

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after half term! I hope this message finds you well-rested and rejuvenated after a relaxing break. It's wonderful to see our school community return with energy and enthusiasm for the upcoming weeks.

I am delighted to share the exciting news that our Student Leadership Team organised a tremendously successful Cultural Fair on the last day of the previous term. The event was a vibrant celebration of our diverse community, showcasing the rich tapestry of cultures that make up our school. My thanks go to the families who generously contributed homemade food and traditional clothing, as well as to our dedicated staff members who actively participated. Thanks also go to Miss McKenzie, Director of Wellbeing for her leadership of Black History Month across the school, to Mr Marriott, Deputy Director of Wellbeing and the Student Leadership Team for their organisation of the Cultural Fair event and to Accent Catering for their support, bringing a variety of cultural cuisines to our school canteen throughout the week. Due to the overwhelming positive response, we are thrilled to announce that the Cultural Fair will now become an annual event, bringing our community even closer together. For more details, please turn to page 2.

Looking ahead, our Parents, Staff, and Friends Association (PSFA) is gearing up for another exciting event: the Quiz Night on Friday, 17th November. Dust off your general knowledge, assemble your teams, and join us for an evening of friendly competition and laughter. Tickets are available via Parent Pay or at the door. Your participation not only promises a fun-filled evening but also contributes directly to supporting our students. Thank you for your continued support.

To our Year 11 students, as you prepare for your first round of pre-public exams (PPE) starting the week of 13th November - remember to give your best effort, with a balance between good revision practices and ensuring you get enough rest. In this edition of our Newsletter, you will find relaxation techniques that might be helpful. Additionally, I invite our Year 11 students to explore opportunities awaiting you at our Sixth Form, so please join us for the Sixth Form Open Evening on Wednesday, 8th November, from 5.45pm. It's a chance to explore the exciting prospects that Ravens Wood Sixth Form has to offer.

Our Year 13 parents and carers will soon be receiving an important letter regarding the Year 13 Parents' Evening on Thursday, 23rd November. This meeting is a crucial milestone in your child's academic journey, and your presence will be greatly valued.

Lastly, a reminder that students will have a day off next Friday, 10th November, due to a staff INSET day. I hope the enjoy the long weekend!

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend ahead. Thank you for your ongoing support, and here's to another fantastic term at Ravens

























As part of our celebrations of Black History Month our Student Leadership Team ran a wonderful Culture Fair, celebrating a mixture of Black African and Black Carribean cultures. With the help of 40 students across the school our team showcased the intriguing history, culture, cuisine and exports of a multitude of nations from across two continents. We look forward to running and expanding our Culture Fair for next year and would like to express our thanks to all students and parents and carers who volunteered to assist.

Thank you,

Mr Marriott, Deputy Director Wellbeing



SIXTH FORM Preparing for Success



Last half term we were proud to launch the RWS Community Initiative with our Year 12 students. Students who are not in Academies are placed into one of six groups, each with a unique focus, and will rotate around these groups each half term. The aim of the programme is to interweave our Sixth Form throughout the school community and to be embedded into the life of the school, to encourage Sixth Form students to "give back" to our

groups are:

 Lower School Mentors – we teach our Sixth Form students how to effectively and empathetically support and mentor KS3 students

community whilst also improving their personal development in order to maximise success when applying to their next steps choices. The six

- Lower School Readers we teach our Sixth Form students how to support lower school students with their reading
- Sustainability students are investigating, developing and implementing several initiatives in order to help Ravens Wood School achieve the "Climate Action Award".
- Charity and Fundraising students propose, develop and promote ideas to fundraise each half term.
- Curriculum Support students are researching and designing wider reading resources to be embedded across all keystages to support and challenge students in all years.
- Self Growth students spend time on self-reflection and growth, identifying tangible opportunities to improve their chances when applying for their next steps choices and helping them stand out from the crowd in competitive application procedures. Students will also complete and submit an essay as part of the RWS1000 Essay Competition.

In the last week of half term the Charity and Fundraising team held a cake sale in order to raise funds for our annual Shoebox Appeal, where they raised over £100.

