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## Message from the Headteacher:

Although 2025 is only 6 weeks old, there's already lots to reflect upon in terms of life at The Weald so far!

I'm thrilled to report that this half-term sees a group of Year 11 students travel to Uganda for our first post-Covid visit to our exchange partner school, Namilyango College. We were delighted to welcome Joe Cummiskey, the CEO and founder of the charity [Hands For Hope](#), to the information evening last month and his presentation to students and parents/carers was awe-inspiring; it certainly whetted students' appetite for the most memorable part of the trip, namely a visit to Joe's school in Namuwongo, Kampala. There, our students will work under the supervision of the local staff to care for - and play with - the sponsored children, including our own Weald-sponsored child Pauline. I look forward to sharing a review of the trip with you in the next issue of E-Weald.

This term is a very busy one for students in Years 11 and 13 as they begin their preparations for final exams in the summer. There is a whole host of intervention, revision and support sessions taking place before, during and after school in all subjects. In response to students' feedback from previous years, we have taken a different approach with this term's Enrichment Day for Year 11 students: instead of having a day in school honing their revision skills, they will have a day off timetable and off site at the 'Out Of Bounds' centre in Angmering! Well-being, team-building and physical exercise are excellent opportunities to re-energise tired brains, so this will be time well spent!

I hope students in all year groups enjoy their enrichment activities on the next Enrichment Day in March. These are just one way in which we try to make 'opportunity and community' a reality.

I invite you to enjoy this issue of E-Weald in which we unashamedly showcase our students' achievements and endeavours.

Mrs Sarah Edwards  
Headteacher

## Trip to CERN

In December 2024, thirteen Year 13 students had the incredible opportunity to visit CERN in Geneva, Switzerland. Known for its ground breaking work in particle physics, CERN is home to the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). The students were able to explore some of the world's most advanced scientific facilities. During their visit, they discovered the science behind the LHC and explored its various spin-off fields, such as quantum physics and the developments in computer science. One fascinating fact they learnt was that the World Wide Web was developed at CERN in 1989 by Tim Berners-Lee, a tool that has revolutionized global communication.

The students also enjoyed a lecture and guided tour of several key facilities at CERN, including the LINAC 2 and LEIR accelerators. These machines, some of which have been in operation since the 1970s, play a crucial role in accelerating particles for research. Additionally, they visited the antimatter decelerator, a facility dedicated to studying the elusive and rare antimatter.

While in Geneva, the students were not only immersed in science but also explored the city's rich history and culture. Their walking tour took them to several iconic locations, including the United Nations headquarters, medieval Geneva, and the botanical gardens. They also visited the Museum of the History of Science, where they learnt about the evolution of scientific knowledge, before taking a scenic boat ride across Lake Geneva, passing the famous Jet d'Eau fountain.

This trip to CERN and Geneva was a memorable experience for the students, combining cutting-edge science with a deep dive into the city's cultural and historical significance.

Mr L Hearnden  
Director of Science



## Parent Voice Partnership

The next meeting is **5pm Thursday 13 March** and all are welcome. Items can be raised for discussion via [parents@theweald.org.uk](mailto:parents@theweald.org.uk). All previous meeting minutes can be found [here on our website](#).

# Recognition

Following the great success of our revitalised behaviour for learning policy 5 years ago, based around the work of Paul Dix and Kit Messenger, we have started to revamp our rewards policy. This policy will sit alongside our Behaviour for Learning Policy building on the influential relationships we have with our young people.

The purpose of the policy is to set a framework for rewards within which the academic, sporting, social, cultural and personal achievements of students can be recognised, rewarded, celebrated and shared with parents/carers.

Philosophically we much prefer the notion of recognition over reward. A team of staff and students will be exploring what other schools do and discussing ideas. The aim is to find personal, regular and attainable strategies that recognise students' effort and achievements. Currently we have ten ideas that will go to the school council for feedback. As you can imagine, some of these come with a financial cost, so should you or a company be willing to donate or sponsor these ideas on an annual basis please do email me at [scatt@theweald.org.uk](mailto:scatt@theweald.org.uk). However the bulk of our ideas are free, personal feel good ideas, securing the strong relationships we have with our young people.

Here are a few ideas to whet your appetite:

Lucky Wheel for 100% fortnightly attendance



Head of Year celebration event (movie with popcorn or football competition)



Handwritten Friday Postcard



In Year 11 we have also launched a reward scheme which is proving to be very popular. We do not underestimate the amount of hard work and determination that is required of our students and so we wish to reward them for this. Each student has been given a reward stamp card, which their teachers can sign. They will collect signatures for excellent revision including: attending revision, catch up or extra intervention sessions, completing extra past paper or practice questions and for completing excellent and effective RED Review (these are a set of revision strategies which

really work!).



