

# Wellington School

11-18 School



*Excellence in Everything*

[www.wellington.trafford.sch.uk](http://www.wellington.trafford.sch.uk)

Autumn Term Newsletter  
September 2013

Welcome to the Autumn Term Newsletter – a celebration of the Summer Term 2013 and another hugely busy and successful term here at Wellington. The pictures say it all!

Open Morning

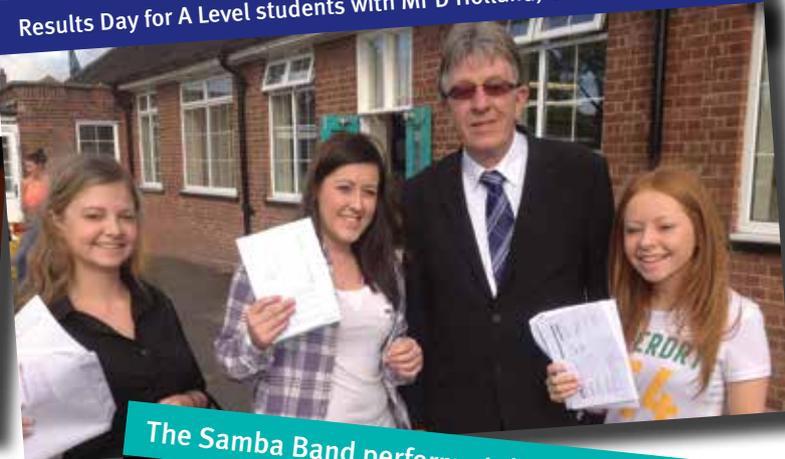


Open Morning

Results Day for GCSE Examination students



Results Day for A Level students with Mr D Holland, Chair of Governors



Sports Day



School Choir



The Samba Band perform at the Bridgewater Hall



Sports Awards Evening



Presenting the cheque for £30,000, proceeds from our annual sponsored walk, at the Bridgewater Hall Awards Evening to Angela Harris, Community and Events Fundraising Officer and Jason Done, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital Charity Patron



## 'Happy New Year' to you all and a particularly warm welcome to our new Year 7s and their families.

I hope everyone feels suitably refreshed and revitalised by the Summer break, although I expect by the time of publication, we will be heading at a rate of knots towards half term! On a personal level, having completed a full academic cycle as Headteacher, I'm looking forward even more to the challenges of 2013 – 2014, and I certainly haven't changed my view that I am privileged to have one of the best jobs in the world. I wish you an enjoyable and fruitful Autumn Term.

This newsletter, however, is a celebration of last term, Summer Term 2013. Despite the visit of Ofsted (I hope you've all had chance to read the report and do contact me if you wish to discuss anything further) and the inevitable demands of examinations, I'm sure you would agree that, once again, the students and staff of Wellington School have excelled themselves. I will say it again and again; I am enormously proud of all the 'achievements' we witness each and every day and appreciative of the commitment of staff, and this newsletter provides you with merely a flavour of those 'achievements'.

The newsletter is issued three times per year but please read my weekly bulletin on the website for an up-to-date account of life at Wellington.

### Examination Results

Our 2013 cohort continued the Wellington tradition of examination excellence at GCSE, AS and A Level, and it was wonderful to share in this success at Certificate Evening on Tuesday 10th September. At Wellington School, we believe we cater for all students regardless of their prior attainment and potential, but I was particularly pleased this year with the numbers achieving A\* and A at all levels. Indeed, there were a whole host of individual performances at GCSE and A Level that compare favourably with any selective school locally. Early indications suggest that, once again, all our departing Year 11 and Year 13 students have gained access to their preferred courses and destinations. We also welcome a record number of Year 12 students into our sixth Form. It has been my intention to grow the Sixth Form gradually whilst maintaining the 'personal touch' on which we pride ourselves; over time this will give us more flexibility without compromising on quality or neglecting the needs of individuals.

These results reflect the hard work and commitment of students and staff, both teaching and non teaching, ably supported, of course, by parents. I am delighted that the class of 2013 have taken advantage of the opportunities presented to them at Wellington and have worked with an exceptional group of teachers to produce these excellent results.

### Staffing News

At the start of this term we welcomed Miss Gyves (Second in Geography); Mr Brown (Geography – Temporary maternity cover for Miss Costello); Miss Hodges (PE / Science); Miss Lee, Mr McLean, Miss Scales and Mr Stanley (all Science); Mr McQuiggin (Maths - Temporary maternity cover for Mrs Heaton); Miss O'Neill (MFL / English); Mrs Young and Miss

Spencer (English); Mrs Willingham (Art); Mrs Jones (REP); Mrs Torkington (Music – Temporary maternity cover for Mrs Moorhouse) and two new members to the support team; Mr Innes joins us initially as Numeracy Intervention Co-ordinator but will cover Miss Rigby's maternity leave from November and Mr Eckersley joins Design and Technology as DT Technician. We warmly welcome them all and wish them a happy and successful time (of whatever duration) at Wellington.

Congratulations to two newly-weds; Ms Isaac returned after the Summer holiday as Mrs Beese and Mr Gerschler who also tied the knot and returned as ... Mr Gerschler. We also send congratulations to our new parents; Mrs Heaton is the proud mum of Seth and Mrs Harte, equally proud mum of Katie. We've already been introduced to Seth and eagerly await a visit from Mrs Harte and her daughter.

### Building Work

Another Summer holiday, another ambitious plan for improvement of the School site, project managed by Mrs Armstrong, Estates Director and her team. New Boys' toilets, new Technology roof, new paving, grass re-enforcement at the Vale entrance, extensive decorating, Sports Hall refurbishment, a new boiler in the Gloucester Building, full refurbishment of the remaining two Science Labs and work on the all-weather pitch – examples of the considerable investment designed to improve the School environment further for the benefit of our students. As one walks round the site, it is impossible not to feel a sense of pride in what we have here at Wellington and we will be making sure that students continue to respect what we provide for them.

**S P Beeley, Headteacher**



## Open Morning

I'm certain you will acknowledge that Wellington School always looks immaculate, but on Open Morning there is that extra little 'wow' factor and this year was no different.

In fact, it seemed staff and students this year even exceeded their usual exceptionally high standards. We received some wonderful feedback from our visitors, and I hope you will allow me this indulgence as I quote from an email received from one family '...I attended the open morning on Saturday and intended it to be a flying visit as I felt we already knew the School, we arrived at 9.30 and left at 12.40! Needless to say our daughter loved the school and had to be dragged from each classroom...the atmosphere was so warm and welcoming. The staff and pupils alike so happy and relaxed, this made them shine...the open day was a credit to you and I feel so lucky to have such a brilliant school filled with brilliant teachers on my doorstep.' We really appreciate receiving feedback so that we know if we are doing something right – or not.

Every Department was again represented, creating displays and providing interactive activities and demonstrations for our visitors, predominantly Year 5 students from local primary schools and their parents. They really did get a flavour of how we try to live out the School's motto of 'Excellence in Everything'.

There were, of course, too many activities and highlights to mention, ranging from 'plastic fantastic' in Art (now we know why Mrs Kearney had requested all staff to let her have any old plastic carrier bags or bottles!) to a performance of 'The Demon Headmaster' in English!

We were delighted to have welcomed a record number of visitors through our doors on Open Morning, which reflects the outstanding and growing reputation of Wellington in the local area and we look forward to next year's event on Saturday 21st June 2014!

A huge well done and thank you to all the tour guides, helpers and staff who made it such a successful and enjoyable morning.

S P Beeley



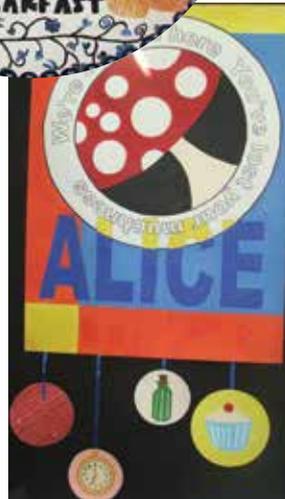
## Alice in Wonderland

Many of our Year 11 students selected to complete the GCSE exam question based on image and word.

These three students were all inspired by the book 'Alice in Wonderland' but used different artists to inspire and influence their technique, composition and presentation.

Well done Zoe, Jessica and Jessica!

Miss Grey and Mrs Kearney



## Aquatic

GCSE work has been going swimmingly well! These are two outstanding responses to exam questions:

Felix Tighe chose 'Journey' and his piece reflects the journey of a salmon. He created it with wire, mesh and plaster. It is stunning with a great contrast of simplicity and detail in one piece.

Jade Broadbent used sea life as inspiration in her response to the question 'close-up'. Shell forms, fish, barnacles and jelly fish details were all put together in this textile hanging. The detail and pattern is beautiful.

Miss Grey



## 4th plinth

The 4th plinth in Trafalgar square has been the setting of some challenging & thought provoking art by artists such as Yinka Shonibare and Marc Quinn.



9.0 were asked to produce a sculpture that represented an issue or reflected a concept of their choice and they rose to the challenge, creating these stunning sculptures. Ideas they wanted to convey were depleted fishing stocks, mental health issues, the Commonwealth and water issues.

They look amazing and the group worked hard to complete them to a high standard, simply stunning 9.0!

Miss Grey



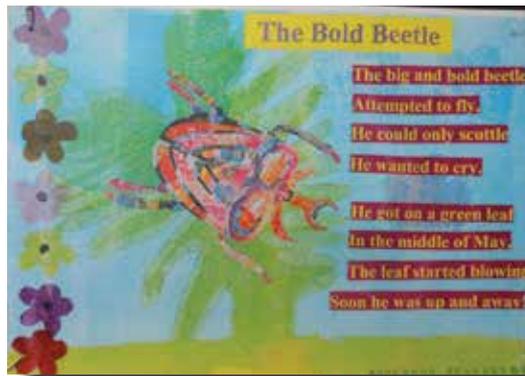
## Children's illustrated Poetry Book

What a journey 8.0 have been on to create this stunning book.

