

Contents	
Message from Chair of Governors	2
Year 7 Welcomes a New Chapter continued..	2
Habits and routines	3
Better Billingshurst	3
Sparx Maths	4
Calling all Graphic Designers	4
Recommended Reads	5
Sporting Success	6
Careers	7
'Great Expectations – Our annual school production	8
The Weald Charitable Trust	8
#HelloYellow	9
Support for your child, Dates for your Diary	10

Message from the Headteacher:

As this first, unusually long, half-term draws to a close, I'm sure all of our young people are ready for a short break. They have certainly made an excellent start to this academic year: our new Year 7 students (all 309 of them!) have settled in very well and Year 12 has been growing by the week, from 155 at the start of September to 174 at last count, as so many have returned to us from other colleges. Whichever year group they are in, students have been busy contributing to the life of the school community.

We have welcomed many visitors already this year: all parents/carers for either the 'Meet The Tutor' or the 'Welcome To The Year' events; Year 6 children with their parents/carers for our Open Evening, when, as always, our student tour guides and helpers absolutely shone; Year 7 parents/carers for our 'Morning In The Life' event; parents/carers for the first Parent Partnership meeting of the year; and, most recently, parents/carers of Year 11 students for our Sixth Form Open Evening. It is a great privilege to run these events for our community and the positive feedback we receive is enormously appreciated by all staff. Please remember, don't wait until one of these formal events to get in touch with us if you are concerned about anything. Please have a look at the '[Contact us](#)' page on our website for more information.

Opportunities for enrichment at The Weald continues to be a very strong feature: excitement is already in the air for the trips coming up this year, and sports and arts subjects have high numbers of students involved in the extracurricular activities programme - but there is always room for more! Please do encourage your child(ren) to join an after school club. They're completely free and late buses run every night there are clubs.

As always, there's lots to look forward to in the next few weeks: our first Enrichment Day, the school production ('Great Expectations'), music concerts and Christmas events. We hope you'll join us!

Mrs Sarah Edwards
Headteacher

Year 7 Welcomes a New Chapter

September marked an exciting milestone for our Year 7 students as they embarked on their journey at The Weald. With a buzz of enthusiasm in the air, our newest members of the school community quickly settled in, ready to embrace the challenges and adventures that lie ahead.



Continued on page 2..

Message from Chair of Governors

In this first edition of e-Weald for the new academic year, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new students and their families as well as welcoming back our existing families.

I would also like to highlight the superb academic results the school achieved yet again this year. These fantastic results exemplify our ethos of Opportunity and Community and are testament to the hard work of our students and the expertise of our dedicated staff.

The governing body has recently welcomed two new members to the Board. As Director of Music at Christs Hospital, James Bartlett brings experience of the education sector. Abi Smith is a freelance writer, has two children at The Weald and also works at the school as a TA. In addition, she brings governance experience from another school. We also have vacancies for two parent governors and will be starting the process of filling these after the half term break. Should you wish to learn more about what this rewarding role involves, there are some resources on the Governors' page of the school website

Mrs N Waters
Chair of Governors

Year 7 Welcomes a New Chapter continued..

On Tuesday 3 September we welcomed the new Year 7 students and their families for a 'welcome breakfast', designed to foster friendships and build confidence. The supportive start allows students to feel more comfortable as they make their way through the door for the very first time.

Feedback from both students and teachers has been overwhelmingly positive. Many Year 7s have expressed excitement about their new classes and the variety of extracurricular opportunities available. Our Year 7 transitions team have been committed to ensuring each student feels valued and inspired as they navigate this important transition.

As we look ahead, we can't wait to see how our Year 7 students grow and flourish throughout the years. Welcome to The Weald, Year 7—we're thrilled to have you with us and part of 'Team Weald'.



Habits and routines

Being ready, respectful, working and safe is our basic student expectation at The Weald School. Well done to our students for demonstrating this excellently this year. To build on this we have been focusing on students getting habits and routines (norms) right this year to set them up to succeed. We introduced these ideas to students in our House Standards Assembly delivered by Mrs Edwards and Mr Catt in September. The message was that **good habits make life easier** for families, students and teachers. We gave students the analogy of 4 rowers (sculls).



We asked students to imagine a team of 4 rowers who have poor habits and a bad routine. What would that look like?

With poor habits and bad training routines they definitely won't win a race let alone complete the course by moving in a straight line. Their efforts may even become frustrating with a desire just to give up and stop rowing altogether.