Once students collect 10 signatures, they can present their card and swap it for a range of rewards such as sweets, chocolate, stationery as well as a range of reward tokens. These include tokens to claim rewards such as choosing prom songs, lunch queue jump passes, access to the 6th Form pool table and wearing non uniform items.



Students are already claiming their rewards and we are excited to see everything that they can achieve as a result.

Mr S Catt  
Deputy Headteacher

Miss A Cortizo  
Deputy Headteacher

# Sparx Maths

Well done to the following students for getting to the top of the Monthly Sparx Maths leaderboards! Sparx Champions will receive a certificate from their Maths teacher.

## December 2025

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Irmak K Amelie S Isaac E Lily G Hugo W	Freya W Rose B Kayden H Scarlett T Chloe C	Beau H Billy C Daisy A Zac D Paige L	Daniella K Amber N Lulu W Stanley P Bodhi D	William S Kai B Daisy W Hannah A Jessy P

## January 2025

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Hugo W Amelie S Skye T Heidi B Irmak K	Rose B Chloe C Ben N Toby W Freya W	Dylan P Beau H Archie H Maxim T Levi R	Mollie P Celestte P Ava J Freddie B Summer W	Mia L James G Grace P Jessica B James T

**CONGRATULATIONS**

on becoming a Renaissance Accelerated Reader

**WORD MILLIONAIRE**

Our KS3 students continue to make excellent progress with the Accelerated Reader Programme. We are delighted to announce that we now have four more 'Word Millionaires' in Key Stage 3!

Jessica G. is joined by Sienna B. (1,688,593 words), Stanley B. (1,395,766 words), Harriet J. (1,199,326 words), and Joshua McD (1,197,877 words).

All students receive the prestigious 'Word Millionaire' badge to wear on their blazers with pride and will be invited to a celebratory event with other 'Word Millionaires' in the summer term. Well done!

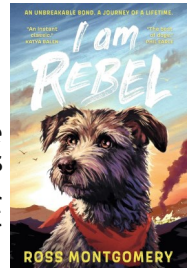


## Recommended Reads

Encouraging our child to switch off their phone and to read is always going to be a tough battle. Did you know that children who read books regularly at age 10 and more than once a week at age 16 gain higher results in maths, vocabulary and spelling tests at age 16 than those who read less regularly? Children who are read to or read for 20 minutes a day are exposed to 1.8 million words per year. Here are some recommendations for you:

### KS3 *I am Rebel* by Ross Montgomery AR Level 4.1

"I'm Tom's dog, and he's my human. We belong to each other." Rebel is a good dog, and he loves his simple, perfect life on the farm with his owner Tom - until one day the war comes too close... Now Tom is determined to join the rebellion to defeat the king's men. But Rebel knows war is dangerous, and he will stop at nothing to save the human he loves. Rebel must bring Tom home before it's too late.

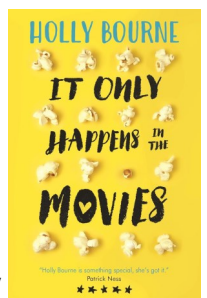


### KS4 *It Only Happens at the Movies* by Holly Bourne AR level 4.

The greatest love story ever told doesn't feature kissing in the snow or racing to airports. It features pain and confusion and hope and wonder and a ban on cheesy clichés. Oh, and zombies...

Bad boys turned good, kisses in the rain, climbing through bedroom windows... It only happens in the movies.

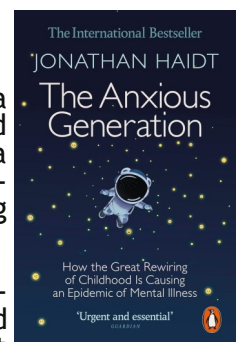
When Audrey meets Harry, it's the start of a truly cinematic romance - or is it? Audrey knows that Harry is every movie cliché rolled into one. But she still chooses to let him into her heart...



### KS5 and Adult *The Anxious generation* by Jonathan Haidt

From 2010, as teens traded in their flip phones for smartphones packed with social media apps, unsupervised time online soared while face-to-face conversations with friends and family plummeted, and so did mental health. This profound shift took place against a backdrop of diminishing childhood freedom and over-supervision in the real world, depriving children of the experiences they most need to become strong and self-governing adults.

