

# Wellington School

11 - 18 School



## SPRING TERM NEWSLETTER

January 2013



Happy New Year to you all and I hope the Christmas holiday provided you with the opportunity to enjoy some much needed 'R & R' after the challenges of a long Autumn Term.

As always, the students of Wellington School crammed a huge amount into the first term and once again enjoyed considerable success in so many areas. I hope you enjoy reading about some of the myriad activities and events reflected in this newsletter that took place at School during the Autumn Term of 2012. It really is a testament to the considerable efforts and enthusiasm of all members of the Wellington community; students, staff, parents and Governors alike.

All new starters (Year 7 students, students who joined other year groups, teachers and support staff) have settled into life at Wellington exceptionally well and have contributed enormously to our continued success and development.

A few of the plethora of personal Autumn Term highlights:

It was a delight to witness some truly outstanding musical and theatrical performances from our students, most notably in the 'Wizard of Oz' and at the Carol Service (report later from Mrs Moorhouse), the latter was quite simply breathtaking. Well done to all involved.

As always in December we take receipt of the 'RAISEonline' analysis of the previous year's GCSE results; this may not sound particularly enthralling but it is confirmation of the wonderful achievements of last year's Year 11 and their teachers. In simple terms, if there's lots of 'green' on the report, then we're doing well as this means we are significantly above national averages - and there was lots and lots of 'green'. I'm sure we can do even better this year.

We were also reassessed for our Investors in People Award, an award that determines how effectively an organisation manages and develops its staff. It is highly motivational for all concerned to receive affirmation that we have an 'invigorated workforce' who have a 'very clear vision' of where the School is heading, with individuals knowing precisely what their role is and feeling appreciated for their efforts. More importantly, all those interviewed on the day spoke of their overwhelming pride in being part of the Wellington team.

My final highlight has to be the establishment of the Year 7 Rugby Team, that I have had the pleasure of coaching, but you can read more about that later in the newsletter.

On the last day of term, we said farewell to three members of staff; Mr Holmes, who has left to teach Chemistry at Bramhall High School; Miss McCarthy who has sought pastures new, embarking on a teaching career in New Zealand, and Miss O'Neill who has also undertaken an Antipodean adventure and is now teaching in Australia. I am delighted to welcome back Mrs Johnson to the Music Department following her maternity leave and to welcome Dr Jones to the Science Department and Mrs Lawson to the PE Department.

Later this term we shall also be joined by Miss Weatherby and Miss Keighley who will cover Mrs Moorhouse's and Mrs Cook's maternity leaves respectively.

Astro update! I am pleased to announce that we have finally been granted planning permission for our all-weather pitch. There are still one or two minor issues to iron out but work is expected to begin around Easter time.

It is a pleasure to take this opportunity to pass on sincere congratulations from the Wellington community to our longest serving

Governor and his wife. Alan and Barbara Gibbons celebrated their milestone (60 years) Diamond wedding anniversary in October, a wonderful achievement, and we hear that on their special day, they were delighted to receive a card from the Queen in commemoration. Our very best wishes to Mr and Mrs Gibbons for the future. Mr Gibbons marked the occasion by attending a Governors' Meeting. Now that's dedication.

This Spring Term is a particularly busy one with Parents' Evenings for all Year Groups and GCSE Information and Examination Evenings. Please check the website and your child's school bag(!) for the dates and timings of these very important meetings.

Our Year 11 students completed their mock GCSE Examinations before Christmas. This is an important exercise for the School as it highlights particular groups of students who would benefit from additional learning sessions. If you are a parent of a Year 11 student, please support any invitations from the teaching staff for your sons or daughters to attend extra lessons, check their books even more regularly, ration mobile phone use and ban 'Facebook'.

Our annual Sponsored Walk takes place on Wednesday 13th March and this year we are raising money for the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital Charity. I'm sure we can set our sights high for the thousands of Greater Manchester children who benefit each year from the hospital's fantastic work and aim to beat last year's record-breaking total of £37,000.

S P Beeley  
Headteacher



A new initiative for the Autumn Term has been the introduction of 'Headteacher's Awards'. This is awarded to students, at my discretion, for achievement or contribution to the Wellington Community. Students receive a signed certificate and their names will be displayed on a 'Scroll of Honour' in the Vale Building. So far, I have been delighted to award certificates for services to the School: for example, our Year 9 performers in the Wizard of Oz; for sporting achievements or services in the local community. All students recognised have displayed the true 'Wellingtonian' spirit. Well done. The picture shows some of the Year 9 'Superstars' who were presented with their awards last term.