The message to repeat at home is "A good year means committing to rowing together, even when it is hard, because it's the best thing for you, your teacher and fellow students (and your family)"

Here are ten habits they should commit to this year:

- 1) Arrive on time
- 2) Know what to do in the first 5 mins (write the title and date, complete the starter)
- 3) Go to the toilet at break times
- 4) Eat and drink properly
- 5) Sleep - get to bed by 10pm
- 6) Have the right equipment - pack the night before and have a pencil case with PRPR+C+book
- 7) Do homework as early as possible
- 8) Keep their books well presented
- 9) Attend a club
- 10) Be kind and work hard

Ultimately good routines enable students to spend more time focusing on their learning. Thank you for your continued support and we wish all students a successful year built on good habits and routines.

Mr S Catt
Deputy Headteacher

Better Billingshurst: Community Fund and Investment Programme

Horsham District Council is investing in Billingshurst and wants to hear from students, parents,

and carers at The Weald as to what improvements to local facilities you would like to see.

To have your say, please go to <https://online1.snapsurveys.com/Better-Billingshurst>

If you require any assistance, please contact Rory Minchin by emailing Rory.Minchin@horsham.gov.uk



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.

September 2024				
Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Arthur S Isaac E Max M Freddie T Maisie P	Chloe C Mikela M Freya W Ellie S Flynn N	Billy C Beau H Maxim T Nathan H Maddumage J	Amber N Renée M Zack J Zara E Izzy H	Kai B Sylvester S Emmanuella O Toby M Ash S



Calling all Graphic Designers!

It's competition time! We need your help to design some new praise postcards for the Maths Department to give out to students who are wow-ing us with their Maths. Why don't you wow us with your postcard designs?!?!?

The designers of the three winning entries will each receive a £10 Amazon Voucher and their winning designs will be featured in our next e-Weald publication. Great for your portfolio!

Designs need to be printable on A6 card and be received by 3pm on Friday 8th November. Send your entries to lheather@theweald.org.uk, or drop them in to E30 with your name and form on the reverse, to be in with a chance to win! Good luck all

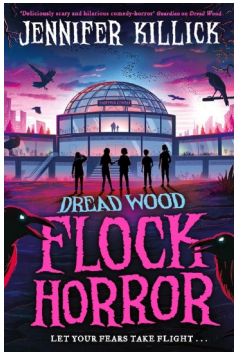


Mrs L Heather
Director of Maths

Recommended Reads

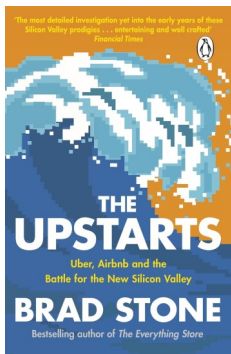
It's been a long half term, the seasons are changing and now is the time to be cosy. What better way to cosy up than with a mug of hot chocolate and a good book. From reading to frighten yourself over halloween or a read in celebration of 'Non Fiction November', there is a book for everyone.

KS3 Dread Wood Flock Horror by Jennifer Killick AR level 4.8



Angelo and his friends know that together they can handle any pretty much anything - including giant mutant spiders or snake-like parasites that burrow into your brain. But when a terrifying new enemy attacks from above it seems they have met their ultimate match . . . how can they defeat giant vampire birds that are after BLOOD? With summer term in full force - and sports day and prom night on the horizon - the whole school is in danger. The gang need a plan to bring safety to the skies!

KS4 Non Fiction November



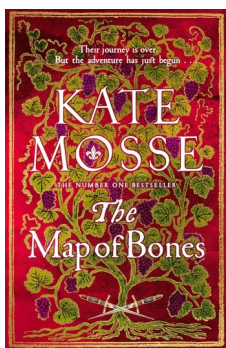
The Upstarts - Uber, Airbnb and the Battle for the New Silicon Valley by Brad Stone

Ten years ago, the idea of getting into a stranger's car, or walking into a stranger's home, would have seemed bizarre and dangerous, but today it's as common as ordering a book online. Uber and Airbnb are household names: redefining neighbourhoods, challenging the way governments regulate business and changing the way we travel.

In the spirit of iconic Silicon Valley renegades like Steve Jobs and Bill Gates, a new generation of entrepreneurs is sparking yet another cultural upheaval through technology. They are among the Upstarts, idiosyncratic founders with limitless drive and an abundance of self-confidence. Young, hungry and brilliant, they are rewriting the traditional rules of business, changing our day-to-day lives and often sidestepping serious ethical and legal obstacles in the process.

The Upstarts is the definitive account of a dawning age of tenacity, creativity, conflict and wealth. In Brad Stone's highly anticipated and riveting account of the most radical companies of the new Silicon Valley, we find out how it all started, and how the world is wildly different than it was ten years ago.