After studying the work of illustrator Eric Carle, students quickly got to work to produce a variety of textured papers to help with their collages. We used golf balls rolled in paint, spray paints and batik techniques to help explore mark making. Once these were made, pupils designed and created A2 size collage bugs which were then copied and decreased in size. Pupils gave their insects a name and wrote a children's poem to suit the personality of their bug. Then they designed a background using tissue paper before finally putting all their work together to create this wonderful children's illustrated poetry book.

Look out for it in the LRC!

Mrs Kearney



## Colourful Creative Circles

7.1B have worked hard to produce these interesting wall hangings in the style of Beatriz Milhaze.

They look inspiration from her organic patterns and used tissue paper and paints to create individual circles which will hang together as a group installation. Super work, well done!

Mrs Kearney



## Designing your futures

A group of 6 Year 12 students went to MMU for a 3 day Art Taster Course

The course was designed to give prospective students an idea of what Art and Design would be like at University level. During the 3 days we tried our hand at ceramic art, using a potter's wheel, mono printing, landscape architecture and interactive art. Nanami Butler said 'the course was very informative' and she enjoyed all of the activities. Jess Parker added that the interactive art showed that you didn't have to use traditional mediums to create an exciting piece of art. Overall we had an amazing time and a really good learning experience. We are all now looking forward to studying Art at University!

Ella Gravatt Y12



## Crayola Club

This term, Year 7 pupils have been attending Friday's Art club. They have created 3D cardboard structures, applied paper mâché and designed and painted these Giant Wellington Crayons.

In our collections we have Beeley Blue, Outstanding Orange, Gifted Green and of course MISS GREY to name but a few.

A special thank you goes to Lydia Black, my Year 9 super star who has helped the Year 7's every week and well done to all who attended Crayola Club.

Mrs Kearney



## MMU Degree Show 2013

In June, 60 students from Years 10 & 12 visited Manchester's School of Art Degree Show. The exhibition featured the work of final year students across a wide range of media including textiles, film, photography, ceramics, graphic design and painting. The visit will help our students to develop ideas for their own coursework and also inspire them with the career possibilities available in Art.

Mrs Kearney

## Hug A Hoodie!

8.4B created these Keith Haring inspired hoodies for their favourite 'celebs'. The bright colours and graffiti inspired styles look amazing and I'll be honest, I don't think the 'celebs' have ever looked better and I didn't think that was possible for Mr Cowell! Well done 8.4B you are popstastic!

Miss Grey



## Lowry brought to life

9.7 have been looking at L.S. Lowry and creating their modern versions of the people in his paintings. They also made 3D versions with examples by Aiden Ashton and Tom Cox shown here.

Miss Grey



## Music Legends

Open morning activities are always fun and interesting in the Art department, and this year was no exception!

Elena Williams, Alice Darbyshire, Orla Cronin, Hannah Roberts, Nancy Stewart, Niamh Molloy, Maisie Dowling and Josh McCarthy excelled themselves creating these likenesses of music legends using black and grey paper and newspaper.

Year 9 are currently working on a few more so that we have a singing sensation from each decade (and for those of you who have ever been to the School talent show, you know Mr Cropper may not feature!!! ; - )

Miss Grey



## Water Safety Poster Competition

Pictured here are some of the entries from our students in 9.1 who entered a competition for Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service.

They were asked to create a water safety poster for use as part of the 'Safe4Summer' campaign. Whilst all the entries were of a high standard, we were delighted to hear recently that Chloe Urmston in Year 9 won the competition and her entry will 'front' the 'Safe4Summer' Campaign next year. A massive well done to Chloe!

Mrs Kearney



## Pop Art Shop

8.4B have completed some amazing store food goodies this term.

Giant iconic packaging was created and painted in the style of Pop artists Andy Warhol, Jim Dine and Roy Lichtenstein. I've been pleased with their effort and dedication in completing these fantastic pieces.

Well done 8.4B!

Miss Grey



## Who killed cock Robin?

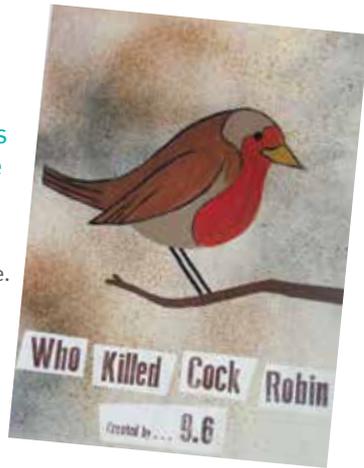
9.6 created a wonderful book this term, which illustrated the rhyme 'Who killed cock robin.'

They completed some superb drawings and worked in pairs to each create a page. They created stencils, planned images in the style of illustrator Charley Harper and added text to the illustrations.

The work is beautiful and I have been very impressed with the careful stylisation and material application & technique used.

Well done 9.6, I'll treasure the copy of the book you made!

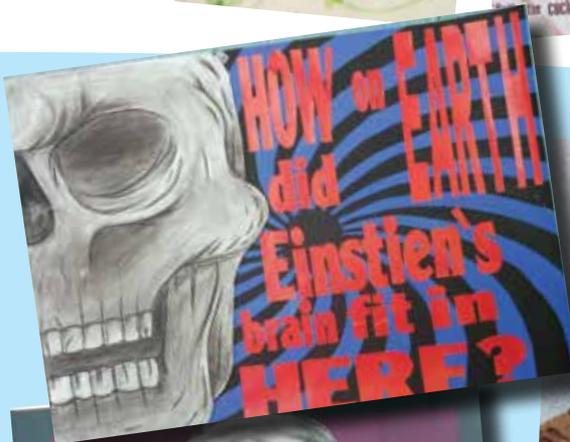
Miss Grey



## Writing Week

To celebrate Writing Week 8.0 used their imagination to imagine they were inside a painting. We looked at a range of contemporary illustrations that incorporate animals within their work. Lauren Roberts studied the work of Nicola Davies and this was her response.

'If I were inside my picture I would see dancing snowflakes fall onto an alert fox whose eyes twinkle and light up like gems in the moonlight. I would feel isolated yet accompanied with the fox by my side, keeping me warm in the freezing forest. I could smell a puffing chimney fire and the earthy scents of the soil along with the hot breath of my companion. I would meet the beautiful beast, the cautious creature, which is carefully tip-toeing. I would hear the foot prints of this fox, prancing into the crisp white blanket and owls hooting in the towering trees. I would move like a cat. Quickly, sharply, effortlessly, not to disturb the animal in its habitat. Oh to touch its fiery fur that contrasts greatly to the surrounding scene. I would hide in the forest and when the time is right, approach it.'



## Year 10 Final Pieces

Mrs Kearney's Year 10s have completed their second GCSE project. They have showed off their skills and yet again have produced some first class final pieces.

Well done Year 10.

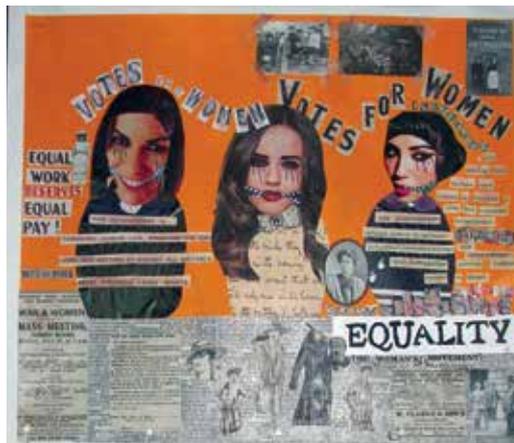
### Year 11 Exam Work

Year 11 exam work has included a range of text to reflect stories, sayings, events and branding. These pieces show a huge range of outcomes and use of materials.

The giant jelly baby is surrounded in a frame made from love hearts and polos, another is about votes for women and the suffragette movement and 'an apple a day' has real branches to suspend the phrases.

Wonderful use of materials and sayings - well done Year 11.

Miss Grey and Mrs Kearney



### Year 5 Visit

In July Year 5 pupils from Bollin and Willows Primary Schools visited Wellington's Art department and learned how to produce some detailed drawings of insects using the technique Scraffito.

We were very impressed at the work produced by the pupils - clearly some very talented artists! We hope to see many of these pupils in a few years' time back at Wellington creating lots more Art!

Miss Grey & Mrs Kearney



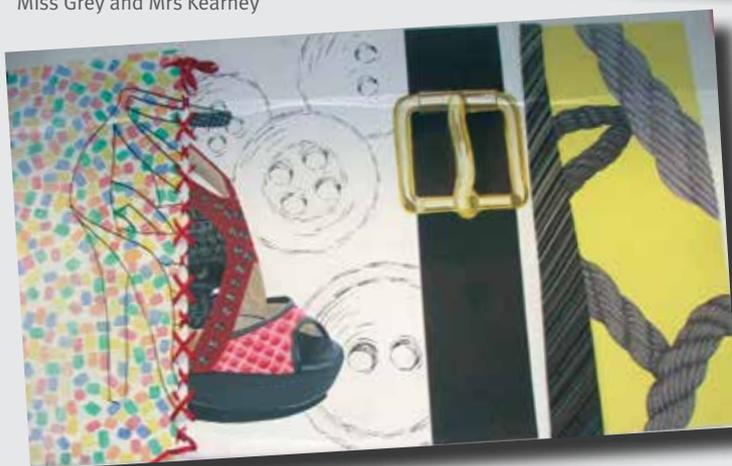
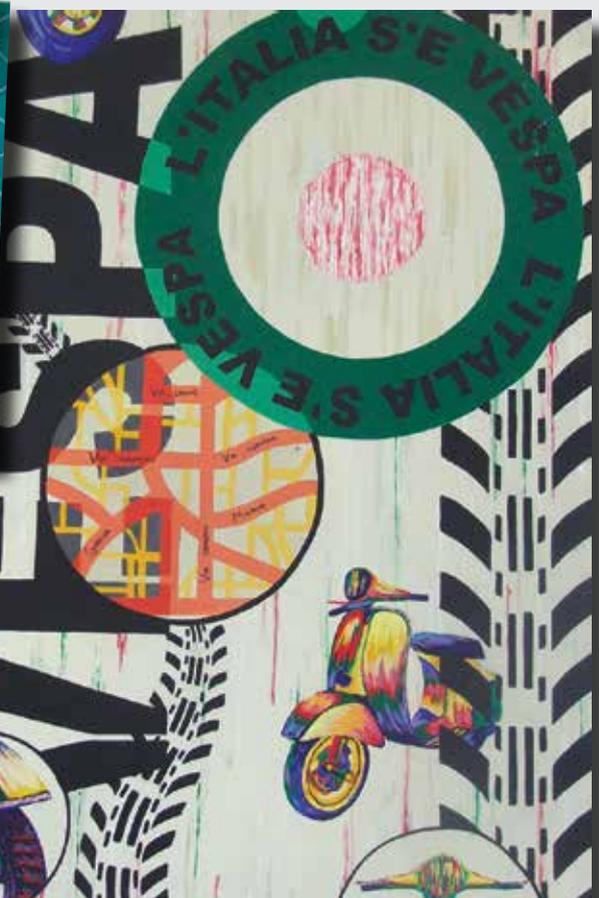
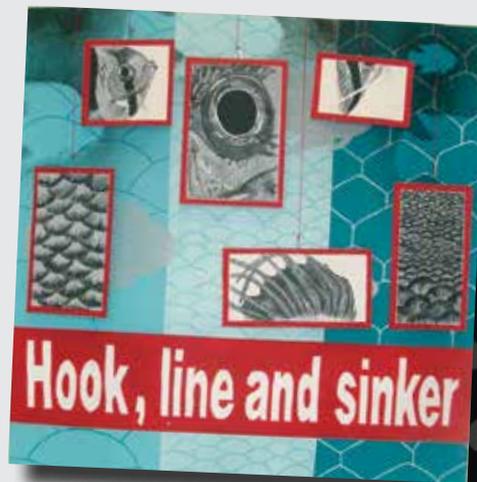
### Year 13 Exam Work