S P Beeley

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# Art Department News

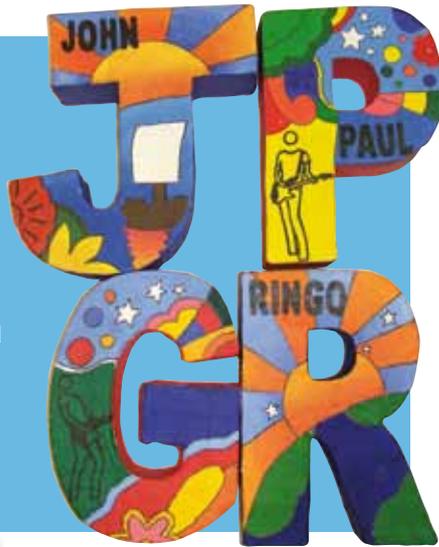
## 3D Fab Four

Georgina Gleave in Year 11 made this fabulous sculpture for her GCSE coursework.

The sculpture is of her chosen theme of music and the Beatles. With the artist Julian Opie inspiring its style, colour and form.

A great piece of work which has been very well made. Well done Georgina!

Miss Grey

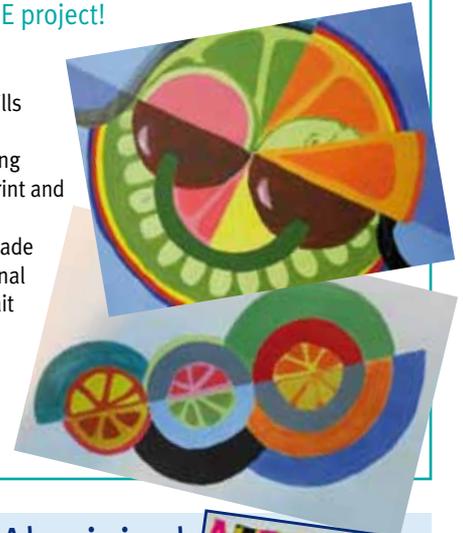


## A great start to GCSE Art

Mrs Kearney's Year 10's have made a great start on their first GCSE project!

They have been showing their skills with a range of materials including acrylic, pastel, print and collage. They have just made a start on their final pieces. I can't wait to see how their ideas develop.

Well done year 10!



## Banksy Club

Mrs Kearney's Banksy Club has been a roaring success this term! It's been so popular that some unlucky students were unfortunately turned away.

The club will be running again in the New Year with a new set of students so make sure you sign up quickly!

We have been learning stencil

cutting, spray painting and stencilling. The Pièce de Résistance will be an enormous graffiti text piece which will be completed in January.

Look out for images in the next newsletter.

Well done to all year 9's who have attended this extra curricular club!



## Absolutely Aboriginal

Year 8 students in 8.o have gone 'wild down under' creating these 3D Sculptures based on Aboriginal Art.

Students began exploring Aboriginal patterns through mark making before studying Aboriginal animals. Their designs were then made into these super 3D modroc sculptures.

Fabulous ideas and work 8.o. Mrs Kearney



## Sea Shanty Super Sketch

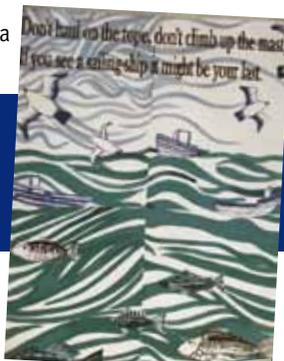
9.o created a group piece as part of the Big Draw

Using the theme from Paul Klee's quote 'a line is a dot taken for a walk.'

This linear piece shows different sea-life elements in a colour harmony palette and a quote from a sea shanty

Further inspiration was taken from some vintage inspired wallpaper designs that Miss Grey saw on Kirstie Allsopp's Vintage Home television programme . . . . ideas spring up from everywhere, so always worth keeping your eyes peeled!

Well done 9.o. Miss Grey



## Big Chief 8.4B

How! . . . .did 8.4B get to be so good at Art?!

Looking at the work of the North American Indians 8.4B have created a number of different pieces including these shields.

The shields have symbols from North American Indian Art that the students used to describe themselves. Each shield is personal and individual.

Their codes describe themselves and their hopes for the future, so keep up the good work 8.4B so you have the success so many of you stated in code on your shield!

Miss Grey





## BIG DRAW 2012

“A line is a dot that went for a walk” Paul Klee

To celebrate this year’s Big Draw some year 9 groups took their ‘dot for a walk’ by having a go at continuous line drawings.

Students took it in turn to draw portraits of their friends without lifting their pen off the page. They completed the image by adding memories and describing qualities that their friends have.