*The Anxious Generation* delves into the latest research to show how this shift from free-play to smartphones disrupts development - from sleep deprivation to addiction - and lays the foundations of isolation and fear that define society today. Grounded in ancient wisdom and packed full of cutting-edge science and practical advice, this eye-opening book is a life-raft for anyone who wants to understand how the most rapid rewiring of human relationships and consciousness in human history has made it harder for all of us to think, focus, forget ourselves enough to care about others and build close relationships.



Ms A Robertson  
LRC Manager

## Health/Medical Updates

It's important that the school is informed of any changes in your child's medical condition. Please email the school ([studentreception@theweald.org.uk](mailto:studentreception@theweald.org.uk)) with any health updates about your child.





## Sporting Success



Date	Fixture	Result and info
13/1/25	U16 Girls Football	Lost 3-1 vs Tanbridge (League game)
22/1/25	U14 Girls Football	Won 5-0 at home vs Forest (League game)
22/1/25	U19 Football	Won 5-4 vs Shoreham Academy
27/1/25	Y7 Girls Football	Won 7-0 at home vs St Pauls (League game)
28/1/25	U14 Girls Football	Lost 3-0 away vs St Pauls (League game)
26/1/25	Gymnastics	Competed in Aberdour regional gymnastics vault and floor. U14s Girls U14s Mixed team- 1st overall U19s Mixed team- 1st overall
3/2/25	U16 Girls Football	Lost 3-2 at home vs Burgess Hill Academy (League game) a very close game
6/2/25	U13 Girls Football	District 6-a-side tournament. The team played extremely well losing only two games. We lost narrowly to Bohunt Horsham and then to the eventual winners of the tournament, Oathall, beating Millais to finish third in the group.



### Year 10 Work Experience

Students will be undertaking work experience during ACE Week, 30th June - 4th July 2025 and are responsible for sourcing and securing their own placements.

We have around 300 Year 10 students hoping to secure a placement with employers in the local community and slightly further afield. With other local secondary schools competing for placements during the same week, it is important students are reaching out to employers to ask for placements and avoid leaving it until the last minute.

We are always looking for employers who are happy to offer our young people the opportunity to join them on placement. If you are willing and able to support our work experience programme then please do feel free to email me [kobrien@thewelad.org.uk](mailto:kobrien@thewelad.org.uk) to discuss

### **Y10 Career Interviews**

Career Interviews are still ongoing for our Year 10 students and will continue throughout the rest of the academic year. Please encourage your child to attend their appointment. An email appointment is sent out the day before to students' school email addresses, alongside a reminder slip. Please do speak to Miss O'Brien if you have any questions or queries or require any support [kobrien@theweald.org.uk](mailto:kobrien@theweald.org.uk).

### **Year 12 Work Experience**

A gentle reminder that Year 12 work experience is fast approaching and the deadline to complete placements on Unifrog is Friday 14 February 2025. Placements are hard to secure and it is a big ask of any employer but remember it isn't always about securing a placement to support your future career. Think about the skills that might be useful for your future and what other opportunities might help you secure some of these.

I would urge students to upload their placements onto Unifrog as soon as possible. Please do speak to Miss O'Brien if you have any questions or queries or require any support [kobrien@theweald.org.uk](mailto:kobrien@theweald.org.uk)

### **Year 12 Personal Statements**

Whether you are considering university, apprenticeships, a gap year or employment at Post 18 it is still hugely beneficial and highly recommended that you complete your draft personal statement on Unifrog. You will look at this in greater depth during tutor time and RHPD sessions but ideally you will need to have started this by early May, continuing through the summer ready for the start of Year 13.

The Sixth Form Team and Miss O'Brien are on hand to support and encourage students with this.

### **Unifrog**

All students have a Unifrog account which they are supported with and encouraged to access during RHPD, curriculum subjects and in their own time.

**Unifrog** is an online destinations platform The Weald uses with students across our careers programme to support them with researching their study and employment interests.

Students can progressively add to their accounts and this can provide students with regular opportunities to reflect on their achievements inside and outside of school, and collect a body of evidence to demonstrate the employability skills they have developed over time. This can, in turn, be used by students to support their next steps after Year 11 and Year 13, including applying for apprenticeships, employment, and further and higher education studies.

### **National Apprenticeship Week 2025 : 10th Feb - 14th Feb 2025**

Students have been gaining a deeper insight and understanding into the world of apprenticeships and T Levels during tutor time with various quizzes to test their knowledge!

### **Future Choices Fair - Thursday 6th March 2025**

On Thursday 6th March, The Weald will be hosting its annual careers fair which will see around 30 exhibitors ranging from HE providers, training providers, FE colleges and employers who all come together to help students explore their future choices.

