

The Weald Weekly

Term 1, Friday 04 September



Weald of Kent
Grammar School

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our first newsletter of the new term and a particular welcome to our new readers.

It has been great to see all the various year groups across both campuses settle in so quickly, especially those that are starting at the school for the first time. I would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to our new Year 7 and Year 12 joiners and their parents and carers. I hope that you find our weekly newsletters useful in keeping you up to date with what has been going on in school.

Congratulations to all our students on their achievements at A Level and GCSE over this summer. For A Level, our students achieved an impressive 66.7% A*-B grades with 35% of all grades being A* or A. Perhaps more importantly, 85% of our students, who are going to university, gained places at their first-choice universities to study a wide range of subjects. Similar success was reflected at GCSE level with 56.9% of students achieving grade 7 or better and 33.1% achieving grade 8 or better.

In terms of progress, we achieved an ALPS 2 at GCSE which represents outstanding achievement and places the school in the top 2% -10% of all secondary schools nationally. Our A level results achieved an ALPS 3 which again represents excellent progress and places the school in the top 11%-25% of all schools nationally.

It is of course important to remember that these results sit alongside all the other things our students will have achieved during their time at school including all their contributions to our school community and beyond.

We welcome a number of new staff this academic year: Mrs R Beniparshad (Head of Food and Nutrition), Miss P Carey (Computer Science), Mrs K Clark (German & French – Maternity cover), Mrs S Eccles (Learning Mentor), Mrs R Ellefsen (Music), Mrs S Hayes (SEND Administrator), Mrs K Keeping (Business), Mr G Morgan-Smith (Business), Miss I Paddington (Art & Drama Technician), Mr C Paul (Spanish & French), Mrs S Rad (Mathematics), Miss J Rozier (Mathematics), Miss L Williams (Geography), Mrs H Winter (Student Support Officer).

September also sees several staff taking up new roles within the school: Mrs A Garety completed her ITT and is now a Teacher of Psychology and Mrs J Riley (Head of Year 10, Tonbridge). Miss A Surgeoner, Head of Year 7 will provide additional support as Head of Year 8, Tonbridge until Miss E Morris's return from maternity leave in October.

There has been a lot of work taking place over the summer holidays preparing the school for the new academic year. The new roof installed last year, after winning a CIF bid (funding from the DofE) had some monies left over which has been dedicated to decoration work in the original school building – floors A, B and C. We now have freshly painted walls, new flooring and interactive white boards.

PTA Meetings 2026-2-027:

PTA AGM – Tuesday 29 September at 7.30pm at the Tonbridge Campus

PTA Meetings: Tuesday 24 November (online)
Tuesday 19 January 2027 (Sevenoaks)
Tuesday 16 March (online)
Tuesday 15 June (Tonbridge)

We are looking for members, new as well as "old" - this is a great way to get to know the school and the community and ensure the PTA and all the fundraising will continue this year. No need to sign up - just come along.

Finally, just a reminder that the Dragon Boat Race is taking place this Sunday 6 September, 9am-4pm near Tonbridge Castle. We have entered a team for the third year running, 'Pier Pressure', so if you are free to cheer us on then we would be delighted to see you.

Wishing you all a great weekend.

R V Booth
Headteacher

Upcoming Events - September 2026

Monday 07	Year 7 and Year 10 Photographs, Tonbridge and Sevenoaks
Tuesday 08	Earlier finish for students
Wednesday 09	Tonbridge Years 7-11 Flu Vaccinations
Thursday 10	Sevenoaks Year 7 Information Evening, Sevenoaks Main Hall, 18:00 - 19:00
Friday 11	Co-Curricular Fair, Sevenoaks Main Hall, lunchtime

[Website Calendar](#)

Earlier Finish

Please be reminded that from **Tuesday 8 September**, the school day will finish at the earlier time of **2.25pm every Tuesday in Week 2**.

On all other school days, the normal finish time of **3.30pm** will remain unchanged.

On the earlier finish days, supervision will be available for independent study at **both campuses** for any students who need to remain on site until 3.30pm while waiting for transport home.

This will help us to plan appropriate supervision and provide us with an indication of the number of students who will be on site. **Any student added to the list will be expected to attend every session. If anything changes, we must be notified for safeguarding purposes, by emailing attendance@wealdgs.org.**

Interhouse Competition

Bottles Needed!

We are looking forward to kicking off our interhouse competitions for another year. For the first one, we need as many empty, clean plastic bottles as possible. Students will be given more information about the event through the student bulletin, but please start collecting bottles for them to bring in. They can be stored in the PE area at each campus.

Sporting Success

Commonwealth Games

Congratulations to Amalie in Year 13 who secured a bronze medal in the 200m IM in the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

An incredible race full of grit and determination.

A phenomenal achievement and we are so excited to continue following her swimming career.



Weald student wins in the Baltic Football Cup

Well done to Adele in Year 10 for her success in international football.

