G - 3rd

(Y9) Ben E - 6th

(Y9) Talal A-A - 7th

(Y8) Billy P - 10th

(Y9) Matthew T - 21st

(Y8) Harvey D - 22nd

### Inter boys (5.3km)

(Y11) Nathan C - 6th

(Y11) Lucas E-P - 8th

(Y10) Goodluck A - 9th

(Y11) Aidan P - 14th

(Y10) Archie C - 17th



We are waiting official results, but it looks possible that we secured second in the Junior Boys comp and hopefully 3rd in the Inter Boys. Well done to all involved!

# PARENTS & GARRIS



Each year the PSFA requires additional volunteers to replace parents whose sons/daughters are leaving the school or, are not currently able to offer support due to other commitments.

The PSFA Committee meets every six weeks and runs a number of functions and events during the school year to raise funds for the school. Last year approximately £11,000 was divided between the departments to provide additional resources to aid teaching and learning and improve the students' environment.

If you are interested in joining the committee, or are able to spare a couple of hours to help out during an event, please contact Rachel Stewart at <a href="mailto:ravenswoodpsfa@yahoo.com">ravenswoodpsfa@yahoo.com</a>



# Community Sports Club

**Bromley** 



### www.pulsesocial.co.uk

**Community Sports Club Bromley** 



0208 191 8507



07375 594 559



info@pulsesocial.co.uk











www.pulsesocial.co.uk

Pulse Social was founded in 2018, with the social purpose of increasing involvement, inclusion, and confidence with all our participants playing sports throughout London.

As a not-for-profit community sports group, we provide a variety of inclusive sports activities for all ages to enjoy with the social aim of Creating a Sporting Smile on all our participants faces.

Community Sports Club Bromley (Club Bromley) is a community disability sports project supported by Access Sport.

Club Bromley provides the opportunity for D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent club members aged between 8 - 17 years old toparticipate in an array of weekly inclusive sports activities in Bromley, South East London.

We are a friendly and fun community multi-sports club that love to deliver a supportive and a social non-competitive environment.

### **Sports Activities:**

- Boccia
- Dodgeball
- Multi sports
- · Inclusive games

Siblings are welcome to join in and parents/carers are encouraged to stay, watch and even take part!
All disabilities and impairments welcome.

### **Session Information**

Bromley Methodist Church, College Road, Bromley, BR1 3NS Every Tuesday (Term time only). Time: 5pm to 6pm

### **Important Information**

These inclusive multi sports sessions are delivered by a qualified Sports Coach.

These sessions are inclusive to anyone who is neurodivergent(including autism and ADHD), has a learning disability/difficulty,visual impairment, D/deaf or hard of hearing, a mental health or long term health condition or physical impairment.

Once registered on the google form, you'll be sent a link to register on Spond. You'll then receive the booking link each

#### **Session Costs**

First session free, £5.00 per session thereafter.

## 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 98% - 7A, 7F & 7G 2nd Place with 97% - 7C, 7D, 7E, 7H, 8A, 8G, 8H & 9D 3rd Place with 96% - 8B, 8D, 8E, 10D & 11A





### **Dates for your Diary**

Year 11 Poetry Live Trip to Apollo Victoria - Friday 22nd November 2024

Year 10 Speakers Trust Workshop - Monday 25th November 2024

Year 11 & 12 Physics Trip to Culham Centre - Tuesday 26th November 2024

German Exchange - Thursday 28th November - 2nd December 2024

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





### Parent/Carer Webinar Dates September - December 2024

Helping Your Child with Anxiety, Fears & Worries for Primary Parents

Th<del>ars 12th Sept = 12.0</del>0 Weds 9th Oct @ 5:30pm Sat 16th Nov @ 10:00am Mon 9th Dec @ 12:00 Helping Your Child with Anxiety, Fears & Worries for Secondary Parents

Mon 23rd Sopt a 5:30pm Sat 12th Oct a 10:00am Weds 27th Nov a 12:00 Weds 11th Dec a 12:00

Helping Children with Sleep for Primary Parents

Sul 21st Oupl @ 10:00.....

Mon 28th Oct @ 12:00

Thurs 21st Nov @ 5:30pm

Weds 4th Dec @ 12:00

**Emotionally Based School Avoidance** 

Sal 7th Cept & 10:00....

Mon 7th Oct e 12:00

Thure 7th Nev e 5:30pm

Thurs 12th Dec @ 12:00

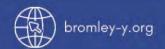
Changing from
Primary to Secondary School

Sul 14th Sept e 10.00-n

Tues 24th Sept @ 4.00pm

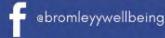
Scan QR code to Book













### @rw\_school @rwspe @RWSMusicDept





Ravens Wood School @rw\_school Students in cookery club made pizza today. Looking very tasty!

#LearnLeadExcel



Ravens Wood School @rw\_school A big thank you to our RWS community for our most successful shoebox appeal yet. Year 9 Citizenship students packed 78 boxes which were delivered by 7B today, all ready for Christmas.

#LearnLeadExcel



Nov 12, 2024

Ravens Wood School @rw\_school

Our RWS11 students have made a fantastic start to their first round of Practise Exams. They are determined to give every exam 100% effort.

#LearnLeadExcel \*\*\*







Ravens Wood School @rw\_school

RWS students were rewarded with an afternoon tea for demonstrating our value of kindness. Well done all.

#LearnLeadExcel





Ravens Wood School @rw\_school This week, the 'Off Cut Engineers' made poppy crosses for Remembrance Sunday. Their finished pieces look fantastic

#LearnLeadExcel



The Ravens Wood community remembered all those who lost their lives in the two World Wars and other conflicts by observing a two minute silence, followed by the simultaneous playing of the 'Last Post' by

#WeWillRememberThem #ArmisticeDay

five students around the school.





Ravens Wood School @rw\_school

Today, two groups of RWS8 students competed in the Faraday Engineering Challenge against students from St Olaves, Bromley High and Newstead Woods. RWS came a very close second.



