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Message from the Headteacher:

As the summer term, and indeed the academic year, draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect upon just a few of our students' fantastic achievements since the last newsletter.

One of the tremendous highlights in our school calendar is, without doubt, our Alternative Curriculum Enrichment Week and this year was no exception. As you know, the opportunities on offer are varied and multiple for all students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 12. Every year, colleagues report back on students' engagement with and attitude towards the activities from the week; this feedback is always overwhelmingly positive, but this year was truly remarkable: every single member of staff reported that their students had been simply excellent throughout the week. This, along with hearing from the students themselves that they have learnt new skills and made new friends, underlines the importance of this week for our community. We are proud of the character our students develop and we know that this is just as important as the strong exam results they leave us with.

I would like to thank all staff for their commitment and energy they put into our ACE Week, but in particular I must highlight Miss Sperring as our Enrichment Coordinator for her passion and vision - and the ability to make our ethos a reality.

I would also like to thank you, our parents and carers, for your support throughout another busy term and year; your feedback in the recent survey and in the Parent View survey during our autumn term inspection helps us to continue to make adjustments so that we ensure our students, your children, have the best educational experiences we can provide. This is all the more important at a time when budgets are reducing (in real terms). However, whilst our finances may be dwindling, our enthusiasm and dedication remain absolutely rock solid!

This summer sees some highly valued colleagues leave us for the next stage in their lives: Mr Rumpus (Teacher of Maths), Mr Phillips (Head of our Ready To Learn hub), Ms Croft-Wang (Teacher of English), Mrs Pelling (Teacher of Maths), Miss Austin (Head of Languages), Mrs Heather (Director of Maths); and finally Mrs Catchpole (Teacher of English and Health & Social Care) who is retiring after 20 years' service at the school. We thank all of these staff for their hard work and dedication throughout their time at The Weald and wish them all the best in their next steps.

Mrs Sarah Edwards
Headteacher



Message from Chair of Governors

Earlier this term, we conducted our annual stakeholder surveys. We received responses from 75 parents/carers which is a very small proportion of our community. We recognise this is likely to be because a much larger number of families (347 parents/carers) responded to the Ofsted Parent View survey in October when the school was inspected so we have taken these responses into consideration as well. In addition, the governing body regularly discusses the feedback collected through the Parent Partnership and parent learning walks.

The survey responses were extremely positive; most notably 87% of parents/carers would recommend the school. This is exactly the same percentage in both the Ofsted survey and the one conducted by governors and represents an increase of 5% compared with last year.

Your feedback has been summarised as follows:

Areas of Strength

- The school's **ethos, values and expectations** were reported to be strengths of the school.
- The vast majority of parents reported that their child feels **safe** and is **happy** at school.
- Most parents agree their **child does well** at The Weald and that the **school lets you know how they are getting on**.
- You told us that the school offers a **good range of subjects** and there is a broad **range of clubs** and activities on offer. The school's support for your child's wider **personal development** was also viewed positively.
- **Communication** is considered to be a strength, in particular the headteacher's weekly video update.

Areas for Development

- Although 82% of parents who responded to the Ofsted survey agreed that the school makes them aware of **what their child will learn** during the year, some parents/carers in the recent survey indicated that they would like more information.

I have met with Mrs Edwards to discuss the surveys in more detail. There is a lot of information about the school's curriculum on the website, including a curriculum overview ('map') for each subject and a detailed outline of the curriculum for each subject and year group. However, we recognise that regular signposting to these resources would be helpful.

As a school, we are committed to continuous improvement to support your child's education and well-being. We are always looking for ways to improve our offer for students so that we can deliver on our ethos of 'opportunity and community'.

Thank you for participating in our annual survey and for your continued support of the school.

Mrs N Walters
Chair of Governors

Parent Voice Partnership

Items can be raised for discussion via parents@theweald.org.uk. All previous meeting minutes can be found [here on our website](#)



How are we engaging students in their own performance?

