

27 May 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Before we head off into half-term I would like to take a moment to thank the students and staff involved in the year 11 and 13 assessed grade work that has been going on since we returned from the Easter break. Firstly, to our students, who have demonstrated resilience, perseverance and an incredible determination in undertaking in class assessments meaning we can recognise all of their efforts in their course of study. Secondly, to the staff. It is no exaggeration to say staff have been working tirelessly to prepare, mark and assess the students, but what you will not have seen is the work in the background to ensure we have all of the administrative work complete as well, which is not insignificant.

We would like to wish our year 13 students well on their next adventures, and are looking forward to saying a proper farewell to them on 30 June, when we come together to mark the end of their Weald journey. As for year 11, we will see the students again for their taster week, culminating in sports day which will be a fitting end to their year 11, and mark the beginning of their sixth form experience.

### **School visits**

We are very aware that we have physically shut our doors to parents and carers during the COVID pandemic, whilst this was necessary to protect the community at the time, we are hopeful that the next stage of the roadmap will allow us to welcome you back into the buildings once again. With this in mind, and pending the announcement in relation to 21 June, we would like to invite you all in to tour the campus your child attends one afternoon.

Our plan at the moment is to invite parents and carers of students in Year 7, 8 and 9 in from 28 June, and for parents and carers of students who will be in year 7, 11, 12 and 13 next year, from September. You will receive an invitation with a specific day, and will be asked to sign in and meet your child in the school hall. They will then be able to show you their school, before returning you to the hall where form tutors will be available to meet you. The whole experience will take around an hour, and we hope will enable you to see Weald from your child's perspective. Whilst we very much hope we will be able to offer this as planned, I do need to caveat the start date in relation to the government's roadmap, if wider re-opening is delayed, we will need to move the dates.

### **Second hand uniform**

We are delighted to be able to re-open our second-hand uniform shop, and would like to thank all of the parents and carers who have donated items to be sold. We have reviewed the price of some of the items we are selling and have decided to reduce the prices across the shop in order to make the offer more accessible to all. With this in mind, we will no longer be offering the cash-back facility on items sold from the shop. If you have donated items and are not happy for us to sell them without the cash back, do drop us an email on [school@wealdgs.org](mailto:school@wealdgs.org) and we will arrange for your items to be returned to you. We are also now able to offer a 'bring and buy' option for parents and carers to swap outgrown items for a larger version in the shop at no cost.

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None of this would be possible without the dedicated team of parents and carers who check, catalogue, wash, sort and sell of the items. I know you will want me to pass on your thanks to them for their time and their support of the school.

### **Parent and carer survey**

As we look towards life after lockdown, there are some questions we would like to ask you about our new normal at Weald from September. We are also taking feedback from students and staff in order for us to make decisions, and try to retain some of the positives that have come from the experience we have had over the past year and a half. The survey should only take a few minutes to complete, and will remain open until Wednesday 9 June. Thank you in advance for your support with this, we will, of course, share the outcomes with you after the break.

Please click on this link to access the survey: [Parent and Carer Survey](#)

### **Thank you**

I would like to finish off by thanking the parents and carers who have offered their feedback in our recent forum meeting, and also to those who have contacted us over the past term with thank you messages to staff. It means an awful lot to members of the team to know their efforts are appreciated.

Thank you as always for your continued support and I hope you have a lovely half-term break.

Yours sincerely,



**Mrs E. Bone**  
Headteacher