Well done to everyone who took part.  
Mrs Kearney



## Paper Installation

Inspired by the work of Andy Singleton from the ‘First Cut Exhibition’ 7.1B were taught how to produce sculptural paper installations exploring intricate paper cuttings. These paper sculptures are now displayed in the LRC for everyone to enjoy!



## If I were inside my picture

Mrs Kearney’s year 9 classes were set the challenge to create an imaginative analysis of a painting.

They had to imagine that they were inside the painting but could move around, hear, touch and smell.

The results were fantastic! Here’s an example of one of the finished poems.

### Bathing



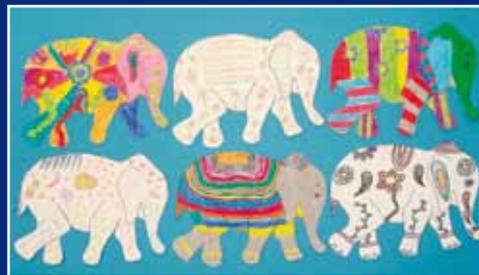
*The roar of the waves reached my ears  
Onlookers watched, laughed and cheered  
Wind brushed against my hair  
The sea would see how we fare  
As ten brave men leapt from the cliff  
Their legs cold, frozen and stiff  
There was nowhere to hide, to scream, to shout  
As all of us began to doubt  
If we’d get to the boat in the middle of the sea  
We were all frozen, from arms to knees  
Bodies curled ready to spring  
To the cliff our toes seemed to cling  
The smell of salt was in the air  
A storm this big was indeed quite rare  
The colours were black and blue and grey  
And ten men on a cliff, all did pray  
That they’d get to safety, on the boat  
Hoping dearly that it would keep them afloat.*

Kieran Gilmartin

## Not on your nellie!

Well Nellie certainly would pack her trunk if she saw these beautiful drawings!

Another example of the Big Draw event, Year 7 created cultural line patterns on these elephants.



No trundling off to the jungle, these are on display in room 12.

Well done Year 7! Mr Hughes

## Lines Home

9.6 created these beautiful line drawings as part of the Big Draw event.

The works are layered in imagery, with the base being old and new maps of Timperley and Cheshire woven together.



The drawings are of the students houses using pen and a range of different marks.

Quotes about home are also a feature and many students were able to print their own personal memories on the pieces with letter printing blocks.

Beautiful work, well done 9.6!

Miss Grey



## Homework Zone

There have been some great homeworks completed this term in Art.

Some of the pieces of note are:

- Beautiful Hannah Davies sea life illustrations
- Barbara Hepworth sculpture and research
- A totem pole
- A Charles Rennie Mackintosh canvas
- Artist research for Terry Frost presented as a boat
- Japanese Kites

It really is quite a collection and reflects the hard work, time and effort put in by students.

Well done everyone and keep up the good work!

Miss Grey & Mrs Kearney



# Art Department News

## Calendar 2013

This year's calendar is perhaps the best yet!!!! . . . . . I seem to say that every year, but Wellington students seem to get more and more talented!



They grace each classroom and I know many of the staff look forward to seeing what creative delights will appear each month!

Well done to everyone selected!

Miss Grey



## Black, White & Grey

Year 13 have been developing their drawing skills to showcase their mark making, tone and 3D qualities.



The themes they are exploring are very different but their proficiency and talent is clear from these studies.

I'm really proud of their achievements on this work, well done!

Miss Grey



## Fantasy Fish

9.9 created their own sgraffito art by creating their own scratch boards!



They used oil pastels to create an underneath pattern and then covered this pattern in Indian ink. The students scratched in fish designs based on Vincent Scarpace. Well done 9.9!



## D is for Dynamite!

11D are blasting through their coursework!

Their latest pieces are positively explosive!

With amazing artist references and use of media, 11D look set to ignite the world of GCSE Art.

Well done everyone in 11D!

Miss Grey



## Great Graphics!

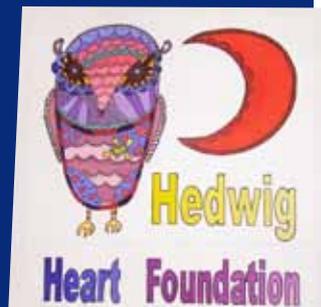
Year 11 are creating some excellent graphic works

The designs are exploring new artists and illustrators to create these pieces for a more vocational outcome

Saatchi & Saatchi had better watch out with these new up and coming design students.

Wonderful stuff!

Miss Grey



## Gaudi

9.6 worked as a team to create this drawing of a Gaudi sculpture from the Sagrada Famillia in Barcelona

They are studying Gaudi's work in class and currently developing lino print designs.