In my last e-Weald article in December 2024, I wrote about our introduction of the ‘Student 6Rs’ this year. These are simple steps which students can use in the classroom and at home to better understand how they learn and, therefore, why we teach in the way that we do.

We have been working with students in a range of ways to help them to understand and use these 6 simple 6Rs steps. This includes assemblies, tutor time and RHPD reflection activities as well as Head of Year lesson visits and celebrations of student work for our ‘working well wall’.

In December, I shared one particularly exciting development we have introduced to encourage students to engage with their own assessment performance and tracking reports. They have been completing these reflections in their RHPD lessons in the form of a ‘tracking wrapper’.

What is a ‘tracking wrapper’?

- A wrapper is a student reflection tool which ‘wraps’ assessment by students reflecting on their input in relation to the outcomes/results.
- Students may sometimes complete these in individual subjects as ‘exam wrappers’, but we have begun to use them for students to reflect on their assessment preparation and tracking reports.

How do students complete their ‘tracking wrappers’?

- Students complete a Google Form on chromebooks in RHPD lessons after each tracking point (which includes assessment data)
- This produces a PDF of their answers, which is then emailed to them
- The Heads of Year can then analyse these responses on an individual and year group level. This helps them to support their year groups and to put in place targeted intervention with the learning mentor team.
- These PDFs can then be used as a discussion point at the start of those interventions

Students are reflecting across 4 areas and set themselves targets for how to improve on this in their next set of assessments and reports.

What have we learnt and what will we do about it?

So far this year, we have had 1,320 completed reflections.

Section 1 - Assessment prep	Section 2 - Doing the assessments	Section 3 - Tracking Reflections	Section 4 - Looking ahead to next assessments and tracking
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We have learnt: Most students report beginning revision around 2-3 weeks before the assessments for around 30 minutes per subject, per week. However, some students feel they get homework at the same time as revision, which is challenging.

We plan to: Make it really clear to students and families that all teachers set revision/RED Review homework ONLY in the 4 weeks leading up to assessments. By doing this HW, they are revising for 4 weeks!

We have learnt: Students are increasingly confident in knowing and using effective RED Review strategies when preparing for assessments. However, some are still using forms of notes, which are less effective (e.g. summarising in notes, re-reading or highlighting notes).

We plan to: Continue to show students what effective RED Review looks like in each subject. Teachers will walk and talk students through these techniques so they grow more confident and do the things which will really help learning to stick!

How are we engaging students in their own performance? (continued)

We have learnt: Where students reflect on their performance and set themselves targets, many of these are around the completion of assessment preparation homework in the lead up to their assessments.

We plan to: Keep sharing our resources with parents & carers so that they can continue to support this process at home. Our resources are [here](#) on our website, including [this directory of all knowledge organisers](#) for every subject, by year group.

How can parents/carers use 'tracking wrappers' with their child/ren?

1. Please ask your child to show you their PDF, print it out or email it to you - it is in their Weald email account.
2. Discuss and review this with your child/ren. You could ask them:
3. Tell me about how you prepared for your assessments?
4. Did your assessment preparation mean you were confident going into those assessments?
5. Did your confidence match your results?
6. Which RED review strategies did you use and were they effective?
7. What targets have you set yourself for your next assessments?
8. Remember to revisit this when they are preparing for their next assessments to remind them of the targets they have set themselves.

Miss A Cortizo
Deputy Headteacher

New School Rewards Banner

Following the great success of our revitalised Behaviour for Learning Policy five years ago, we have now finalised our new rewards system. This has been created in the form of a classroom *Rewards Banner* (see below). *The new system will sit alongside our Behaviour for Learning Policy, helping to build on the important relationships we have with our young people.*

This year, a team of staff and students looked at ways we could regularly recognise and reward effort and positive actions. We looked at a range of ideas, including what other schools are doing – such as students' own primary schools – and agreed on the best approach. Here are some of our students' favourite rewards:

- Biscuits with Bonnie (the school dog)
- The Shackleton Award for perseverance
- Head of Year reward events (movie night, football competition etc)
- Personal handwritten commendation from your Head of Year or Head of House (with a postcard and sweets)
- Winning The Weald Card (for positive signatures) draw includes playing pool in the Sixth Form with a friend or choosing your seat in a subject for a week!