Adele was selected for the Lithuanian National U15 girls team last year, where she was one of the youngest players. She was selected as captain for this year's Baltic Cup in August and led the team to victory with wins against Latvia and Faroe Islands and a draw with Estonia.

Her team also played a friendly match with Poland U16 girls in May, where Adele's sister Izabela in Year 9 was selected to play as well, a fantastic achievement for Izabela who was one of the youngest players. We wish Izabela success through this year and if selected we will see both sisters playing for the Lithuanian national teams.

Adele will be representing Lithuania in another international match against Slovenia, Hungary and Bosnia & Herzegovina which will be held in Slovenia in September.

We wish her all the very best for the upcoming matches.

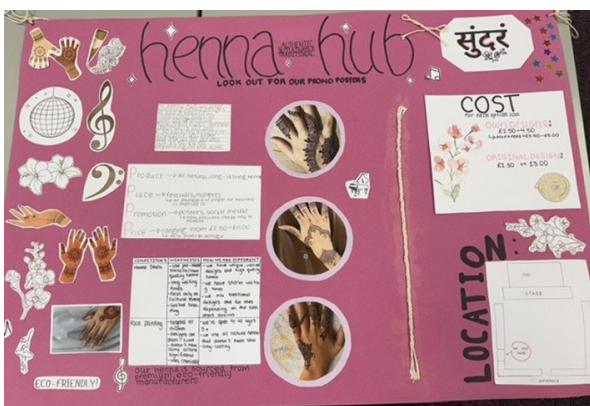


School Activities

There was a great deal of entrepreneurial activity taking place at the end of the last academic year.

Year 9 Enrichment – Dragons' Den

As part of our enrichment week, Year 9 students took part in a Dragons' Den style activity. The event was based around a fictitious festival to be held on the field in Tonbridge. Following a quick briefing on key business concepts, students began by creating a poncho from plastic bags (although given the weather this summer, sales may have been slower than expected!) – we enjoyed seeing a fashion parade of their ingenious creations. The groups then went on to create a business plan for a good or service to sell at the festival: the range of ideas was so impressive, and the story boards and short presentations demonstrated creative skills and business acumen



Business A Level £10 Challenge

Our Year 12 Business A Level students took part in an entrepreneurial challenge: they were given a £10 initial investment and four weeks to create, market, organise and financially manage their own business with the intention of making a profit by selling their goods or services during a lunch time fair. The profits were donated to the charity chosen by each group.

We were hugely impressed by the enthusiasm and dedication of each group, offering a range of games, activities and treats to staff and students. The winning group, WOkenna, raised £75 for Chasing Connor's Cure. Sweet Stakes were awarded the 'best logo'.



School Activities continued

Year 10 Business project

Our Year 10 Business students developed a business plan throughout the academic year, applying their knowledge to a business of their own creation. Each group chose a product, created a logo, determined a price, planned their sources of finance and considered an appropriate marketing mix. In the last weeks of term, they all finalised their business cases and presented to their Business class. The winning group from each class then presented their ideas to a Year 8 assembly. We were so impressed with the innovation and detail in these final presentations.



PTA News

Year 8 Disco

The first disco of the school year is happening in a few weeks time:

25 September at Tonbridge

2 October at Sevenoaks

Tickets are now live at this link below:

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/wok/>

We also need a large group of volunteers across both sites to make it work, please sign up using the "Task for Volunteers" section on the same web page.



PTA AGM

This will take place on 29 September at 7.30pm at the Tonbridge Campus.

Find out what the PTA has been up to this last academic year and what is in the works for the coming months. Make your voice and suggestions heard - we are still really keen for more people to get involved to ensure regular events (Christmas Fair, discos etc) remain on the WOK social calendar.

No need to sign up - just come along.

PTA News continued

Christmas Fair Planning

Please come along to the Vauxhall Pub on 14 September at 7.30pm to help with planning our Christmas Fair. We need as many hands as we can to make sure the fair is able to run. Last year we raised £11,000 so it really is a big event for us all.

Uniform Shop

The school uniform shop has been managed by PTA volunteers for over 20 years and offers a range of good quality second hand school uniform at reasonable prices.

For online orders please visit the page [here](#).