Initially each member of the class drew a small section of the sculpture to make this large scale piece, which I think is beautifully done.

Well done 9.6!

Miss Grey



## You shall have a fishy

9.0 and 9.4 made these fabulous 3D fish.

The complementary coloured shoal are making quite a splash on display in Room 13.

So if you are passing, dive in and take a look!

Miss Grey



## Fantastic Fruit

Year 7 students have been studying Pop Art this term.

They have worked hard to produce 'delicious' Roy Lichtenstein paintings based on healthy eating. They have made a fantastic display along the Art Corridor.

Stunning work Year 7, Well done!



## Under the Sea

Year 9's have been exploring the theme 'Under the Sea.'

They have been exploring surface pattern, texture and mark making.

They have completed pen drawings, watercolour paintings and acrylic paintings and are now working hard to produce some super paintings!

Well done Year 9!



## Trafford School's Open Exhibition

Massive congratulations to our A Level Art students whose work has been selected to represent Wellington School in the Trafford Schools Open Exhibition.

Thirteen schools and colleges in Trafford took part with a guarantee that one piece of artwork from each school would be selected for public view.

Ten of our students submitted work and ALL ten pieces were selected for exhibition! This is a massive achievement and I am absolutely delighted for all our students!

The art exhibition ran from 15th January – 23rd January at Art with a Heart Arts Centre, Chisnalls, 12-14 Shaws Road, Altrincham, WA14 1QU. The students are:

- |               |                   |              |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Alice Gill    | Maria Neocleous   | Louis Bailey |
| Eleanor Jones | Patrick Glitherow | Jess Parker  |
| Mollie Brooks | Ella Gravett      |              |
| Gabriella Guy | Nanami Butler     |              |

Well done from a very proud art teacher!  
Mrs Kearney



## Terrific Textiles!

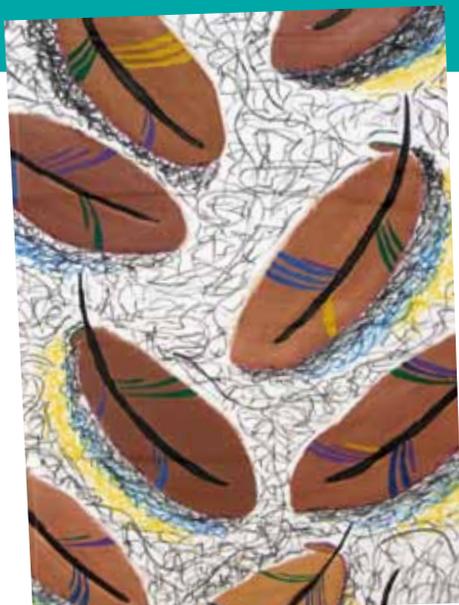
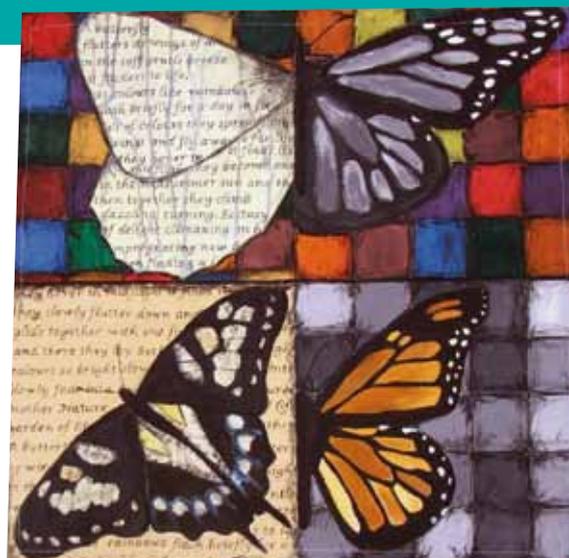
These wall hangings were created by Year 11.

The beautiful work reflects different artists, styles and techniques.

I've been really impressed with the way the work has been created and the high standards that have been achieved.

Magnificent work!

Miss Grey



# Careers News

## Year 11 Enterprise Challenge

All Year 11 students at Wellington School were involved in an 'Enterprise Challenge', which took place in school in September.

This activity is a practical introduction to the concept of enterprise, where Year 11 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 Challenge 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 11 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



## Wellington are "In the Army now"

On Tuesday 2nd October 2012, 38 year 10 and 11 students, plus 3 staff set off on a day visit to an Army event, which was held at Altcar Training Camp. There was some trepidation at the thought of the assault course, aerial rope ways and climbing tower/walls, and this was just by the staff!



