

February 2010

Dear parent,

Kenya 2011

In July 2011 The Weald School will be holding its next trip to Kenya. The purpose of this trip is to support our partner schools in Kenya by building new classroom buildings in order to provide local children with the invaluable ability to gain an education. Over the last 4 years we have raised over £100,000 and have used this to build 16 new classrooms for these schools. In 2007 and 2009 we organised trips for Sixth Form students to help build these classrooms and in 2011 we aim to return and further support our Kenyan partner schools. These students have often commented that these trips are an inspiring and life-shaping experience for our them and I hope that your son or daughter can be a part of our next team!

The trip will cost in the region of £1750 (this figure is yet to be confirmed due to the fact that the trip is a year and a half away). I would like this sum to be paid through instalments:

- 1) A deposit of £250 to be paid by the end of May 2010
- 2) £500 to be paid by the end of November 2010
- 3) £500 to be paid by the end of February 2011
- 4) The final payment (£500, to be confirmed) to be paid by the end of May 2011

Parents/Carers should pay for the trip using ParentPay, www.parentpay.com using their unique login and password. ParentPay is our preferred option as it is a real time transaction and saves on administration for the school. If it is necessary to pay by cheque please make it payable to "The Weald School" and write your son's/daughter's name on the reverse of the cheque as well as the tutor group. Unfortunately we are now unable to accept payment by cash, however, on application to the finance office a Paypoint card is available.

The next steps

If your son or daughter would like to come on this trip then they will need to provide the following:

- 1) An application form
- 2) A deposit of £250, paid through either ParentPay or a cheque as described above

As explained during the information evening on the 24th February, please note that if the trip is cancelled **before** any costs have been paid then this deposit is fully refundable.

To give you an idea of what our students have said about this trip I've copied in some comments made after previous trips at the end of this letter. Thank you for your interest in this trip and I hope that your son or daughter will be able to join us!

Yours sincerely,

Will Richards
Trip organiser

Comments from previous trips

"Opportunities such as (this trip) help you to decide who you are, and who you want to be, such a significant and life-changing experience helps you to establish the real values of life and your priorities"

"The most memorable thing I'll ever do"

"I gained a greater social and cultural awareness"

"My time there was an amazing experience and one I will never forget. I learnt so many new things that will help me for life"

"It really made me appreciate how lucky we are"

"There is no doubt that the trip was both an intense mental and physical challenge. It tests your strength, patience and dedication, but ultimately your passion"

"The trip encompasses a vast range of issues, both worldwide and personal. You look at environmental, political, social, cultural and economic elements of life, but you also learn to reflect upon your inner self in reaction to these issues"

"I think I've become a lot more willing to give everything a go"

"Made you grow up so much"

"Overall I have gained a greater use and appreciation of my own initiative"