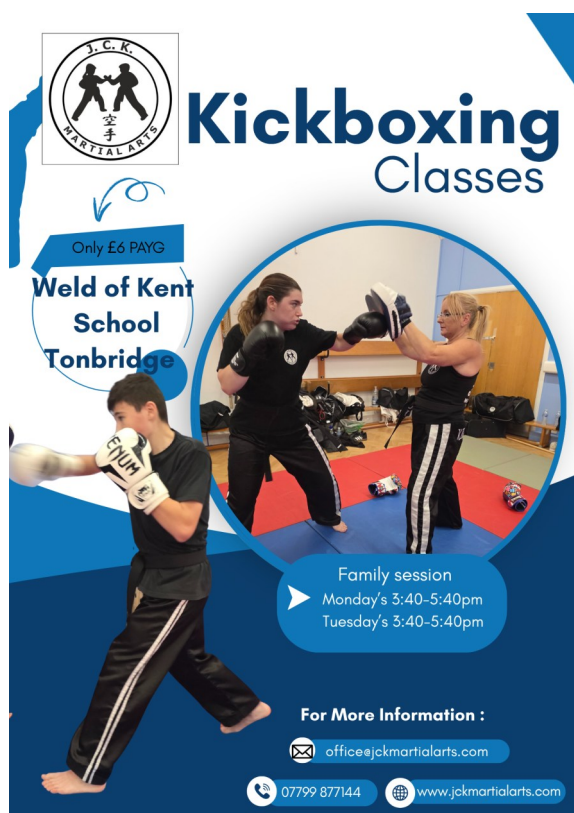
Students, parents and carers are invited to visit the shop at the Tonbridge campus during opening hours (see details on the PTA Newsletter).

Please note the shop will be closed between 10 September and 2 October due to staff shortage so please place any urgent orders now.

Sports Clubs

Kickboxing

Please see information on the flyers regarding Kickboxing classes which will be occurring at both campuses.



Kickboxing Classes

Only £6 PAYG

Weld of Kent School Tonbridge

Family session
Monday's 3:40-5:40pm
Tuesday's 3:40-5:40pm

For More Information :
office@jckmartialarts.com
07799 877144
www.jckmartialarts.com

The flyer features a circular inset image showing two women in black martial arts uniforms practicing kickboxing. A man in a black uniform is also shown in a dynamic pose at the bottom left. The background is blue with white and yellow accents.



Kickboxing Classes

Only £6 PAYG

Weld of Kent School Sevenoaks

Wednesday's 3:50-5:50pm

For More Information :
office@jckmartialarts.com
07799 877144
www.jckmartialarts.com

This flyer is identical in design to the Tonbridge flyer, featuring a circular inset image of two women practicing kickboxing and a man in a dynamic pose at the bottom left. The background is blue with white and yellow accents.



Sevenoaks
TOWN COUNCIL

**WE'RE SEEKING
COMMUNITY DONATIONS
TO HELP US PURCHASE THE
FREEHOLD OF THE STAG
AND SECURE THE FUTURE
OF THIS IMPORTANT
COMMUNITY ASSET.**

WILL YOU PLEDGE TODAY?



Sevenoaks Town Council is proposing to acquire the freehold of the Stag Theatre and Cinema, as a prudent means of securing this important community asset for current and future generations. The Town Council is seeking to raise £100,000 in community donations towards the cost, and is calling on residents, businesses and Stag supporters to contribute to help safeguard the venue's future.

The Stag is a valued community venue that supports the cultural life and local economy of Sevenoaks, as well as providing a home for the youth café. Freehold ownership would offer permanent security, remove exposure to future landlord decisions and provide the confidence needed to attract major, long-term investment to upgrade the venue and for the wider town.

Sevenoaks District Council is choosing to charge £650,000 for the freehold of the Stag. In order to purchase the freehold, the Town Council is proposing to cover the £650,000 price by combining a Public Works Loan, some of the Town Council's capital reserves, alongside community donations.

Sevenoaks Town Council is asking anyone interested in pledging a community donation to support the freehold purchase of the Stag to complete a pledge form by **1 October 2026**.

If you wish to pledge a community donation, please complete the pledge form at www.surveymonkey.com/r/stagfreeholdpledge, scan the QR code or pick up a copy at Sevenoaks Town Council office on Bradbourne Vale Road.

Find out more at www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk/stag-theatre-cinema



01732 459953

www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk

southeastern

ALL ABOARD!

YOUR JOURNEY. YOUR SAFETY.

A confident school journey
starts with smart choices.

TRAVEL SMART • STAY ALERT

30

SECONDS

BE EARLY, NOT HURRIED.

Doors close before departure.



TRAVEL SMART IN 3 STEPS

LOOK • LISTEN • THINK • ASK



01

BEFORE YOU GO

PLAN • PACK • CHECK

- Check your time and platform
- Take your ticket or travel pass
- Charge your phone and tell an adult



02

AT THE STATION

EYES UP • EARS OPEN

- Stay behind the yellow line
- Keep headphones low and listen
- Never go onto the tracks



03

ON THE TRAIN

BOARD CALMLY • TRAVEL KINDLY

- Let passengers leave first
- Mind the gap and use handrails
- Keep doors and aisles clear

LISTEN OUT

Some trains split and some stations have short platforms - always follow announcements.

PLANS CHANGED?

Stay calm. Follow the four steps.

1

CHECK

2

LISTEN

3

ASK

4

TELL

STAY ON TRACK

Get live updates you can trust with the Southeastern app.

LIVE TIMES • ALERTS

TRACK AND SHARE YOUR JOURNEY

SCAN FOR THE APP



NEED HELP?

Speak to railway staff or use a station Help Point.

If you see something unsafe or suspicious:

Immediate danger? Call 999.

TEXT BTP

61016

British Transport Police