This is such a fantastic opportunity, bespoke to our school and we are delighted to have introduced it into our Sixth Form enrichment programme.

Mrs Snasdell Assistant Headteacher, Sixth Form





Sixth Form

Wednesday 8th November 2023 – 5.45pm to 8.00pm For entry to Sixth Form Autumn 2024/2025

Come along and meet the Sixth Form Team and visit the departments to find out more about the variety of post-16 opportunities at Ravens Wood School.















Headteacher will speak at 5.45pm and 6.30pm



RWS Sixth Form News



Sixth Form Application Process for entry in 2024 USEFUL DATES FOR YEAR 11

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

Email: sixthform@rws.uk.net



Sixth Form Key Dates

- 23rd November—Yr13 Parents Evening.
 Further info to follow
- W/C 27th November—Yr12 PPE1
- 15th December—RWS UCAS deadline
- 11th January —Yr12 Parents Evening.
 Further info to follow



RWS Scholars Programme

Our Scholars lecture Series has continued this year and in our first half term we had over 250 attendees across a variety of different areas, including *The University Air Squadron, The Psychology behind fundraising and A career in Surveying*. Below is a copy of the confirmed schedule for the start of this half term with dates to be confirmed for 2 others. We are particularly excited about our first Impact Academy Trust event which will be delivered by representatives from BDO. The programme has been designed to provide students with opportunities to experience lecture type talks from guest speakers from a variety of fields and industries.

Speaker	Title	Date
RWS Alumni—Joe Gibbons and Lewis Hill	Talent Management at BBC & (Freelance Assistant Producer of Factual Entertainment Television)	2nd November
RWS Alumni—Emily Regan	Fashion Assistant at the 'Fabulous' magazine	3rd November
Adam Walker —BDO	A career Accounting and Finance (Trust Wide event)	9th November

Empowering our Female Students

Ms Lester, Ms Hollingsworth and Mrs Snasdell met with our female students this week to get an insight into their experiences at Ravens Wood. Ms Lester spoke about the importance of empowering young women in society and celebrated the largest cohort of female students the school has ever had. It was also an opportunity for our female students to feel that their voice is heard in a predominantly male school. Our female students are an important part of our Sixth Form cohort and our school community as a whole. It has been fantastic to see the number of females joining our Sixth Form increase over the past few years and they fully immerse themselves in life at Ravens Wood through their studies and other enrichment opportunities.









Educational Visit



Year 12 and 13 Theatre Studies students went to the Royal Court Theatre before half term to watch the new production 'Imposter 22'





"I went to see Imposter 22 at the theatre on Tuesday the 10th of October at The Royal Court Theatre, I really enjoyed the play and had a great time there. The fact that it was a relaxed performance was nice as it was a different experience than a normal theatre trip and created a really good atmosphere. The humour was really good throughout the show and the story made a lot of sense; I especially liked the ending as it was not what I expected at all. Overall, it was a good experience, and I would definitely go see it again."