KS5 and adult - The Map of Bones by Kate Mosse



Olifantshoek, Southern Africa, 1688. When the violent Cape wind blows from the south-east, they say the voices of the unquiet dead can be heard whispering through the deserted valley. Suzanne Joubert, a Huguenot refugee from war-torn France, arrives in search of her cousin – the notorious she-captain and pirate commander Louise Reydon-Joubert – who landed at the Cape of Good Hope more than sixty years before, then disappeared without a trace . . .

Franschhoek, Southern Africa, 1862. Nearly one hundred and eighty years after Suzanne's perilous journey, another intrepid and courageous woman of the Joubert family – Isabelle Lepard – has journeyed to the small frontier town once known as Olifantshoek in search of her long-lost relations. Intent on putting the women of her family back into the history books, she quickly discovers that the crimes and tragedies still shadow the present. And now, Isabelle faces a race against time if she is to discover the

truth, and escape with her life . . .

Ms A Robertson
LRC Manager



Sporting Success

Date	Fixture	Result and info
16/9/24	Y7 Boys Football v Tan-bridge	3-3 Draw
18/9/24	U19 Boys Football v Regis	5-1 Win
19/9/24	Y10 Boys Football v Dorothy Stringer	Lost 3-0
24/9/24	Y7 Boys Football v Thomas Bennett	5-2 Win
26/9/24	Y8 Boys Football v Tan-bridge	2-0 Loss
30/9/24	Y7 Boys Football v Forest	6-1 loss
2/10/24	U19 Boys Football v Bishop Luffa	10-2 Win
2/10/24	Swimming Gala	Top 3 in Sussex qualifying for nationals
3/10/24	Y10 Boys Football v Bohunt	1-0 Loss
3/10/24	U19 Boys Football v Brighton College	2-1 Loss
4/10/24	Y8 Boys Football v DHS	5-0 loss to a very good Worthing team
15/10/24	Y7 Girls Football	3-2 win
16/10/24	U14 Girls Football	Lost to Steyning in the County Cup

BILLINGSHURST BOXING PROGRAM

GOT WHAT IT TAKES TO PUT ON THE GLOVES?
EVERY WEDNESDAY 3:30PM - 4:30PM

Learn and develop new skills

The Weald Community School
 Station Road
 Billingshurst
 RH14 9RY

Improve your mental health

Social Session

Level up your fitness

FOR ENQUIRIES EMAIL: alfie@wbccaresuk.org

Applications open now for September 2025 start

Start your Teaching journey

We have lots of great Primary and Secondary partner schools in Sussex looking for trainees to join our school centred route into teaching in September 2025.

Join our next Information Event or email teachertraining@tht.co.uk to find out more.

Tanbridge Teacher Training Information Event
 Tuesday 19 November
 4pm - 6pm
 Tanbridge House School

Scan the QR code for further details and to book your place:

tanbridge.co.uk/schools/Tanbridge_Tanbridge

Follow us!
[@tanbridge_tht](https://twitter.com/tanbridge_tht) [f](https://www.facebook.com/tanbridgeteachertraininghub)



Year10 Future Choices Day

As part of their 'research and plan' careers theme, Miss O'Brien has organised a Year 10 Future Choices Day for all Year 10 students during their Enrichment Day. Students have been asked to select which three sessions they would like to attend throughout the day to ensure it is a meaningful activity with excellent benefits.

A number of external further education and higher education providers, employers, and employees will be joining us to deliver sessions to help support learners with exploring the range of options available to them and demonstrate our commitment towards compliance with the 'Baker Clause'. Our many thanks for their support with this!

For those students who may have missed the assembly please see the attached booklet and google registration form:

[Year 10 Future Choices Booklet](#)

[Y10 future Choices Day Registration Form](#)

Year 12 Work Experience

Year 12 work experience is fast approaching, week commencing Monday 9th June 2025, and when we return after half term Year 12 will have a launch assembly to take them through the process. 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 start thinking about what types of careers they are interested in and what they might like to do for work experience. There is lots of useful information and resources on our Careers Website under Year 12 Work Experience for those students wanting to get a head start!

Year 11 Post 16 Options Assemblies

In the autumn term, The Weald held Year 11 assemblies with multiple providers of further education provision to support learners with exploring the range of options available to them. This included:

- Chichester College Group
- The College of Richard Collyer
- ASK Apprenticeships

National Citizen Service (NCS), will be coming in at the start of the spring term to discuss the programmes and experiences it has on offer for our Year 11 students. These summer workshops are truly invaluable in supporting students to learn, grow and develop into young adults.