Students will spend time engaging with exhibitors to gain deeper insights into the options available to them as well as finding out about qualification requirements, career pathways, entry routes and much more.

Students will have the opportunity to speak to organisations such as: The British Army, Thakeham Homes, Creative Technology, Arun Vet Group, University of Chichester, Kingston University, The Weald Sixth Form, Coco's Styles and many more. If you would be interested in showcasing your industry/ career at our Future Choices Fair then please do email Miss K O'Brien [kobrien@theweald.org.uk](mailto:kobrien@theweald.org.uk)

Miss K O'Brien  
Careers Manager



THE WEALD SCHOOL PRESENTS

# WEALD Summer Fair FEST

SATURDAY 19 JULY

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT:

- LIVE MUSIC
- DOG SHOW
- FOOD STALLS
- DRINK STALLS
- INFLATABLES

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

THE WEALD SECONDARY SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM, STATION ROAD  
DOORS OPEN AT 11.00AM

TEL: 01403 787200 EMAIL: INFO@WEALDFEST.CO.UK  
WWW.WEALDFEST.CO.UK

## Weald Fest 2025

We are thrilled to announce that The Weald School will be holding a Summer Fair for the FIRST TIME EVER.

Weald Fest is going to be a fun filled event for all the family that promises exciting activities, games, delicious food and a whole lot of community spirit. Mark your calendars for Saturday 19 July, as we come together to raise funds for The Wealds Charitable trust.

[www.wealdfest.co.uk](http://www.wealdfest.co.uk)

THE WEALD SCHOOL PRESENTS

# WEALD Summer Fair FEST

SATURDAY 19 JULY

**Dog Show Class Sponsorship**  
£50 per class

**GOLD Sponsorship**  
Full page advert in programme  
Double stall at Weald Fest  
1 x e-Weald mentions (May Edition)  
5 x Social Media posts & logo on website  
Banner up at school for 3 months  
£500

**SILVER Sponsorship**  
Full page advert in programme  
Single table Weald Fest  
1 x e-Weald mentions (May Edition)  
3 x Social Media posts & logo on website  
Banner up at school for 2 months  
£350

**BRONZE Sponsorship**  
Half page advert in programme  
1 x e-Weald mentions (May Edition)  
1 x Social Media posts & logo on website  
Banner up at school for 1 month  
£200

**Donate a Raffle prize**

**Your company logo in the school's e-Weald newsletter & on any social media posts about Weald Fest**  
£30

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT  
INFO@WEALDFEST.COM  
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE WEALD CHARITABLE TRUST



## Support for your child

**childline**

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME  
childline.org.uk | 0800 1111

Childline is free, confidential and available for anyone under the age of 19.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Call: 0800 1111

**YOUNG MINDS**

Youngminds is a charity that can support both children and adults. Further details are available on their website.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>

**SAMARITANS**

Whatever you're going through, a Samaritan can help. Contact details are available on their website:

<https://www.samaritans.org/>

Call: 116 123

**NHS**

Local NHS mental health helpline offers help and advice with a mental health professional. Support is available 24/7

Call: 0800 030 9500

**e-wellbeing**  
POWERED BY  
YMCA Downlink Group

E-Wellbeing is a digital wellbeing support service for young people run by the YMCA Downlink group.

<https://e-wellbeing.co.uk/>

**CEOP**  
Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre

Get advice and report online abuse issues via the CEOP website.

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre>

**Well-Being at The Weald**

The well-being team at The Weald have put together a comprehensive set of resources and links which can be found at this website.

<https://sites.google.com/theweald.org.uk/well-being-the-weald/home>

**CALM HARM**

Provides tasks that can help you resist the temptation to self-harm.

<https://calmharm.co.uk/>

**Mindshift**

Mindshift aims to help you learn how to relax and develop new ways of thinking in order to help your anxiety.

<https://www.anxietycanada.com/resources/mindshift-cbt/>

## Dates for your Diary

DATE	EVENT
24 February	First day of half term (Week B)
13 March	Parent Voice meeting
19 March	Enrichment Day 2
3 April	Last day of spring term
4 April	Inset Day
22 April	First day of term (Week B)

*If you are interested in the Parent Voice Partnership, please email [parents@theweald.org.uk](mailto:parents@theweald.org.uk)*

*To suggest content for the next issue of e-Weald, please email*

[kferrone@theweald.org.uk](mailto:kferrone@theweald.org.uk)



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<http://twitter.com/TheWeald>



<https://www.instagram.com/>