The new rewards system has been designed to be personal and regular to give students achievable recognition and rewards. The system focuses on students getting the basics right every day. The currency is House Points with a clear tiered system that has increasing rewards to share with friends.

We welcome your support to encourage students at school, and to help celebrate their academic, sporting, social, cultural and personal achievements in the coming academic year of 2025-2026!

Rewards at The Weald



Annually	Annual House Cup End of year celebration for the winning house in their final double lesson. Gold Awards Nominated by teachers for effort, and by subject leaders B & SLT for achievement. Food with Friends 1000+ HPs = go for food with a friend during a lesson, or make smores in Forest School.
Termly	Shackleton Awards Nominations from all staff. Tracking Awards Bronze, Silver and Gold awards after tracking. House Cup Prizes for attendance, ATL, Golden Weald Card (positive signatures prize draw), reading classics. Biscuits with Bonnie Top 10 highest HPs from each year group (no repeats).
Half Termly	House Point Certificates Postcard and sweets for 100/250/500/750/1000 HPs. HoY Reward Events E.g. movie, sports, picnic in the reflection garden, party games.
Fortnightly	100% Attendance Prize draw in house assembly: sweets, 5 minutes of freedom, resin gift. Commendation Handwritten postcard + sweets + 5HPs Week A - HoY x3 Week B - HoY x3 5 minutes of freedom Students can leave 5 mins early with a friend. Staff write 1 fortnightly when streaming assembly (or up to 3 postcards per HT if spaced differently).
Daily	House Points For being RRWS. Students receive an extra house point for each day without behaviour hits. Positive Signatures Full card = 4HPs & entry to the 'Golden Weald Card' prize draw at the end of term.

Classrooms for Kenya



Classrooms for Kenya is a charity that was set up in 2006 by former members of staff at The Weald. It has been encouraging our students from West Sussex to fundraise money to pay for construction of classrooms in schools in the Kitale area of Transnzoia County (North-West region of Kenya). Some of our Sixth Form students travel out each summer and get involved with the local communities, helping to develop connection and a greater understanding of different cultures. Our students learn that although there seem to be more differences than similarities at first, in fact the people in Kitale have dreams about what they want to do with their life, and in fact are more alike than not.

This year the team will be led by Mr Erricker (Maths) and a team of 6 other teachers and support staff. They will be setting off on the 18th July and return on the 4th August. The 41 Y12 students are all aiming to raise £400 each for the charity through all sorts of different means - car washes, bake sales, drink sales, sponsored swims, walks and runs. So far this year, we have managed to raise £7000. The aim is to raise £20,000 by the time they fly in July.



This money all goes to the construction of permanent, brick built classrooms, often replacing structures that are either temporary or not fit for purpose. This image shows a classroom at Bikeke School, where we will aim to replace it with something like the image below.



This is the classroom we started building last July in Transnzoia Mixed High School.

In order to reach our target, we include all of the lower school years as well. Every year in July, we hold our Sponsored Walk. This takes the whole school (Years 7 - 10) on a 15km hike around the field surrounding Billingshurst. We will be encouraging all students who are able, to take part, and encourage them to get sponsored by friends and family members.

To help with this, I have included the links to the Just Giving pages for each House. If you can donate, and would like to, please choose your child's House and in the comments section, please do put your child's name, so that we can recognise and celebrate their fundraising efforts.

Attenborough - <https://www.justgiving.com/page/theweald-attenborough-house>

Blackman - <https://www.justgiving.com/page/weald-blackman-house>

Da Vinci - <https://www.justgiving.com/page/weald-davinci-house>

Mercury - <https://www.justgiving.com/page/weald-mercury-house>

Seacole - <https://www.justgiving.com/page/weald-seacole-house>

Thompson - <https://www.justgiving.com/page/weald-thompson-house>

Sixth Form - <https://www.justgiving.com/page/weald-sixthform-house>

Thank you for anything that you are able to donate, I can promise you that it goes towards supporting others as well as developing our young people into caring, responsible and kind members of our society.