Finn, Year 13

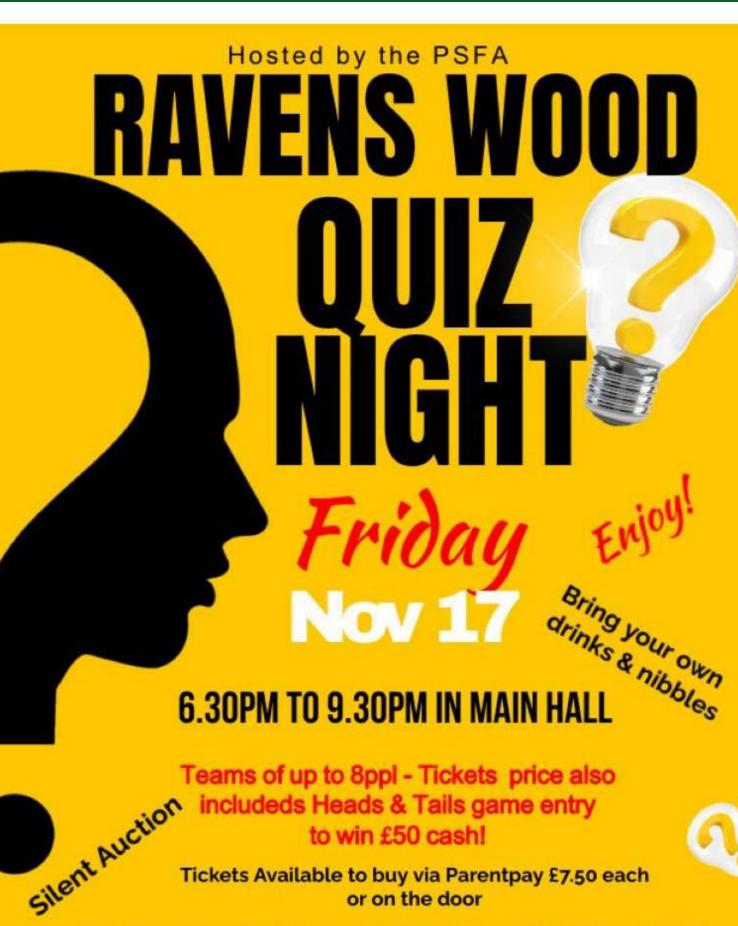
Notice – Donation Week

- Monday 6th to Thursday 9th November is our Donation "Week".
- This year we are collecting and donating the following items:
 - · Tinned meat (including pies)
 - Tinned potatoes
 - · Shower gel
- All donations should be taken to your form room and left in the Harvest Donation Box during this week.
- No donations can be made after Thursday 9th
 November as the items will have been taken to the
 Foodbank.









Teams of up to 8ppl - Tickets price also

Tickets Available to buy via Parentpay £7.50 each

DONATE A TOMBOLO/RAFFLE PRIZE ON QUIZ NIGHT FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A BOTTLE OF CHAMPAGNE

> Any queries to: Ravenswoodpsfa@yahoo.com **Please ensure all visitors leave the premises by 10pm**





Ravens Wood welcomes back Ex-Students from the 1960s

Mr Hunt, Assistant Headteacher, was delighted to be able to tour two ex-students at Ravens Wood in October. Both students were pleased to see their old school and the changes that had taken place since their time here. Below is a potted history of their careers since their time at the school and their 'Words of Wisdom' to pass on to our students:

Kim Chapman (Richard Kimberley Chapman) - graduated Bromley Technical HS summer of 1969 with 5 O levels. The school prepared me with critical thinking, a constant curiosity, always asking questions, and treating people respect which helped me throughout my career and life.

Greatest school moment - The cruise in July 1969 on the SS Uganda to the Azores, Madeira, Tenerife and Casablanca. A great trip which gave me an appreciation of travel.

When I left school at 15/16, I started work in accounting at various companies, including continuing studies at Bromley College and working for a firm of Chartered Accountants in the City. Then at age 24 I got the opportunity to start working overseas handling finance, etc. for a company that built pipelines around the world. The first job was in Patagonia and I never looked back, working in Africa, the Middle East and the Caribbean. I then moved to Florida with my wife, as that is where she is from and we started a new life. There I joined Texaco the Oil Company in their Latin America/West Africa, in the late 80's we moved to Texaco's New York Headquarters and moved into Strategic Planning, then back to Finance. Then we were off to Los Angeles and life on the West Coast, and finally we moved to Houston Texas in 1997, where I was Finance Director for Texaco's Lubricants business and the as a result of a joint venture with Shell, I became Finance Director for the Retail (Service Station) business in the US.

All in all, a fun and interesting career, which started at Ravens Wood.

So, my words of wisdom are getting the most out of your school and where you start off in life does not determine where you finish up, so reach for those interesting opportunities and see where they take you. Happily, retired in Sugar Land Texas USA



Christopher Sharp - I left Bromley Technical High School, now Ravens Wood, in June 1969 with five O levels. Some of my school reports said I could do better, but the subjects that I did do well in, engineering drawing and metalwork have served me well throughout my life. The guidance and inspiration of the teachers has stayed with me. In particular my teacher Mr Hartridge, Engineering/Drawing.

