

Student Leadership Team



The Student Leadership Team (left to right): Head Student Jess and Deputy Head Students Coco, Rachel and Ruth.

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I would like to say what a privilege it is to have been chosen for this role as Head Student. I would like to thank the students for voting for me, Coco, Rachel and Ruth to represent them as their new Student Leadership Team.

We want to ensure that the main focus of this year, is that everyone's voice is heard. We don't want this year to be about us calling the shots, we want input and innovative ideas from our school community to help us figure out ways to build and improve our school in areas that our students feel is most crucial.

We have big plans for this year, with little time to complete it all, so we are eager to get going! I know a lot of the students are keen advocates for student voice. Knowing what a positive impact it can have when given the correct platform, getting this up and running has been the main task we've worked on so far, and it's safe to say it has been quite the task. We've faced lots of logistical issues due to new COVID-19 restrictions, but much like everything else that 2020 has thrown at us, we were forced to persist and we were able to work it out; with the much-appreciated help of Mrs Jones. Once our Student council system is fully operational, I hope that it's an effective method of communication between all years, as well as our staff team, but also keeping parents and carers in the loop. We think it is so important for everyone to be aware of what we are doing, what changes are happening and what we plan on doing next; we want everyone to be involved.

This year, more than ever, we feel it is essential to keep up our community spirit; an element Weald has never fallen behind in, and we don't plan for it to now. Although we're the most separated we have ever been, we want to try and close this gap as much as possible. We will be utilising all resources to make this happen, for starters with lots of virtual meetings across year groups, but I will also be sending out regular emails to update everyone on our plans and most importantly our actions every couple of weeks.

Another element we have found of great importance is our charity involvement, and we are really going to push it this year. Starting it off with a food bank for "Nourish Community", a charity based in South Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells who have been able to provide over 230,000 meals since 2012, thanks to the support of the local community. We are so excited to be able to join in this amazing movement and we are sure our students will have exactly the same response. We will be holding the first collection with Sixth Form students in the weeks leading up to Christmas, and hopefully with this

being a success we will then look to do the same thing with the lower years. Rachel has taken the lead on organising this event, communicating directly with the charity to ensure everything is in place and meeting every guideline we have to, to ensure it is Covid-safe for everyone. We hope to carry out many more charity events like this in the coming months and are looking forward to being able to share them with you; also if anyone has any specific ideas they would like to bring to us, whether it's an event idea or just a charity close to their heart, we would love to hear from you.

Lastly, please don't hesitate to email Coco, Rachel, Ruth or myself- between the four of us we've all been where you are now, so trust me, we know exactly what it's like! Already a few students have emailed, and it's been lovely getting to chat to those that typically I wouldn't be able to. It's never a hassle to type a quick reply, whether you've got a brilliant new idea or even if you just want a bit of reassurance, our emails are always open.

We look forward to being able to continue this communication throughout the year, hopefully with lots of positive news and all our plans coming to light. We hope everyone is staying safe and healthy during this hard time and thank you again.

Yours sincerely,

The Student Leadership Team