Mr N Dixon
C4K School Organiser



Sporting Success



Date	Fixture	Result and info
4/6/2025	Year 8 Boys Cricket v Forest	First game of the year for the Year 8's, Some Good performances with the bat from Henry and Max. Jack bowled with real pace. Forest won by 8 wickets after some excellent batting from their opener.
17/6/2025	Reg Clarke games (athletics) Y8, 9 & Y10	Some great performances in the heat, 6th out of 11 schools overall. Well done to all athletes who came and represented the school. Notable performances from; Joanna came 3rd in the Junior Girls 100m, Daniel came 3rd in the Inter Boys 200m, Mae came 1st in the Inter Girls 200m, Harry came 3rd in Inter boys 800m, Jasmine 3rd in the Junior girls High Jump, Freddie came 1st in the inter boys Triple Jump, Elodie 2nd in the Junior girls shot putt, Adam 1st in the Inter boys Discus, Ava 2nd in the Inter girls Discus, Henry 2nd in the Junior boys Javelin and 3rd Inter Boys 4x400m relay team.
24/6/25	Y8 Super 6 Athletics	Well done to the 8 Athletes who took part in this event, all of them doubling up on track or field events. The Weald came 3rd place overall.



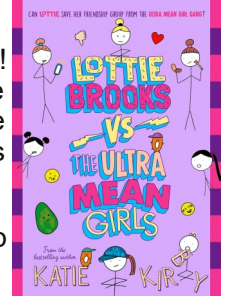
Recommended Reads

As we approach the last few weeks of the Summer term, it can seem busy with Sponsored walk, Sports Week, ACE week, Gold Awards and at times our minds are so busy with deadlines and events. Take time to rest your mind with a good book this summer. Reading over the break will ensure that your vocabulary skills are increased and your mental wellbeing has time to relax.

KS3 Lottie Brooks Vs the Ultra Mean Girls by Katie Kirby

Just when Lottie thought life might be going back to normal, everything goes wrong again! Amber's hanging out with the Ultra Mean Girl Gang at school and is completely ignoring the Queens of Eight Green. Mum's gone back to work and expects Lottie to 'help around the house more', Bella keeps biting everyone and Pot Noodle will not stop sniffing every dog's bum. DISASTER!

Now Lottie has to come up with a foolproof plan to get Amber back before her friendship group is destroyed forever. What could go wrong???



KS4 As Good As Dead by Holly Jackson



Pip Fitz-Amobi is haunted by the way her last investigation ended. Soon she'll be leaving for Cambridge University but then another case finds her . . . and this time it's all about Pip. Pip is used to online death threats, but there's one that catches her eye, someone who keeps asking: *who will look for you when you're the one who disappears? And it's not just online.* Pip has a stalker who knows where she lives. The police refuse to act and then Pip finds connections between her stalker and a local serial killer. The killer has been in prison for six years, but Pip suspects that the wrong man is behind bars. As the deadly game plays out, Pip realises that everything in Little Kilton is finally coming full circle. If Pip doesn't find the answers, this time she will be the one who disappears . . .

KS5 and Adult You Are Here by David Nicholls

Sometimes you need to get lost to find your way...

Marnie is stuck.

Stuck working alone in her London flat, stuck battling the long afternoons and a life that often feels like it's passing her by.

Michael is coming undone.

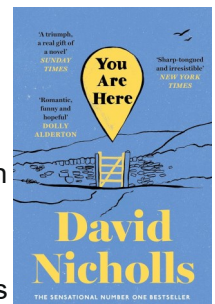
Reeling from his wife's departure, increasingly reclusive, taking himself on long, solitary walks across the moors and fells.

When a persistent mutual friend and some very English weather conspire to bring them together, Marnie and Michael suddenly find themselves alone on the most epic of walks and on the precipice of a new friendship.