I left school on a Monday lunchtime after my last exam and started a summer job next morning at 9.00. My real working life began in September with a mechanical engineering apprenticeship at Fort Halstead near Sevenoaks. The four-year apprenticeship included milling, turning, metrology and design office time.

Promotion to the design office followed, as a junior design engineer. Working for MoD on research meant a huge variety of work, materials and explosive projects led to explosive ordnance disposal design work amongst many others. Design work started on a drawing board with an ordinary pencil and after a few years progressed to CAD (computer aided draughting). The drawing board was always my favourite tool for design schemes. Promotion in the design office followed, first leading draughtsman and then senior draughtsman. With a short period in IKBS (Intelligent Knowledge Based Systems) the beginnings of Al in the 1980's. Return to design office as Chief draughtsman was a high point in my career. At this time, I became a member of the Institute of Engineering Designers and qualified as an incorporated engineer.

I spent the next few years as a Design Consultant for a Dartford engineering company working on a private venture project and unexpectedly a range of design and manufacture for Mod Fort Halstead.

The final part of my career was a return to MoD Fort Halstead. This time as the Design Engineer for a small team called vehicle assessment. The main task was to produce highly detailed 3D models of a wide range of items and equipment. This involved the use of a 3-axis measuring machine and a series of 3D laser scanners. The work expanded to include the design and manufacture of prototype equipment for the military. In addition to the ever-developing 3D CAD we also had 3D plastic and metal printers. My job also included health and safety for the team. In a career spanning just short of fifty years I went from drawing with a pencil on tracing paper to full colour 3D modelling. A staggering change in technology in one working life.

Words of wisdom. Work hard and get as many exams results as you can, they are the keys to open doors not just in the short term but for years to come.

Admissions Consultation



Our Trust is consulting on the admissions arrangements for our four secondary schools. Hayes School; Langley Park School for Boys; Langley Park School for Girls; and Ravens Wood School.

The consultation runs from 2nd October until 12th November 2023, all the information can be found by visiting the Admissions Consultation section in Key Information on www.imat.uk



NHS

Hounslow and Richmond Community Healthcare

Protect yourself against flu



Dear Parent/Guardian

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

use the link provided to access the electronic cons

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 parcine 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 parcine 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 deathing 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 <u>Privacy Hounslaw & Richmand Community Healthcare</u> (Inter his will be a consent forms are not completed.)

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

Bromley Schools: HRCH.ImmunisationTeamBromleyMailbox@nhs.net Tel: 0203 903 3375

Aminata Khaliq Immunisation Lead



Dates for your Diary



Sixth Form Open Evening -Wednesday 8th November 5.45pm -8pm

INSET Day - Friday 10th November (no students in school)

PSFA Quiz Night - Friday 17th November 6.30pm

Year 13 Parents' Evening - Thursday 23rd November (more information to follow)

Year 12 PPE1 (exams) - w/c Monday 27th November

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

and obstruct our gates at the stables adjacent to the school where access

POLITE REMINDERS



Please can you notify the school if your contact details change i.e. mobile phone number, address or email.

It is important these are up to date in case we need to contact you in an emergency.

Thank you



Please can all of our families be respectful with regards to parking when dropping off and collecting.

Please do not park is needed at all times.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Attendance

1st Place with 98% -7A, 7D, 7E, 7G & 7H

2nd Place with 97% - 7C 3rd Place with 96% - 11A and 10A

RWS Sport https://sport.rws.uk.net

We recommence our Rugby this half term, playing Eltham College from Friday through to Monday. Our U14's will play their Kent Cup Quarter Final versus Sir Joseph Williamson Mathematical School on Tuesday 7th November, whilst also preparing for their Round and Cup game versus the winner of Sevenoaks School and

3 National Cup game versus the winner of Sevenoaks School and Gravesend Grammar School. Our U15's will play a double header in Quarter Finals of the Kent Cup and Round 3 of the National Cup, versus The Judd School, taking place next Thursday 9th November at Sevenoaks Rugby Club. Our 1st XV play Wallington County Grammar School in Round 4 of the National Vase, taking place at Bromley Rugby Club Wednesday 8th November. Good luck #blackandgreen