Following triumphant A-level Art coursework the Year 13 have cruised into 5th gear with this beautiful work. The diverse range of themes explored included Fastenings, Fish and Vespas!

The skill and techniques continue to amaze us, with work suspended by fishing hooks and real ties, and detailing of buttons and ribbons featuring on work.

Year 13 have been a pleasure to work with and their work has been simply the best!

Miss Grey and Mrs Kearney



## 7.5a's Marvellous Mini Novels!

During Year 7, pupils produce a novella about the narrative of their choice.

7.5a have worked tirelessly to redraft and perfect their ten paragraph narrative; design a front cover and illustrate their writing suitably. They have used peer assessment and a little support from me to write some amazing stories. Here are Jordan and Michelle presenting their anthology of work to the delightful Mrs Ware who has also helped them so much throughout Year 7! Why not pop into the LRC to read them?

Well done, 7.5a!

Miss Hitchens



## Accelerated Reader: A Year in Numbers!

So, the first year of Accelerated Reader is complete. Here's the lowdown...

**5032** quizzes taken by Y7

**497** quizzes were completed with 100% success!

**27** is the number of quizzes Caitlyn Byrne achieved 100% on – the highest in the year! She won a goody bag filled with treats from Waterstones!

**14** 'Millionaires' were created due to the number of words they read and successfully quizzed on! Well done to Caitlyn Byrne, Jess Chappell, Lola Charvin, Rosie Coan, Sam Glancy, Victoria Leigh-Valero, Sam Pavey, Beth Clapham, Ben Hayes, Mason Hughes, Mia Hughes, Aaron Mellish, Charlotte Pilcher and Shane O'Connor!

In 2013-2014, Year 7 and 8 will be pitted against each other – who will win I wonder?

Miss Hitchens

## The Demon Headmaster – Not at our School!

Throughout the course of this year, Year 7 drama club has been in full swing.

A dedicated group of ten pupils have been busy learning lines, rehearsing and practising twice a week all year in preparation for The Demon Headmaster performance on New Pupil Day.

With auditions over and parts allocated in March, pupils had to memorise all their lines and remember their stage directions.

The big day rapidly approached, and with some minor alterations, the stage was set and we were ready. With an audience of nearly three hundred, including Year 6 pupils, Year 10 prefects and teachers, the play began. Forty minutes later and all lines beautifully performed, the audience erupted with applause. Charlotte Pilcher 7JWS made a very scary and evil headmaster, terrifying all the new pupils!

The Year 7 performers were amazing and did everybody proud – it was a massive success. Well done Year 7 Drama Club!

### Cast List:

MAX JONES	JEFF
ROSIE COAN	ROSE
GEORGIA BRENNAN	SARAH
CHARLOTTE PILCHER	THE DEMON HEADMASTER
CAITLYN BYRNE	DINAH GLASS
YASMIN JALALI	LLOYD HUNTER
JASMINE SPINKS	HARVEY HUNTER
JESS CHAPPELL	MRS HUNTER AND LUCY
GEMMA CURRY	MRS WILBERFORCE AND INGRID
KATIE PECKITT	EDDY HAIR

Miss Seaston

## No Pens Day!

On 25th June, Y7 took part in No Pens Day where they learned to communicate and problem-solve using their Speaking & Listening skills rather than a pen and paper.

Activities were completed in PSHE, Drama, History and Spanish and these ranged from trading games and dramatic interpretations to bullfighting songs and recreated medieval villages!

The fun didn't end at lunchtime either and a massive thank you to Miss Richards and the PE department who organised a basketball inter-form tournament, and to Mrs Ryan who organised an 'East v West' taste session and quiz in Food Tech. Both of these extra-curricular events were over-flowing with eager pupils!

The day ended with a plenary session in the Watson Hall led by Miss Hitchens where pupils summarised their learning about Conflict (the day's theme) through the medium of song and dance! I was most impressed with 7SWN's song – it's clearly a future top ten hit!

Some comments from Year 7 about the day:

- **'No Pens day was great'**
- **'It was really fun and a change is always good!'**
- **'Best day EVER!'**
- **'It was a fantastic day and a great experience!'**
- **'A brilliant day at an AMAZING school!'**

Well done on a great day Y7 and a massive thank you to the governors who came in to see what was going on! Similarly, Year 12 Film Studies were invaluable on the day, filming activities and taking photos for posterity. A great team effort! Such a shame one Ofsted inspector popped in for a whole three minutes – no pleasing some people!

Miss Hitchens



# GCSE Graphic Products

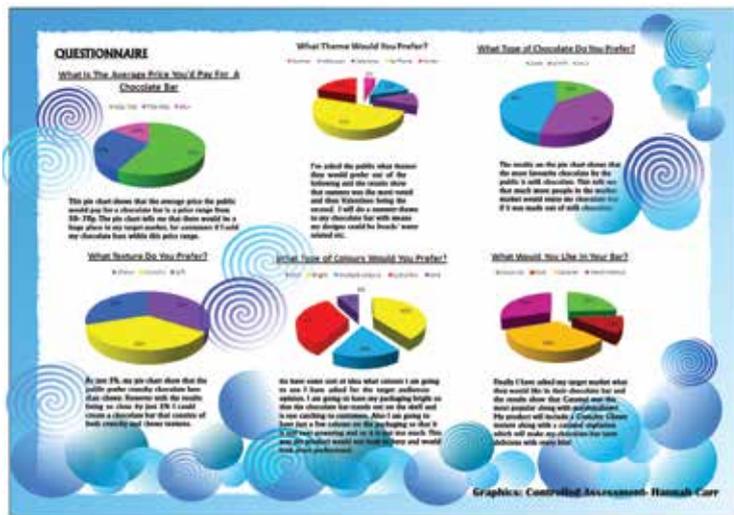
Year 10 students have made a good start to their controlled assessment work so far.

Students are designing a confectionery item of their choice and a point of sale display unit to hold and promote the product.

Students so far have analysed the task and existing products and have started to generate design ideas using CAD and drawing software.

By the time the students return in Year 11 they should be all set for making prototype models and their final solution.

Mr Travis



### Task Analysis

**Position**  
Is the product a suitable size? The product will be a reasonable size to fit the display it will be placed in. What will your product ultimately look like? My product will look like an existing chocolate bar but my own design and some of the brand of chocolate.

**Cost**  
How much will the product cost? The cost of the product will be between 10p to over a pound depending on how big the product is and if there are extras. How much will the product cost if they come to school? The product will cost less than what you buy there because there will be more to produce. How much will your target market be expected to pay for the product? The target market will be paying less than what they would expect to pay.

**Materials**  
What materials will you use to make your chocolate bar and point of sale display? The materials I will use will be card, self-adhesive and paper. How will your product fit together? My product will fit together by making sure the chocolate bar fits in the point of sale display.

**Functions**  
What are the graphics on the product intended to do? The graphics are intended to make the product stand out, make the target market be interested in buying the product and possibly buying it. Is the graphics suitable? The graphics will be suitable for my product because if they weren't there would be no point in trying to sell the product when the graphics have nothing to do with the actual product itself.

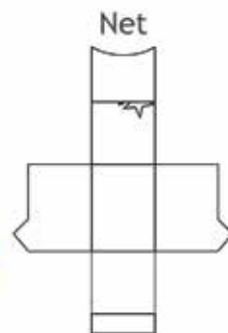
**Environment**  
Is it reusable? A product will be reusable that you don't waste rubbish. Will the product and packaging be eco-friendly? Yes because I would like to design a product that will be easy to recycle and make it eco-friendly to everyone if any one.

**Who is your target market?**  
My target market will be for any age of people.

**Assessment**  
What colour will your product be to make it eye catching for your target audience? The colours I will be using will be colours that stand out, bright colours that will make people want to buy the product. What graphics will you put on your product? The graphics I will use are... Should I have a logo on my product? The type of logo I will have is a logo related to the same brand of products will be designing and creating.

**Environment to it is reusable?**  
My product will be reusable so that you don't waste rubbish. Will your product and packaging be eco-friendly? Yes because I would like to design a product that will be easy to recycle and make it eco-friendly to everyone. The type of logo I will have is a logo related to the same brand of chocolate will be designing and creating.

### Design 3



# GCSE Product Design

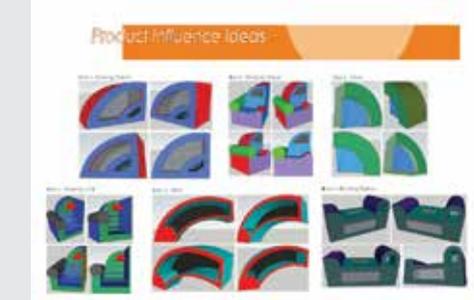
Year 10 students have started work on their controlled assessment projects.