But can they survive the journey?

It's been a short half term but our Year 7 and 8s have enjoyed reading during their library lessons. We have launched a new Year 9 and 10 Young Adult Book Club on a Wednesday after school in LRC (biscuits available.) As we enter exam season a way to relax and avoid screen time is to sit down with a book, even for half an hour a day. Researchers at the University of Sussex found that reading for just 6 minutes a day can reduce stress levels by 68%.

Ms A Robertson
LRC Manager



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.

May 2025				
Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Irmak K Alice W Isaac E Georgie R Niamh L	Rose B Jayne K Chloe C Freya W Olivia B	Billy C Nathan H Ella G Beau H Jonah P	Megan C Victor W Paige U Neerav C <u>Celeste P</u>	James G Saskia N Jessica B Emily W Abbie C

June 2025			
Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Hugo W Lotti M Heidi B Becky A Maisie P	Chloe C Freya W Jayne K Lucas S Niamh P	Beau H Dylan P Ella G Megan W Buddy E	Monty H Izzy H Ellie W Mollie P Millie W



CONGRATULATIONS

on becoming a Renaissance Accelerated Reader

WORD MILLIONAIRE

Accelerated Reader Word Millionaires

Our KS3 students have made fantastic progress with the Accelerated Reader Programme this year. Since September, Year 7 & 8 students have read a fantastic 50,442,907 words!

We now have 15 'Word Millionaires' with the addition of Neve L. (1,567,068 words), Jasmine J. (1,075,356 words), Olivia R. (1,013,685 words), and Thomas N. (1,003,027 words). Our two 'Word Multi-Millionaires' have been joined by one more student, Sophia S. (2,374,563 words). All of them have been invited to the much anticipated celebration event - an exclusive celebratory pizza lunch in the library. Many congratulations to all our 'Word Millionaires' of 2024-25! We are very proud of you.



Greenpower Racing

2 Podiums and oh so close!

Hopes were high for the Weald Greenpower Racing Team as we headed to the Lotus test track at Hethel in Norfolk. We had a great result in 2024 and we hoped to repeat this after recent improving form. We took our #1 and #2 cars, Bluebird and Purple Predator and a small team including 3 drivers for each car plus 3 pit crew so it was all hands to the pump for pitstops. Bluebird ran well in practice but Purple Predator suffered some electrical gremlins which limited our time. The first race began and Bluebird leapt to the front and stayed there, finishing the race a lap clear of the rest of the field, Purple had a frantic rewire and started the race 30 mins late, this meant we could go full power for 60 minutes and not worry about dropoff; a truly heroic drive followed which saw Purple climb to an impressive 19 place (having started 33rd and 6 laps down!)

The afternoon was much more plain sailing with both cars behaving and the team working like clockwork to rack up a total of 20 laps for Bluebird and 19 for Purple Predator which netted us 1st and 2nd places overall. (Bluebird hit a top speed of 30mph with Purple at 29mph).

Our next race was Bedford Autodrome, this time we took Purple Predator and car #3 X. Both cars suffered gremlins in race 1, this time a chain issue for Purple and electrics for X. The cars both finished well (Purple in 5th and X in 12th) with X picking up the fastest lap of the race too.

The afternoon race was a different story, both cars went off at the start like rockets and were running well until a red flag stopped the race for 15 minutes. Once the race restarted, both cars ran well to the finish with the team again working like clockwork (even though it was a largely different team to the one we took to Lotus) and the cars finished a solid 1st and 2nd, unfortunately even though both cars completed 27 laps, the morning winners had completed 29 (no red flag in the morning) so the trophies were theirs.

Racing isn't all about winning and we couldn't have asked for more from the team, we'll certainly go back to Bedford next year, we've got unfinished business there!