Year 10 Career Interviews

All students in Year 10 are currently being offered an impartial and one-to-one careers interview with our external Careers Advisors Mrs Thompson and Ms Armstrong. Working with qualified and CDI-registered careers guidance practitioners, students have been supported in their careers interview to explore their aspirations, plan their future study pathways, and research their employment options. After their careers interview, each student has received a careers action plan with personalised targets to complete and aim towards; this is uploaded to their Unifrog profile.

In addition to our Year 10 sessions, Miss O'Brien has been offering support guidance sessions to students in Year 11 who are unsure of their Post 16 destinations. Students who would like a career guidance session, to discuss Post 16 and 18 options, with Miss O'Brien are encouraged to email her via kobrien@theweald.org.uk to arrange an appointment.

Year 11 College Application Deadlines

Year 11 students are currently in the process of applying to their desired Post 16 destinations. It is important that all students apply for a college place ready for September even if it is not your Plan A.

Sixth Form colleges will have deadline dates so please double check their websites to avoid submitting a late application.

Chichester College Group (Brinsbury, Chichester, Crawley, Worthing etc.)

Courses do get oversubscribed very quickly so it is a good idea to get your application submitted by the end of January 2024 at the latest.

Great Expectations - our annual school production!

We are very proud and excited to announce our forthcoming annual school production of 'Great Expectations', a gritty adaptation of Dickens' least sentimental love story with a cast of some of his most unforgettable characters. First performed by the Royal Shakespeare Company at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon in 2005, this adaptation of 'Great Expectations' is by Nick Ormerod and Declan Donnellan from Cheek By Jowl Theatre Company.

A terrifying encounter with an escaped convict forever changes the life of the orphaned Pip. Turning his back on his humble beginnings as a blacksmith's apprentice, he strives to better himself and become a gentleman, unaware of the hidden dangers that await him.

The performance dates are Wednesday 6th December to Friday 8th December at 7pm in the School Hall. We ask for a donation of £8 for an entry pass, which can be collected from the production box office in the Drama block at lunchtimes from Tues 5th November. The box office will run every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Despite the School being cashless, this production can be paid for by both cash and by card payment.

A licensed **cash and card bar** with refreshments will be available in the old Canteen before the show and during the interval.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Ms K Harbron
Head of Drama



The Weald School Charitable Trust

All donations made to the Weald School Charitable Trust are used to provide facilities not normally provided by the Local Authority.

We've registered The Weald School - Billingshurst with **#easyfundraising**, which means over 7,000 brands will now donate to us for FREE every time you use **#easyfundraising** to shop with them. These donations will help SO MUCH, so please sign up to support us - it's completely FREE and doesn't take long.

Please use this link to register:

[The Weald School - Billingshurst Fundraising | Easyfundraising](#)

Thank you for support

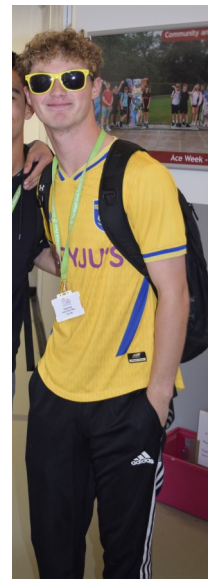
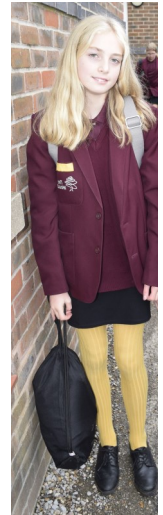
#HelloYellow

It was great to see so many staff and students in yellow clothing as Team Weald once again supported the excellent YoungMinds "Hello Yellow" event. YoungMinds provides excellent information, advice and support for children and young adults. We would encourage everyone to check out their brilliant website <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/> and follow their social media.

Students engaged in tutor time activities and assemblies to celebrate World Mental Health Day and looked at how to support each other and also importantly, themselves. Please check out the previous videos made by Weald TV over the last few years:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EpkXzaG-gTg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Tulz7IawzM&t=80s>



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

YOUNGMINDS

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

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

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

SAMARITANS

<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/>



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/>

Dates for your Diary

DATE	EVENT
4 November	First day of half term
28 November	Enrichment Day
29 November	Inset Day
19 December	Parent Voice Partnership meeting—LRC
15 December	Last day of term—Early finish
6 January	First day of spring term

If you are interested in the Parent Voice Partnership, please email parents@theweald.org.uk Notes from all previous meetings can be found on the 'Parent Voice' section of the websites linked [here](#).

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



www.facebook.com/TheWealdSchool/



<http://twitter.com/TheWeald>



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