Students have this year been given the task to use the design movement Memphis as influence for their own concepts.

Having been fine tuning their 3D computer modelling skills earlier in the year, students have started to develop initial concepts using Sketch Up. As the example work shows some attractive and exciting designs concepts have been produced so far.

Looking forward to next year when they bring their ideas to life in the workshops, keep up the hard work and well done Year 10!

Mr Fletcher



# Year 10 GCSE Textiles Controlled Assessment

Year 10 Textiles GCSE students have been working extremely hard on their controlled assessment, especially those attending the extra lessons after school.

With excellent design work and informative research they have begun to create their own pattern templates using their final designs or are adapting pre-made fashion templates. All their hard work is starting to pay off as they are nearing the finish line to completing prototypes of their final products.

Your hard work, effort and dedication to the subject is not going unnoticed Year 10, keep up the good work and let Year 11 run just as smoothly for you all.

Miss Hudson.



## Year 9 Product Design



Students have been working hard on a new project creating some modern and unique clock designs.

Developing their designs using 3D computer modelling the students have also spent many hours bringing their designs to life in the workshops and I'm sure you will agree there are some fantastic concepts.

Some inspired design work from Year 9, well done!

Mr Fletcher



## Year 9 Graphic Products

Year 9 have been working in teams to complete an 'Apprentice' style project; Students have learnt how to collaborate effectively, critically analyse and evaluate information to identify their clients' requirements, target market needs to develop range of packaging design ideas.



Each group communicated their ideas through a professional presentation; this work was very impressive and 'pitched' confidently to Mrs Booth and Mr Fenwick.

Excellent job Year 9, well done!

Mrs Booth

## Year 5 Visits 2013

Throughout July a number of local primary schools have had the opportunity to visit Wellington School to participate in a variety of activities including Food Technology.

Both Miss Hudson and Mrs Ryan were on hand to work with 3 groups of very excited Year 5 pupils.

Pupils were able to learn some basic food hygiene and safety practices before designing and making their own decorated cakes.

The cake designs included funny faces as well as animals and patterns. The pupils had different coloured icing to work with as well as dolly mixtures, strawberry laces, gummy teeth & lips and bananas and shrimps. The end results were fantastic with many pupils producing a good likeness of their design.

Of course the best part of the lesson was eating the cakes. Sorry to all the teachers and parents who then had hyperactive children to deal with.

Mrs Ryan



## Young Veggie Chef 2013

As part of National Vegetarian week from Monday 20th – Sunday 26th May, the Vegetarian Society ran a competition to find the Young Veggie Chef of 2013. There were two age categories and four pupils from Wellington School entered into the 11 and over age category.

Pupils had to design their own vegetarian dish following the theme of "simple foods". The dish could be a starter, main or a dessert.

All the contestants were given the opportunity to try out their dish by attending an after school cooking session to make the final product. Pupils were able to see if their method worked and more importantly whether the dish tasted, looked and smelt appealing.

Entries were then submitted to the Vegetarian Society for consideration.

After a tense few weeks of waiting we were informed that two of the Wellington entries had won prizes. Well done to Charlotte Pilcher 7JWS – the overall winner of the category, and Kate Haughton 8EJN – the runner-up.

Representatives from the Vegetarian Society joined us for a Year 7 Assembly when the girls were awarded their prizes which included, book tokens, a lunch bag and a selection of baking equipment.

Well done to all the pupils involved, I look forward to sending even more entries off next year.

To see the winning entry check out <https://www.youngveggie.org/NVW>

Miss Ryan



## Year 8 Old Trafford Trip

Year 8 students study a module called "The World of Sport" in the Summer term. They learn about how football clubs make money, whether wealth is linked to sporting success and information on the ideal place to locate a sporting stadium.

To support this module, the Geography department run a trip to Old Trafford football stadium. Students get a guided tour of the stadium where they have the opportunity to go into the changing rooms, sit in Sir Alex Ferguson's old chair in the dug-out and also to see inside the press office.

They have the chance to learn about the history of the club at the museum and also have a classroom session as well where they can ask questions on all different topics relating to the running of a football club.

I think Year 8 agreed that the trip was excellent (even the City fans said so too!!!)

Mrs Harte



## Year 10 Geography Field work trip to our favourite destination!

Year 10 Geography GCSE students went on a newly designed fieldtrip to their favourite destination : The Trafford Centre.

Students spent part of the day completing land use maps and asking shoppers about their shopping habits. Finally they completed an environmental survey.

Students then chose where to have their lunch in the Orient before catching the coach and repeating the same process in Altrincham. Minus lunch! All students collected some great information that they will use to gain fantastic grades in their controlled assessment.

The day went really well apart from Mrs Young taking too many random photographs which made her look quite suspicious!

Mr Whitaker



## Globetrotter News



The pupils who regularly attend Globetrotters pulled out all the stops to help at Open Day.

The task in hand was to build a shanty dwelling from the various cardboard boxes and packing cases we managed to collect over the previous few weeks.

The students were very diligent in their task... the shanty house grew quickly and even had furniture inside! Some of our younger visitors were delighted with the activity and even sat inside!!

Much fun was had the following Monday morning deconstructing the shanty house back to a pile of cardboard ready for recycling!!

Mrs Milligan



## Bury Rail Trail

On a glorious day in June Mrs Young and Mr Whitaker took some budding young Geographers to the Rail Trail in Bury.



After a fantastic ride on a steam train we took a wonderful country sidewalk through the Irwell Valley following the path carved out by the River Irwell. While Mrs Young was very impressed by the world class meanders the majority of the Year 9s were more interested in an 'honesty box' left out by a local farmer. After being followed by a few brave chickens we boarded the steam train and headed to the transport museum. Everyone enjoyed getting behind the wheel of a double-decker bus or dressing up in 1940s clothing.

A great day was had by all, even though they would not allow Mr Whitaker to drive the train!

Mrs Young

## Year 8 World of Sports

In the summer term, we look at the World of Sport with Year 8 and students cover a range of different ideas and focus on different geographical skills.

Year 8 classes take on the task of researching a sport and presenting it in an innovative and creative way. Some of the students came with huge boxes full of information, others came with creatively designed projects on baseball bats and badminton rackets...

I was really impressed with the hard work that all students have put in to this project and hopefully they can keep their creativity rolling over the summer and in to Year 9.

Miss English



## Geography Tree of Progress



**Isaac Farell 9.3:**  
very persuasive and fantastic presentation.

**Tom Webster 8.1a:**  
best mark in exam

**Mia Ratcliffe:**  
A\*in Year 10 exam

**Emily Evan:**  
A\*in Year 10 exam

**Holly Owen:**  
A\*in Year 10 exam

**Jake Howarth 8.0:**  
consistently great effort and deep thinking!

### ALL OF THE BELOW ARE ON THE TREE FOR FANTASTIC MARKS ON THEIR END OF YEAR EXAM

7.2a Shane O'Connor

7.2a Cara Rushton

7.2a Annabel Dickinson

8.1a Tom Webster

8.2a Tom Matthews

8.2b Rebecca Harvey

8.3b Byron Morrison

9.2 Matt Jinks

9.3 Josh Curtis

9.3 Abi Stroud

9.5 Calum Burns

9.5 Jacob Farthman

9.6 Nataniel Chiteza

### GEOGRAPHER OF THE MONTH –

April: Hannah Seager Year 10 - fantastic mark in her Year 10 exam and consistently great attitude!

May: Daisy McDowell 8.5A - Daisy has worked really hard in lessons recently and shown huge improvement. Great effort with her Assessment and all work. Great attitude towards Geography.

June: Wilf Langdon 7.1B - Outstanding work on his end of year exam. Wilf always contributes in class discussions and has some fantastic Geographical knowledge.

## PSA News

The role of the PSA is to raise funds to purchase items not covered by the official School budget. We meet on a regular basis and require the support of parents. If you are unable to attend the meetings, we welcome your support at our fundraising events.

The calendar of meetings for this academic year is as follows:

**Monday 11th November (AGM) in the Octagon**

**Thursday 21st November (6.00pm preparation for Christmas Fair)**

**Monday 14th January 2014 (PSA meal)**

**Monday 3rd March**

**Monday 12th May**

**Monday 16th June**

Meetings usually start at 7.00pm in the LRC and all parents are welcome to attend any meeting – we hope some 'new faces' will join us! Further details from Mr D Shaw at School.

Funds raised by the PSA over previous years have provided the School with minibuses, staging, bench seating, lighting and sound equipment for School productions and Sports kit for all School Teams.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Family Fun Night Thursday 17th October 7.00pm – 9.00pm**

An evening of family quizzes and bingo with a licensed bar available.

**Christmas Fair Sunday 24th November 10.00am – 1.00pm**

Our ever popular annual event, lots of stalls and fun activities on the lead-up to the festive season. Father Christmas has been invited.

**Family Race Night Thursday 6th March 2014 – 7.00 – 9.30pm**

See how lucky you are in picking the winners! Licensed bar available.

Further details will follow for all these events – we hope you can join us!

### Winners of our Summer Draw

**1st Prize - £100 – L Rushworth**

**2nd Prize - £50 – J Clucas**

**3rd Prize - £30 – M Nicholson**

**4th Prize - £20 – S Howarth**

## Quarry Bank Mill Trip

In May, the History Department took all of their enthusiastic Year 10 GCSE students to visit Quarry Bank Mill in Styal.

GCSE History students study Quarry Bank Mill as part of their Controlled Assessment and the visit allowed for an extremely interesting look at the conditions experienced by Apprentice children in the 18th and 19th century as workers for the Greg family.

After our visit, I am sure that many of them are now a lot more appreciative of the lives they lead today. I'm sure you'll agree that 13 hour days, handfuls of cold porridge and working around dangerous machinery sounds a very different life when compared to today's biggest problems...having the latest clothes or games console!

The pupils were a credit to the school throughout, and the staff received several complimentary comments from members of the public who were impressed with the way Wellington pupils conducted themselves. Furthermore, the attentiveness shown to the volunteer tour guides and the perceptiveness of the questions being asked promises much for a successful GCSE course. Well done to all involved!