This half term started fantastically with Year 11 playing away to a really strong Bonus Pastor school and coming away with a hard fought 2-1 win. Goals from Finley Williams and Arnold Okumbor. Tuesday saw Year 8 travel to another strong school,

Carshalton Boys. A close first half was shaded by RWS with a goal from George Holloway. The second half was a different matter with RWS playing the ball around with great confidence and 2 goals each for Orion Queely and Rocco Alexander, sealing a commanding performance. The first XI travelled to Northfleet where they were behind early in rainy conditions, but rallied well with goals from Zac Walker and 2 from Timi Joseph to run out 3-1 winners!

All age groups started the year with convincing wins and are currently remain in competitions. Games are booked in for all ages over the next 2 weeks. Keep your eyes on SOCS to know when fixtures are booked. #blackandgreen

RWS Safeguarding & Wellbeing





RAIN Technique



Recognize, Allow,
Investigate, and Nurture.
Use this technique to
investigate and respond to
difficult emotions or
challenging experiences
with compassion and
understanding.

Reflection Journaling



Set aside time to reflect on your thoughts, emotions, and experiences, using writing as a tool for self-exploration and insight.

FOLLOW THE FIREWORK CODE

If you must have fireworks at home, please follow this safety advice.

DOS



- Only buy fireworks from retailers registered with MFRS
- · Keep fireworks in a closed box
- Follow the instructions on each firework
- Light them at arm's length, using a taper
- · Stand well back
- Always supervise children around fireworks
- Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves
- Keep pets indoors

DON'Ts 🔀



- Never go near a firework that has been lit. Even if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode
- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them
- Never give sparklers to a child under five
- · Don't let fireworks off after 11pm





This year, Ravens Wood School will be teaming up again with the Movember charity in order to raise awareness and funds for preventable diseases/Illnesses in men, focusing primarily on Suicide/depression, testicular cancer and Prostate cancer. Where last year it was just teachers that took part, this year all members of the school community are encouraged to get involved in supporting this fantastic charity. As a school with a large population of boys, we have an opportunity to re-frame what it means to be healthy, and encourage our students to support each other and seek help in times of need. There are a number of fundraising events happening this month, including;

- Raise Money for Movember This fundraising competition encourages staff and students alike to do everything they can to raise
 money for the charity. Students from years 10-13 alongside staff have been invited to download the Movember app and sign up to the
 schools team, where all money raised individually goes towards our schools total. Students can then opt to join in with 'Move for
 Movember' where they can set themselves a target to walk, run, cycle or swim a challenging distance. We then compete against other
 schools across the country to see who can raise the most money! The student who raises the most money will be crowned the 'Ultimate
 Mo' and will win one of our coveted 2 week break/lunch queue skip passes.
- Run for Movember (Staff and student bleep test) In a test of true stamina, students from all year groups are invited to compete against their peers and teachers in a bleep test showdown, with separate winners for KS3, KS4 and Sixth form/Staff. Entry costs £2 to compete and will be available on parent pay in the coming week, and winners will get also get a 2 week break/lunch queue skip pass!

 Event will take place towards the end of the month.
- Spell for Movember Last, but by no means least, KS3 students are taking part in a Spelling Bee competition, where all forms will select a champion to represent them, and compete on behalf of their form and year group. The final showdown will take part in our new library, with the top 2 students from years 7,8 and 9 will compete to become an official 'Legendary Mo' and earn themselves the last of the 2 week break/lunch queue skip passes.

Students looking to show support for our efforts can also purchase a limited edition 'Ravens Wood does Movember' badge for £1 on parent pay. These can then be collected before form, during break or after school from Mr. Parfett in HU3.

Lastly - We would massively appreciate any donations to our efforts this year - All money raised in both competitions and donations will go towards mental health charities tackling the stigma of mental health in males, alongside those helping the early screening and treatment of testicular and prostate cancer. If you would like to donate, please click on the link below or scan the QR code to donate to our team page.

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

Thank you for taking the time to read and support our school community's efforts - Future updates on how we get on and events will be in future editions of the newsletter as well as the schools Twitter account.