We've recently launched a JustGiving page to support the building of our new workshop. Thank you to all those who have already donated to us, it feels like we're making real progress on our target. Donations are gratefully received at [justgiving.com/page/teamwealdworkshop](https://www.justgiving.com/page/teamwealdworkshop)

Team Weald is a Greenpower Racing Team that runs as an afterschool club for The Weald Secondary School. There are 2 formulas that we race in, F24 for ages 11-16 and F24+ for ages 16-25. The aim of both is to see how far you can get your car to go on a single set of batteries (2 x 12V lead acid). F24 has pit stops and lasts for 1.5 hours, F24+ is a single driver for 1 hour.

If you would be interested in learning more about the team or any aspect of Greenpower then please contact cevans@theweald.org.uk.

You can see Team Weald at www.teamweald.org.uk or on Instagram @teamweald

Mr C Evans
Greenpower Team Coordinator





Weald Fest is THIS Weekend - Join the Fun and Support Our School!

We're incredibly excited to welcome you to **Weald Fest**, taking place this **Saturday at The Weald School**! It promises to be a fantastic day filled with fun, entertainment, and community spirit - all in support of **The Weald School Charitable Trust**.

- **Date:** This Saturday 19th July
- **Location:** The Weald School field - **Parking available on the field off Luxford Way**
- **Gates open at 11am**
- **Entry:** £1 for adults, **free for children**

For full details [please click here to view our programme](#)

What's On?

There's something for everyone at Weald Fest, including:

- Bird of Prey Display
- Classic & Modern Car Showcase
- Craft Stalls
- BBQ
- Ice Creams
- Drinks Stalls
- Fairground Rides
- Inflatables
- Live Music

Why It Matters

We're acutely aware of the financial challenges facing education. Despite rising student numbers, government funding continues to fall short. Events like Weald Fest are vital for raising funds that directly support our students and school community.

Funds raised will help us purchase essential resources including a **second minibus**, **books**, and **classroom equipment** that benefit students and ease pressure on stretched departmental budgets.



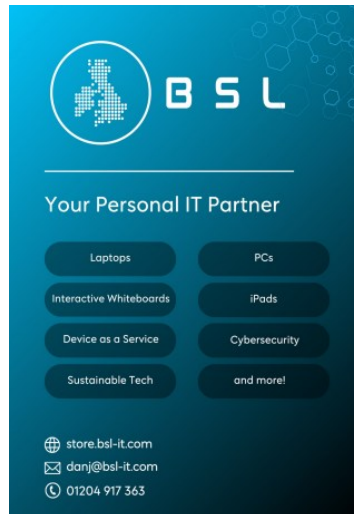


Special Thanks to Our Sponsors

We couldn't host Weald Fest without the incredible support of local businesses. A heartfelt **thank you** to:

- **Microtek Ltd** - An expert IT solutions company providing services such as IT support, hardware supply, network design, and system integration for businesses of all sizes.
- **GB Glazing** - A trusted, family-run glazing company with over 35 years' experience. They offer expert window and door installations, repairs, and a 10-year guarantee. FENSA registered for peace of mind.
- **Tom the Fish** - Delivering premium frozen fish, seafood, and meats straight to your door. Known for quality, convenience, and sustainability, and trusted by high-profile customers.
- **iPro Security** - Provides professional event security, door supervision, cleaning services, and industry training. From local venues to national events like Goodwood, they bring a friendly, reliable approach to every job.
- **Colbrans Home Solutions** - Stress free removals you can trust
- **Focus Group** - A UK-based technology and communications provider offering IT support, cloud services, phone systems, broadband, and mobile solutions tailored for modern businesses.

We can't wait to see you this Saturday. Bring your family, invite your neighbours, and come ready to enjoy a great day out while making a real difference for our school! (www.wealdfest.co.uk)



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 Down-sink Group

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

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

CEOP

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
4 September	Year 7 & 12 only
5 September	First day of term
18 September	Open Evening—Early school finish
19 September	Inset day
24 October	End of term
3 November	Start of term



If you are interested in the Parent Voice Partnership, please email parents@theweald.org.uk

To suggest content for the next issue of e-Weald, please email kferrone@theweald.org.uk



www.facebook.com/TheWealdSchool/



<http://twitter.com/TheWeald>



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