Mr Gerschler



## London 2013

On the 30th June, 42 Year 9 pupils set off bright and early to visit London with the History Department.

The first stop was the London Dungeon, where pupils got to learn about some gruesome stories from London's past. Next it was some spectacular views of the capital from the London Eye, followed by dinner at The Hard Rock Cafe. Pupils had a fantastic experience as they stayed the night on the HMS Belfast, an old Navy warship converted into a museum, and they really got a sense of life on board for the sailors. The trip came to a close with a visit to the Science Museum. Everyone had a fantastic time and we can't wait to do it again next year!

Mr Gerschler



## Warwick Castle – Year 7

With birds of prey, trebuchets, dungeons, and portcullises it is little wonder that Year 7 could not contain their excitement on arrival at Warwick Castle.

Pupils had the opportunity to explore the castle, hear talks and watch demonstrations about medieval weaponry and lifestyle, and watch a bird of prey display. There was a little concern that the birds might land on the heads of some of the pupils, as one of the eagles in particular was a little more than truculent! Fortunately, the pupils were fantastic and made the most of the visit that linked to the work that they have completed this year on castles.

Miss Tildbury



## Samba Band

Those of you who attended Awards Evening or Open Morning will also have seen our fantastic Samba Band.

Samba Band was set up at the start of the Summer Term and is run by Mr Black, the Drum tutor. Consisting of Year 10 students, those who have Drum lessons and a few 'extras', they certainly helped me get in the carnival mood at the Bridgewater Hall!

Mrs Johnson



## Awards Evening

Our musicians outdid themselves at this year's Awards Evening.

The performances were of the highest calibre and showed off not only the ability of our students but how much variety there is! We had: Sing, Vocalise, Sing with 7s and the cast from the Wizard of Oz singing, Band, Samba Band, and duets from Take 2 (Kieran and Sam Malseed on the saxophone) and Laura McDonagh and Katy Allan. A massive well done to everyone from me.

Mrs Johnson



## Talent Show

The wealth of talent displayed at the Bridgewater Hall did not end there!

On 11th July we held the annual Talent Show.

Students performed to a packed-out Watson Hall. We had vocalists, instrumentalists and dancers who again gave us a varied programme of entertainment, followed by a series of staff acts of the highest calibre ...or entertainment value at least!

Mrs Johnson



## French trip 2013

We set off from school on the 4th July at 11pm, it was going to be a long night ahead!

Early in the morning we got the ferry from Dover to Calais, which took an hour and a half. When we arrived we went to a hypermarket and then took a journey to an organic bakery where we made bread. This was really funny because we couldn't understand the man! Next was a short journey to the chateau, full of laughter and chatter. The chateau was lovely and the food was very nice. The next day we went to a market in Bayeux and got to see a medieval festival, then in the afternoon we went to a beautiful beach. When we got back it was time for snails and frogs' legs, we thought the frogs' legs were nice! On our last full day we went to the 360 degree cinema in Arromanches and then a museum to learn about the D Day landings. Later, we went shopping around the town and the teachers took us for ice creams which were delicious. On the journey back to the chateau we stopped at a war cemetery which was full of gravestones of the British soldiers who died. On the Sunday night it was time for the fancy dress disco. It was so much fun and the teachers were hilarious with their dance moves, we will never forget them! On Monday it was time for us to go home, no one wanted to leave, we had that much fun! On the journey home it was enjoyable as we got to hear Miss Warburton's high notes, we all received certificates for something we did well and we got to give the teachers awards. The best part was when we made a video to 'Call Me Maybe', which none of us will ever forget, it was hilarious! We all wish we could go again!

Molly Lomas and Joel James, 9.3



## Routes into Languages POP Video Competition

Me, Alfie, Ben and Miss Warburton made the long journey down to Exeter for the Final of the Routes into Languages POP video competition.

It was really fun! We heard Tom Daley speak in Spanish as he was runner up in the KS5 category. We were runners up and won £50! We are definitely entering next year and hopefully we will get the opportunity to go to the awards ceremony again.

By Gianni Bandiera Leigh 8NWN



## La Rioja

Altrincham, Tuesday 16th July

A delicious meal was had by all at 'La Rioja' tapas restaurant in Altrincham. A group of pupils from Year 7 and Year 9 enjoyed a selection of traditional Spanish tapas whilst practising their Spanish skills at the same time! One pupil said "[...] most of the stuff I would never have ordered but it was GORGEOUS!" It was great to see the pupils enjoying themselves speaking in Spanish and challenging themselves to try new foods. Well done!

Miss Hoban



## Well Green International Day

On Friday 28th June, over 60 pupils from Well Green Primary School visited us to take part in our first 'International Day'.

Year 4 and Year 6 pupils were divided into groups and worked in a carousel activity to learn about French handwriting from Miss Mille and two Year 10 helpers. Well Green pupils also made and decorated their own puppets and practised

a French dialogue. Another activity, delivered by Wellington pupils, was to learn the vocabulary to buy food in German and then pupils had the opportunity to order this food at the café. Heads, shoulders, knee and toes in Spanish, along with a breathtaking Zumba routine completed the six different activities. The Year 6 pupils departed, leaving the Year 4s to enjoy a lunch in the canteen. Our Wellington linguists, were fantastic teachers (as always) and the primary school children really enjoyed working alongside our students. All pupils (both from Wellington and Well Green) were issued with a certificate of participation to mark the day. We hope to make this an annual day and are very grateful to our pupils for all of their help.

Miss Weeks



## The Chief Arrives At Wellington

As a new member of staff starting at Wellington, my familiarisation fortnight has been incredibly eventful and I will certainly be 'hitting the ground running in September'.



On Tuesday 9th July I was delighted to welcome Year 5 pupils from Heyes Lane Primary School to experience a taste of Wellington Life by taking part in a REP based lesson.

Although very nervous, everyone got involved and became embroiled in an experiential lesson in which they were initiated into a rainforest tribe called the Chipko's. We really set the scene with tropical rainforest music, dim lighting, head dresses and accents! Pupils were fully engaged as they wrote vows and performed their own rituals becoming fully fledged members of the rainforest. I was incredibly impressed with their participation and enthusiasm... If this is how they perform in Year 5 I can't wait to see what they'll achieve in Year 7!

Mrs K Jones (Teacher of REP)

## RE mosque

Due to all their hard work this year in RE, 15 year 8 pupils were invited to Jame'ah Mosque in Stretford.

The students were taken on a tour by the Iman and got to see all the areas of the Mosque. As well as seeing the main prayer hall, students were shown around the class room area where students as young as 3 would do extra work on their religion. The students thoroughly enjoyed their trip and said it was really good to actually see the Mosque in real life.

Miss Davison



## MATHS News

### Mathematics meets Languages!

In June, a small group of students from Year 9, who were selected for their exceptional ability in Mathematics and MFL, were accompanied by Mr Poole and Mrs Roe-Bennett to Altrincham Grammar School for Girls.

There they took part in the "Fun Maths-MFL Roadshow", where they tackled an assortment of Mathematics puzzles, with a twist – they were written in a variety of modern languages! Not only did students have to negotiate tricky number, shape and algebra, but they had to interpret French, German, Spanish and even Mandarin! They enjoyed being stretched by some very challenging mathematical tasks, and acquitted themselves well in the company of students from a number of nearby schools – congratulations are due to all for the way they participated and represented Wellington School.

As an example of the tasks they had to complete...

**Füllen Sie das 4 x 4 magisches Quadrat mit den Karten ein, damit jede Zeile, Spalte und Diagonale 34 macht.**

Of course it was!

Mr Poole



The students in the picture are (L-R) Ruby James, Emma Whitehead and Millie Rose.

## Year 7 cricket report

Our first cricket season at Wellington was very successful as the whole team worked hard to improve their bowling, batting and fielding. Mr Morgan and Mr Gubbins gave us plenty of practice both on a Thursday lunchtime and afterschool.

Our first game was at St Anthony's under the constant noise of the M60 motorway, the team got a crucial first game win after scoring 90 runs in 12 overs. The second game was a tight affair at Ashton on a very green wicket (crash helmets at the ready) but the team pulled through with a spectacular performance from all-rounder Mehmood Khan. Our third match was against BTH, this match was a nail biter, if we could win the league would be ours, unfortunately we ended up 15 runs short mostly due to a poor display in the field, Max Brookes batted for most of the game against some excellent spin bowling but just fell short of batting us to victory. Our final game did not take place as Sale High could not field a team, so we will count that as a victory, giving us a first year report of three wins and one loss.

We are looking forward to next season, with the hope of new nets in the sports hall so we can prepare over winter.

Charlie Hatchell 7NHN

## INTERFORM 2012-13

With the buzz of the Olympics still in the air the PE Department decided to project the inter form sports competition on to a new level in 2012/13 and, with help from our excellent sports leaders, the KS3 year groups were able to pit their wits against each other to chase the coveted prize of 'inter form champions'.

A range of sports including dodgeball, football, netball and athletics allowed the students to compete for points. The scoring system gave points for participation along with winning games, we even gave points for those forms whose form teacher gave the best support!

What has been especially pleasing is how close the competition has been in each year group, the addition of sports day points has had a real influence on this, with many forms who had struggled with team games excelling on the athletics track.

What is clear is that inter form is here to stay long after the Olympics have gone, the legacy remains and next school year we plan to add even more sporting events to the inter form calendar.

And so, to finish the all important winners from each year group;

- Year 7 – AGL from with 387 points**
- Year 8 – MBH form with 442 points**
- Year 9 – PAG form with 415 points**

Congratulations to all our winners, and of course to the many participants who have represented their form over the course of the year.

And yes, Mrs Booth 8MBH - you can call yourselves overall KS3 champions for 2012/13.

Mr Morgan



## Sports Dinner

This was the first year that a sports dinner had been held at Wellington School, so none of us knew what to expect. We had been briefed by Mr Beeley on the dress code, smart-casual, and what to expect on the evening - a lot of speeches. We were told a variety of awards would be handed out to the sports players who had performed particularly well in their chosen sports during the season.