Mr. Parfett Head of Psychology







TOP TEN TIPS TO *

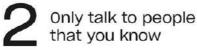




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STAY SAFE ONLINE







Bon't meet up with anyone you have only met online



Only accept friend requests from people you know personally









Always think carefully about what you post





Make use of the privacy settings on all of your social media accounts



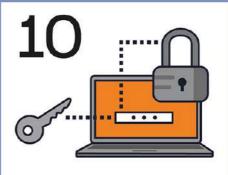
Remember that not everyone online is who they say they are

Report inappropriate content immediately



Only share images that you'd be comfortable with your friends and family seeing





Never share your passwords

Year 9 Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Around the world many children are not in the position to receive gifts this Christmas. Lots of children live in poverty or do not have a family to buy them gifts which often leads to feelings of social exclusion.

This year the Year 9 Citizenship class will be running the Christmas Shoebox Appeal at RWS. As active citizens of our community, the classes will be running this appeal with the aim of making a real difference to the lives of those in need.

How can I support the appeal?

To support the appeal, students can bring in donations to fill shoeboxes at school. Suggested donations include (but are not limited to):

- Sweets
- Small toys
- Jigsaws
- Combs & hair accessories
- Pens/pencils/cases and colouring books
- Toothpaste/brushes/soap/facecloths
- Gloves/Hats/Scarves
- Shoeboxes and wrapping paper.



Donation deadline:

Wednesday 8th November



If you would like to donate to the appeal, please drop donations to HU2 or email jab@rws.uk.net













Co-Curricular Clubs and Activities

https://www.ravenswood.bromley.sch.uk/curriculum/enrichment-curriculum/



In this edition, we shine a spot light on Debate Club





Debate club will give students the opportunity to be involved in a wider conversation around current affairs. It is a great way to discuss what is really going on in the world, therefore enabling you to be more informed about politics and global affairs. We have opportunities to compete in debates and take your oracy skills to the next level!

> Tuesdays at Lunchtime in Room HU12. Cost: FREE All Years welcome, Tutor: Miss Davis



Annual Bebras Computing Challenge

RWS students will be taking part in UK Bebras 2023, introducing computational thinking to students. Last year, over 365,000 students too part in the UK, and over 3 million worldwide!

Students will take part within their year groups for this competition. Certificates are awarded to those who participate and there is an opportunity to be invited to the Oxford University Computing Challenge!

Computer Science lessons. Year 8 and 9 students will be given the opportunity to participate in the event after school. Further information can be found in the letter sent home at the end of last term or by contacting Miss Boswell (tbo@rws.uk.net).

We wish all our students good luck and look forward to sharing our results with you!

Year 8 - Monday 6th November and Wednesday 8th November

Year 9 - Monday 13th November and Wednesday 15th November

Students have also been provided with a link to practice in preparation for the challenge via Show My Homework.

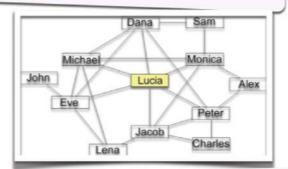
I hope that your son enjoys the challenge and I wish him all the best of luck.

Miss Boswell Head of Computer Science

Try out a challenge Friends Photos

Lucia and her friends are part of an on-line social network.

The diagram below shows the relationships among Lucia and her friends. Each line indicates a friendship.



Lucia sends a photo to some of her friends.

Each of those friends then sends the photo to all of their friends.

Which of the following groups of friends can Lucia send her photo to so that

Jacob is not sent the photo?

Possible Answers:

Dana, Michael, Eve Dana, Eve, Monica Michael, Eve, Jacob Michael, Peter, Monica

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Once again this year we will be selling poppies on behalf of the Royal British Legion. Wearing a poppy is a show of support for the service and sacrifice of our Armed Forces, veterans and their families.

From Monday 6th November until Thursday 9th November students will be able to purchase poppies, snap bands, zip pulls, and wristbands with a suggested donation of 50p to £2.00 at break and lunchtimes from outside the Main Reception.

Thank you in advance for helping us to support this worthy cause.











Ravens Wood School @rw_school · Oct 13





