On the evening of the 20th June, Bowdon Rugby club was packed with Wellingtonians of every shape and size; pupils, teachers, governors and proud parents. Everyone was dressed to the nines and I would like to take this opportunity to give a shout-out to Kieran Wright in Year 10, who looked rather dashing in his suit which he bought especially for the evening!

Numerous awards were collected by well-deserving pupils and the teachers showcased their wonderful oratory skills by giving us some touching and mildly comical speeches. We also enjoyed a Michelin star worthy meal thanks to the Dickinson family (Herb & Spice) who so kindly offered to cater for the evening.

All in all, everyone who attended the sports awards dinner had a fabulous evening and I would like to say a big thank you to Mr Beeley and his staff for organising such a special event.

Galaxy Henry





## Rounders Year 8

This year the Year 8 rounder's team have had great success from getting through to the semi final of the Trafford league to finishing second in their group at the Ashton tournament.

With new girls on the team and a new captain in Amia they started very well winning 1-0 by 1 rounder against Sale High. All the girls knew what they had to do to go far in the competitions and they all performed very well every time. The Trafford tournament at Ashton meant playing 5 games straight after each other in the heat. They played very well and finished second in their group which was a massive achievement, considering the strong opposition they were up against. Next was the match against ACA which once again they won with a score of 17 - 9. The girls played superbly once again showing their skill and knowledge in rounders. Finally it was time for the semi final which meant going up against a very tough Sale Grammar side. The team played well and showed how good they are as a team overall but sadly they lost out by 6 rounders! The game was very close and showed how well the team has progressed from last year. Bring on next year!

By Leah Robinson Year 8

## Year 10 Rounders

The Year 10 rounders team are an extremely dedicated group of girls.

They have trained hard this season and have produced some great wins! The opening game of the season was against Sale High and the girls fielded very well and won 7 1/2 to 6 rounders. In the Trafford tournament we competed against some tough opposition such as Stretford High, AGGS, Flixton and Stretford Grammar. We did ourselves proud and finished 3rd in our pool. It has been a most enjoyable season for and I applaud them on their team spirit and dedication.

Miss Mac Glinchey

## Rounders Club

Year 9 rounders club began and concluded with fifteen students in attendance.

There was a real buzz of excitement and anticipation for the first game against Sale High. We also played Sale Grammar and ACA finishing first in our pool. This meant we were through to finals night where we played another three games in one night. We came third overall out of sixteen schools in Trafford, an excellent result from a very dedicated team. Well done to you all.

Miss Richards

## Rounders Year 7

A fantastic season for our Year 7 Rounders team.

The girls played with great skill and enthusiasm with some memorable performances in the Trafford League, including victories against Altrincham College of Arts 15 1/2 - 10 and Sale High 5 1/2 - 1. The girls finished first in their section, qualifying for the Trafford League Finals, beating Altrincham Grammar 8 1/2-8 and finishing runners up in the Trafford League Final.

Worthy of special mention are Captain Rachel Farthing who is the Rounders Player of the Year 2013 and Lauren Hamblett, the most improved player of the season.

It has been a pleasure to take the team and I wish them every success in the future.

Team Manager - Mrs Lawson



## Wellington's Amazing Athletes

We were graced with such great weather this season that we were able to have many athletics practices before any of our competitions.

With girls from Years 7, 8 and 9 regularly attending it was sure to be a difficult decision who should compete in each event. The decisions made, the new vests were on and the sun shone for us. First came the Year 7 event and with so many eager athletes, emotions were running high. We competed in all the events on the night and were pleased to finish third in Trafford, coming second in both the high jump and 100m and third in the relay and discus.

Next was the Year 8 and 9 competition where two athletes from each year group compete against each other! Yet again we had some amazing results and wins in the 200m, 300m 800m, relay and the high jump. We came second in the 1500m and long jump placing us third overall. The year 9 did just as well with wins in the 200m, high jump and long jump and third in the hurdles and discus, placing them third too!

A superb evening to show off the new kit and our tremendous talent. Well done to everyone who came to athletics club and to all who competed. See you again next season.

Miss Richards

## Boys Athletics

Off the back of a very successful summer Olympics in 2012, Wellingtons Key stage 3 boys Athletics teams were achieving their own greatness in 2013.

All three year groups surpassed expectations in the Trafford tournaments to achieve outstanding team standings overall. The Year 7 team finished 2nd overall out of 16 schools. Each member of the team played their part but the two outstanding performers on the day were Marius Robinson and Daniel Thompson. Marius narrowly missed out of winning in the 100m final by 0.08 seconds. Daniel on the other hand stormed to victory in the 800m, winning by a margin of around 180m.

The Year 8 and 9 boys competed as a joint team however their results are published separately. The Year 8s matched the 7s by coming 2nd overall out of the 12 representing schools in Trafford. Whilst the Year 9s managed to secure 4th place in a heavily fought contest against some very strong athletes. Again, each member of the team displayed determination and tenacity when the competition got tough but none more so than Matthew Yates and Harvey Tero. Both of these Year 8 pupils excelled in their individual events of Javelin and Hurdles/Discus respectively. Matthew came 2nd in the javelin competition, throwing over 25m, and as a direct result he has now started training with Sale Harriers. Harvey demonstrated a similar feat in the discus resulting in 2nd place also. He however was a last minute replacement for the hurdles and what a replacement he turned out to be, gliding over the hurdles like a gazelle and managing to achieve 1st place.

Both teams performed fantastically well and have given themselves a platform to build upon for next year. Well done!

Mr Gubbins

## Sports Day 2013 (from a 9NLN 'winning' perspective)

We were all excited to find out that Sports Day was being held at Longford Park Stadium, Stretford, for the very first time. The boys were all really enthusiastic about putting their names forward for all the events, the spaces filled up quickly! On the other hand the girls needed a little encouragement from Mrs Lawson to volunteer and it had nothing to do with missing a day of school!

Our first success was the 800m with Louise Scotson who came 1st. This success continued with Jack Wright coming 1st in the Long Jump and Ben Williamson also finishing 1st in the Discus. There were some other outstanding form performances which, to our great surprise and delight, meant that we won the Sports Day trophy.

This was a great event and a real team effort and as Rachel Blackshaw wrote "there was a lively atmosphere and the crowds were very supportive, cheering everyone on and encouraging people to carry on to the end".

Sophie Minshull, Jack Wright and Andrew Hardman 9NLN





## A DAY OF SPORTS

Tuesday 18th JUNE 2013

During a sunny morning at Longford Park stadium in Stretford, an exciting event was taking place. The park was being occupied by Wellington school, who had brought along a group of sporty and competitive children.

They were here for sports day, an annual event which had ended in rain and a soggy pitch in previous years. However, determined to have a successful day, the school had decided to re-locate their sporting extravaganza to Longford.

Eight girls and eight boys were selected to represent their tutor group. Each person was assigned an event (or two) to compete in and had arrived via bus, dressed in the Wellington kit.

Many competitors found the build-up to the day extremely exciting and said that the "anticipation was unbearable". Teachers like Ms Richards cheered the pupils on by giving them advice, "Just complete the event to the best of your ability" or, "Even if you come last, you'll still gain our tutor group points".

Yes, at Wellington, you were given points for competing which contributed towards your position on the tutor league. (A competition between tutors to become the best tutor group) This added to the competition and made the sports day even more exciting.

Throughout the day, many events took place. For example, the 100m, the relay, the high jump, the long jump or the discus. There was a great variety of sports for pupils to experience.

Everyone who participated found the day really fun and cheerful. One girl who participated in the relay said that she was "Really happy that I successfully passed the baton on" and another stated that, "I was excited when the races started because of the cheering".

Sports day wasn't just a fun and exciting day but was also a chance to boost fitness and athletic skills.

The first placed 3 competitors in each event were awarded a medal, They were met with many cheers from the enthusiastic crowd of pupils. (And parents who had also been invited to witness the day.)



As this format at Longford Park was so successful it seems like this will probably be happening again next year. Many pupils declared that they would like to experience sports day again. Some pupils said that they would like to try new events, "I would do the 100m because of the cheers and the excitement". But many pupils said they would "re-do my event to see if I could beat my score".

All in all, it seems that the day was a big success. However, one slightly discouraging part seemed to be that "The buses on the way back were extremely sweaty and smelly."

By Lili Butler 9ARI



## Sports Day and Being a Sports Leader

This year's sports day was entertaining and rewarding for both the athletes taking part and the sports leaders involved.

The event took place at Longford Park and for once it was sunny. For the sports leaders it was, for many of us, our first time helping and leading sessions with people other than those in our PE sets. Responsibilities included organising the different teams and year groups, taking results, to allocating where each year group sat in the stand and more. It was a chance to improve leadership skills and improve confidence as we had to use our voices to be heard amongst the noise and to make ourselves clear to athletes involved. As the day went on there were many successes and everyone enjoyed themselves, even the teachers who started the Mexican wave and various dances to the constant music.

The sports leaders' course has been a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone involved and has helped with team building and leadership skills as everyone is given a chance to lead groups at primary school events, sports day and various things inside PE lessons. It has helped boost my confidence and given me better social skills that will be useful outside of school. I highly recommend doing it if you are given the chance.

Miss MacGlinchey and Galaxy Henry



## 6th form Physics trip to Lancaster University

On Wednesday the 10th of July the Year 12 physicists visited Lancaster University Physics Department.

It was a fantastic day with lots of activities carried out. The day started with a meet and greet with some of the PhD students and researchers then followed by a demonstration of the cutting edge research they are looking at including quantum computers and photoelectrolysis.

Our tour of the department included the biophysics lab where some of the pupils

tested their blood flow and heart rate, and also the low temperature labs which cool down liquid helium to a freezing  $-270^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

In the afternoon students were 'hands on,' taking part in some of the first year lab practicals, including measuring the speed of sound and Millikan's oil drop experiment. This gave the students a great opportunity to see what university life is like and the sort of experiments and equipment they could work with.

To finish the day we got to take part and watch demonstrations of weird practicals which included using liquid nitrogen to smash up fruit and levitate magnets. It was a really fun day which hopefully has given the group a taste for what University will be like.

Miss Workman

## Excellence in Enzymes

On a blistering hot Wednesday 10th July, our A-level Biologists conducted their A2 Practical Skills which accounts for 10% of their overall A2 grade.

The students carried out a series of complex investigative activities involving highly skilled experimental techniques. They compared the effect of different immobilized enzymes on the digestion of sucrose and examined the toxic effect of different salt concentrations on yeast cells.

Well done to all students involved as they demonstrated an outstanding level of expertise. Mrs Hoogenberg is very proud of her super scholars!

Mrs Hoogenberg



## I Scream, You Scream, We all Scream for Science!

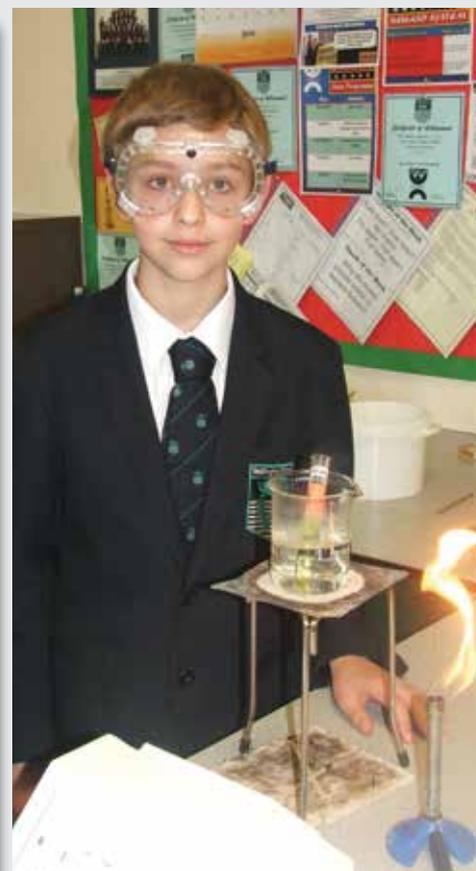
Open Morning on Saturday 22nd June the Science department proved to be a very popular attraction with our visitors.

Our enthusiastic Year 7, 8 and 9 students showcased the department by carrying out a range of biology, chemistry and physics demonstrations. Year 5 pupils were enthralled with the opportunity to view frog's blood, rat's brain and other microscopic marvels which are normally more familiar to them in the setting of Harry Potter!

Year 5's could behave like super scientists demonstrating their own practical skills using acids and alkalis, the neutralisation challenge and many more! A truly fantastic morning was had by all!

A massive thank you to all our volunteers and helpers on the morning, we could not have done it without you all!!

Mrs Hoogenberg





## Poland Trip

In July, Mrs Taylor Crooke along with Mrs Evans and Mr Whittaker took 25 Psychology students to Krakow in Poland.

We all met painfully outside school at 4:30 on a Sunday morning where we got on the coach to Liverpool Airport. Once we arrived in Krakow, we met our tour guide, Rod.

On the Sunday after an early start we acted as proper tourists do and checked out the town centre of Krakow. With a bit of cultural background on the area, courtesy of Rod, we learnt about where the name Krakow comes from along with visiting the indoor market which was inside the old Cloth Hall.

After we got to grips with the character of the city, we used the tram service to get back to the hotel and instead of waiting until everyone had bought a ticket, in a typical British rush, we decided to just get on and buy our tickets inside the carriage. It turns out that you could only buy tickets from one of the carriages – a disaster for the 12 girls and Mrs Taylor-Crooke who happened to get on the carriage without a ticket machine. Unfortunately for them, ticket inspectors were on there and demanded that all of them pay 120 Zlotys upfront for travelling without a ticket... With little thanks to Rod, but a massive thanks to Abbey who held her own in a slanging match between four Polish men, they only had to buy a ticket and then it was settled. Not an ideal situation when you're running on just 3 hours sleep!

When we got back to the hotel we had a few hours before it was time for our tea, which proved to be a rather interesting meal. For starter, a pot of what looked like baked bean soup was delivered to each table, which was shortly followed by less than appetising looking pork. This might have seemed to be slightly more edible had it not been covered in an unknown brown sauce – we began to wish we'd chosen the vegetarian option. Thankfully, we had another lucky escape as the hotel was about a 10 minute walk away from a McDonalds so quite rightly, most of us went for a high in fat, low in meat substitute meal.

We then returned back to the hotel for a talk about Poland and the Holocaust, particularly in Krakow, before catching up on our sleep.

On Monday it decided to rain in Krakow, which actually set the scene when we visited the wartime ghetto of Podgorze. It was gloomy and miserable, but fascinating to see where thousands of Jews were forced to live. We visited a couple of Synagogues that were situated in the ghetto; the first was The Remuh Synagogue. Out of respect for the Jewish religion, the boys had to wear a Kippah and the girls had to wear scarves that covered their hair. We had a look around the inside, before we went to the adjoining cemetery, the home of the infamous Wailing Wall – a wall built out of destroyed Jewish tombstones, built by Nazis that surrounded the Synagogue. The second Synagogue we visited was Isaac's Synagogue, which was much bigger than The Remuh Synagogue, but like the Remuh Synagogue, the architecture was truly amazing.

After visiting the Ghetto, we went for lunch, where Mr Whitaker found a burger the size of his head and some of the girls found a waiter they fell in love with! We were refuelled after our lunch, just as well as it was a reasonably long walk to Schindler's Factory Museum. In here we saw genuine artefacts from world war WWII, such as real guns that the German SS officers used, as well as their uniforms. We also saw Schindler's office along with portraits of the 1000 Jews that he managed to save from Nazi Execution during World War II. After visiting Schindler's Factory Museum, we went to the Galicia Jewish Museum, using what were golf carts for tourists as a method of transportation. In the Galicia, we saw still photographs of the war as it happened and what it had left behind.

As if this wasn't emotional enough, we were then extremely privileged to meet Lidia Maksymowicz, a survivor of the Holocaust at the biggest concentration camp, responsible for the most deaths during the war, Auschwitz-Birkenau. Lidia told us her story that began when she was just 3 years old. She recalled the last moment in which she saw her grandparents after the selection – they were sent for immediate extermination. She was very 'lucky' not to have been killed straight away at such a young age, but she was instead used for pseudo-medical experiments that involved treatments to attempt to change the

colour of her eyes, etc. She recalled the liberation of the camp which happened when she was 5 by the Soviet soldiers and that the best meal she ever had was the slice of bread and butter they gave to her along with a cup of coffee. Lidia was later adopted by a Polish couple who took her from Auschwitz to give her a home. In her late teens she began the search for her real mother and after extensive searching with the help of agencies that were set up after the war, Lidia found her biological mother 18 years after the war ended, living in the USSR. Lidia was reunited with her mother; however, she decided to remain in Poland where she still lives today.

On our final day of sight-seeing, we visited Auschwitz-Birkenau. We started with Auschwitz I, the part that is home to the gates that hold the chilling phrase 'Arbeit Macht Frei' – Work Makes Free. It is at this part where we were able to see exhibits of real artefacts, including invoices for Cyclone B (the gas used in gas chambers), the Nazi model of the gas chamber and crematorium layouts, along with the striped uniforms and the many pairs of shoes. Here, we also saw the only gas chamber that is still standing at the Auschwitz-Birkenau complex. Sickeningly, the home of the Nazi General who was in charge of Auschwitz is no more than a 5 minute walk from here. After we had a guided tour around Auschwitz I, we went to Birkenau which is located 6km away from Auschwitz I. At Birkenau, we saw the iconic railway tracks and railway building, along with the typical wooden barracks that were the home for many Nazi prisoners throughout the war. We also saw a monument that has been built at the end of the tracks in memory of all of the people who died there. The memorial has 19 plaques written in various languages across the world that hold the same message: "For ever let this place be a cry of despair and a warning to humanity, where the Nazis murdered about one and a half million men, women and children, mainly Jews from various countries of Europe."

Although our 4 day stint in Poland was extremely emotional, we enjoyed every minute of it! It was an amazing experience and I'm itching to go back and see the same sights in the winter. Hopefully next year's Psychology students will be as lucky enough to go as we were. Thanks Miss!

By Hannah O'Gorman, Head Girl



## Year 11 Leavers Prom

The Year 11 GCSEs are finally over and the summer is now upon us so there was one final thing we needed to do as a Year Group and that was the PROM!

The students had been really excited about the prom all year and on 5th July 2013, approximately 180 students and staff descended upon the Holiday Inn, Wilmslow all ready to celebrate the end of 5 excellent years at Wellington School.

The students looked amazing (the staff were ok too!) and a lot of time and effort went into their appearance and also the modes of transport that they arrived in. We all enjoyed a fantastic meal and then the dancing and celebrating really began (even Mr O'Rourke did a few moves on the dance floor!)

It was a fantastic way for the students to end their school career at Wellington. Good luck to all students in Year 11 and best wishes for the future.

Mrs Harte



## Year 7

What a busy final half term Year 7 have had!

Firstly the Year group have been involved in an inter form spelling bee. Students were given a selection of words ranging from the less challenging 'basic' to the more difficult 'show stoppers'. Three pupils from each tutor group were selected to spell during form time and the top two scoring tutor groups will be going head to head in the last assembly of the year.

In between, Year 7 have been reflecting on their first Year at Wellington School (yes it really has been a year!) and writing their self evaluations. These evaluations reflect on their individual successes and achievements as well as setting goals for Year 8.

And finally there was the end of year trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach. The trip, in glorious sunshine, was a fantastic way to end such a wonderful year. Well done Year 7 and all the best for Year 8. Mrs Haley and I will miss you all!

Miss Tidbury

## Year 8

In July, Mr Webb took over 100 Year 8 pupils to Blackpool Pleasure Beach.

Pupils were invited on the trip based on their attendance and punctuality record throughout the year. The benchmark was set at 96% - a challenge that was met head-on by Year 8.

Mr Webb tells me that all the pupils were fantastic and enjoyed the day thoroughly. The Year 8 tutors also enjoyed themselves thoroughly too, so I'm told (even sneaking in a few cheeky rides themselves!).

I have already been asked where the reward trip for the end of Year 9 will be - watch this space! Maybe a certain theme park in Staffordshire might be a prime candidate...

To get on that trip, make sure you hit that magic figure of 96% attendance!

## Looking ahead to Year 9

Year 8 were given the opportunity to discuss what they would like to know about in Year 9. One hot topic was picking GCSE Options.

On meeting Mrs Mackay and Mrs Taylor-Crooke before the summer holidays, we have put together a programme that will give pupils information about careers and options that will take place during the tutor period.

Hopefully, this will give pupils the information they need to make the important decisions on picking the right GCSEs.

Mr Williams

Director of Year 9

## Sixth Form - What have we been up to?

### Prefects

We now have a team of Sixth Form prefects supporting the school at lunchtimes, events and activities. They have made a great start and their time and effort is greatly appreciated.

### Skills Day

Another skills day event brought a range of activities for Year 12 with Personal Statement workshops, Finance talks and activities creating guidance, support and top tips. It was a fun and informative day.

### Personal statements

...continue to be at the forefront of students' minds and the Sixth Form team has ensured there is plenty of support for writing them with a visit from representatives of MMU and one to one workshops with staff from the university.

### Awards Evening

A great turn out from Year 12 and Mr Cropper was very pleased with the Year Group. A fine collection of silverware was awarded to some of our high-achieving students by their subject teachers.

### The next step

There was a presentation in July from Mr Cropper regarding university applications and the UCAS process to help students and parents and I spoke about the apprenticeship system – a very worthwhile consideration. The students are currently making plans, attending open days and researching options for their next steps. Don't hesitate to consult with the Sixth Form team for further advice at any stage.

### Year 13 prom

It was glamorous, sophisticated and tasteful... and that is the students I'm talking about not the staff!!! It was a super event, a great meal, wonderful speeches and a bit of a boogie! It's bitter sweet seeing our Year 13s go off into the big wide world, but the prom is the perfect farewell and we look forward to seeing them on results day.

### Transition Tasks

These activities are to help bridge the gap between GCSE and A-level. The up-and-coming Year 12 students have been dropping in for guidance and their ideas sound great. We can't wait to see them in September.

### Trips

Good to hear from staff about the conduct and work ethic of the Sixth Formers on the various trips and visits many of the departments have organised this term. They are a lucky bunch having the opportunities available to them that staff organise... Poland with Psychology, MMU workshops with Art to name just a couple.

### Head Boy and Head Girl

Mr Cropper and Mr Beeley were impressed with the letters of application and interviews for these prestigious positions and it was a closely run thing, but eventually a decision was made and our fantastic team is . . . .

**Head Boy: Dylan Evans**

**Deputy Head Boy: Jack Owens**

**Head Girl: Hannah O'Gorman**

**Deputy Head Girl: Lauren Harrison**

I know they will be a credit to the Sixth Form and the School, Well done to these four and all of the high calibre candidates.

I'm sure I have missed a lot of things, but this was a flavour of the things that have gone on this term in the very busy Sixth Form.

Miss Grey



## Results Day for A Level students with Mr D Holland, Chair of Governors





## Year 10 Enterprise Challenge.

Monday 15th July 2013

All Year 10 students were involved in an 'Enterprise Challenge', which took place in school on the morning of 15th July.

This activity is a practical introduction to the concept of enterprise, where Year 10 students were given the opportunity to work as a team in a 'blue chip company'.

During the morning they were able to experience some of the issues that companies face such as production, marketing, sales and finance.

Prior to the event the students completed a 'Personal Profile Form', which gave an indication of their strengths, working styles and skills. Students were then allocated specific job roles suited to their individual skills and attributes as a member of a particular company. The Enterprise Challenge activity is intended to provide an opportunity for students to use their practical, problem-solving, decision making and presentation skills.

They were also encouraged to use their own initiative and individual talents, whilst working as a team, as they were in competition to make the most profit. In order to do this the students negotiated contracts, produced promotional materials, as well as products that they presented to the panel of customers in a simulation of an industry supply chain. The students also had to manage their time carefully so as to meet the deadlines agreed in each financial quarter.

The Year 10 students rose to the challenge with enthusiasm, tenacity and maturity and all thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Many sincere thanks to Education Business Solutions and all the employers involved.

Mrs Mackay

## Year 10 Practice Interviews

Wednesday 19th June 2013



30 Volunteers from various employment areas, higher educational establishments and apprenticeship providers spent today in school interviewing year 10 students. Prior to the interviews all year 10 students had completed an application form and the interviewers used the information provided in these forms to shape the interview.

Students received verbal and written feedback. It was agreed by all that the day was an excellent, useful and a very worthwhile activity.

The employers were extremely complimentary about our students, saying that they were a credit to the school, themselves and their parents.

Mrs Mackay



## Armed Forces Careers Event

Tuesday 9th & Wednesday 10th July 2013

Year 10 students were involved in two days of activities organised and run by the Army, Royal Air Force and the Royal Navy. The day comprised of 5 group sessions where the students worked in teams to solve problems, find their way through mine fields (not live of course), build carriers, take part in team exercises, manoeuvre their way through an inflatable assault course, to name but a few. The weather was very kind to us and a lot of the activities took place outside, even though dare I say it (for this country) it was a little too hot at times.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the experiences they encountered and gained a great deal in terms of working together to solve problems and the importance of clear communication, both verbal and non-verbal. Quotes from students: 'Great day Miss' and 'Can we do this again next week?'

The Armed Forces personnel were extremely complimentary about all of our students and the fact that they were a credit to the School and their parents. All three forces have said that they will definitely come back next year as they enjoyed their visit immensely.

Well done Year 10!

Mrs Mackay



# Manchester Airport ‘High Flyers Academy Careers Challenge’

Wednesday 26th June

40 Year 9 and 10 students, Mrs Mackay, Mrs Lydia Taylor-Crooke and Mr O’Rourke spent the day at Manchester Airport taking part in a high flyers careers event.

The event was held in the concorde hangar, what better place for a classroom, working underneath the wings of the famous aircraft!

The students worked in teams on various activities connected with running the airport including air traffic control, retail, marketing, engineering, emergency services and baggage management to name but a few.

Students were provided with opportunities to develop core life skills including problem-solving, creative thinking and team work. Curriculum knowledge across English, Mathematics, Science and PSHE were enhanced. There was also an insight into the variety of careers provided by an airport.

It was an exciting day full of new experiences and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Mrs Mackay



# Year 12 Professional Work Placements

Monday June 10th To Friday June 14th - All Year 12 students embarked on one week’s work placement in June. These placements were mainly sought by the students themselves and gave them the opportunity to experience future career aspirations.

The placements were extensive in nature and included medicine, environmental issues, education, veterinary, dentistry, sport & leisure, to name but a few.

Staff visited the students during the week and realised how valuable it was for them to gain insight into careers that they were perhaps considering for the future. It helped them to either confirm that this was the path that they wanted to continue to pursue or perhaps to reconsider their choices.

The employers provided the students with “hands-on” experience of all aspects of the job and were extremely complimentary about the students’ maturity, application and sincerity.

Mrs Mackay





# Wellington School Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme has again proved to be a fantastic success at Wellington this year. There was an astounding initial interest from the Year 9 Pupils, which made the job of whittling the numbers down to 22 extremely difficult for the staff. The selection evening in March was attended by over 80 pupils who all displayed the attributes that we would expect

to see from participants, and it was unfortunate that we could only take such small numbers.

The first stage of the training was to teach basics in first aid, map reading, tent pitching and campsite cooking. These lessons involved pupils giving up their time after school to learn the essential skills taught by various members of the school staff.

The first test came in the form of orienteering in Lyme Park on Saturday 27th April. This event helped to teach the pupils the basics of map reading and the importance of taking time whilst navigating.

The practice expedition was held on local territory around Dunham Massey in late May. It comprised two full days of walking, where the groups covered around 25km. The weather for the weekend was kind to the groups, however it was clear that the distance from the first day had taken its toll and by day two there were a lot of weary legs. The second day gave opportunity for the groups to walk unaccompanied, giving confidence to both the pupils and staff when they reached all checkpoints by the required cut off times.

The assessed expedition saw the groups in a less familiar area and after an early Saturday morning start, we arrived at Rivington Moor to start the two day route that circled the reservoir. The first day had mixed success, with one group completing the walk in a fantastically quick time, whilst others had to make some corrections on route, delaying them somewhat. Despite this, all teams made it in with plenty of time to pitch tents, cook and come a close second to the staff in a game of football at the campsite. The groups started the second day with more enthusiasm than on the practice. They were slick with their morning routine, striking camp, cooking and packing rapidly. The same success could not be said for the first leg of the walk, where some groups took four times the duration they should have! Undeterred by this error the navigationally challenged groups worked extremely hard to make up time, on what must have been, exhausted legs. All groups displayed a great deal of tenacity, spirit and enthusiasm throughout the walk, and it was clear that the failings in map reading had been addressed by the time all groups finished. This determination resulted in all pupils passing the expedition aspect of the award, which was a welcome relief.

***Congratulations to all the pupils who participated and a thank you to all the staff who have helped out over the course of the expeditions.***

### Staff:

- Mr Gubbins
- Mr Jones
- Mr Clinton
- Miss Hudson
- Mr Ashworth
- Mr Poole
- Miss English
- Miss Bellini
- Miss Withers

### PUPILS

- Georgia Adderley
- Elliott Bent
- James Breen
- William Callaghan
- Joshua Curtis
- Maisy Downing
- Megan Evans
- Isaac Farrell
- Abbie-Lea Geraghty
- Maxwell Hargreaves
- Conor McLoughlin
- Hollie Minshull
- Peter Mitrev
- Ellie-Jade Oxley
- Emma Rodgers
- Rachel Smith
- Lucy Turnbull
- Ben Williamson
- Sarah Willington
- Brooke Wooding
- George Kelly
- Adrian Watson

## Diary dates: 2013 - 2014

Wednesday 9th October  
Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 17th October  
PSA Family Fun Night

Friday 25th October  
School Closes

Tuesday 5th November  
School re-opens to students

Monday 11th November  
PSA Meeting and AGM 7.00pm

Sunday 24th November  
Christmas Fair

Thursday 12th December  
KS4 Options Evening

Monday 16th December  
Carol Service

Friday 20th December  
School closes

Monday 6th January 2014  
School opens



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