During the day there was a battle scenario, which involved a huge tank manned by a number of army officials and ground forces. The students were able to explore the inside of a tank and were made aware of the conditions that the soldiers have to endure when cooped up in a tank for several hours at a time.

They also had the opportunity to sit in an army helicopter and work the controls, including the rotor blades.

Different regiments were represented on the day and the students were able to ask questions and listen to the stories that the soldiers had to tell about their experiences at home and abroad.

Activities included endurance tests, obstacle courses, sports challenges and various displays.

The students and staff had a tremendous day, all thanks to the Army personnel, who arranged such an eventful and enjoyable day.

Mrs Mackay



# Design & Technology Department News

## Year 9 Creative Cooking

Year 9 Food technologists have had the opportunity to demonstrate a wide range of decorative skills.

Students produced their own cake designs based on a chosen target market. They then had to decide the best techniques and ingredients to reproduce their design ideas.

The class had fun trying out different food colourings as well as modelling the icing to represent their ideas. The work produced was fantastic and highlights the wealth of creative genius at Wellington School.

Well done to all those students involved.

Mrs Ryan & Miss Hudson



## Year 10 Graphics

The Year 10 students taking Graphic Products at GCSE have recently completed their very own commemorative stamp designs.

Each stamp has been designed from scratch and created using photo editing and vector drawing computer software.

The stamps were then presented in a gift folder containing information about the stamps and related subject. Here is a selection of the outcomes:

Mr Travis



# Design & Technology Department News

## Year 7 - Automata

This term Year 7 have been studying structures & mechanisms, they have created a range of mechanical toys called automata.

Students identified a theme and target audience to create a bespoke automata design. A range of skills and processes were used from graphical drawing including computer aided design and engineering skills to make the toy from card and wood.

Congratulations and well done to all those students involved, you really are designers & engineers of the future.

Well done, Year 7! Mrs Booth & Mr Fletcher



## Year 7 Textiles - It's a Rap!

Students have been developing their literacy skills, Year 7 have been 'rapping & rhyming' about what they have learnt in textiles.

*A needle has an eye, pin has a flat head  
I followed all the safety rules that Mrs. Booth said  
Needle & thread goes in and out  
A running stitch creates my animal mouth  
My cushion is made from needle punched felt  
My animal design would make a child's heart melt  
My textiles cushion is soft and cuddly  
When a small child sleeps it'll be snugly*



Rap & rhyme mashup by 7X1 Mrs Booth

## Year 7 Textiles - Create Animal Magic

Year 7 students have created 'animal magic' by designing and making a range of animal cushions suitable for young children aged 3 and under. These decorative cushions were produced using a range of hand and machine embroidery and appliqué.

I'm sure you will agree the cushions look fabulous. Well done to all those students involved.

Mrs Booth & Miss Hudson



## Year 8 Go Wild for the Masai Mara

Year 8 have studied the culture of the Masai Mara this term in textiles technology; the drawstring bags were produced using a variety of decorative techniques such as tie-dye, dip dyeing, block printing, stencilling and fabric painting.

The students enjoyed researching the Masai culture, habitat, costume, beliefs, and rituals, art and artifacts and this is evident from their results.

I'm sure you will agree the work produced is fantastic! Well done to all those students involved.

Mrs Booth & Miss Hudson



## Bad Boy Bakers Club

Bad Boys Baking Club is run on Tuesday lunchtimes by Mrs. Booth and Mrs. Heaton. It is open to all Year 8 boys, where we have the opportunity to develop our culinary skills and talents.

We research and suggest recipes ideas and are then able to create them. One of my favourite creations was 'eerie eyeballs' for Halloween – very spooky!

Come and join in!  
Josh Shufflebotham 8SHG

## Year 8 Graphics

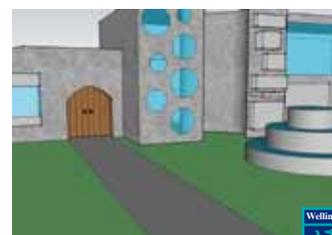
Year 8 have been learning how to use a 3D computer modelling package called Google Sketch Up in their Graphics lessons.

Students have learnt new skills to create a range of 3D products, drawing complex shapes, and even rendering them with appropriate materials and colours.

They then created a 'designer house' for a chosen celebrity, some brilliant architectural designs were created which included swimming pools, saunas, cinema rooms, tennis courts and even recording studios.

As you can see there are some future architects & designers within Year 8. Congratulations and well done to all those students involved.

Mr Fletcher & Mrs Booth



# English Department News

## A Medal-winning Performance!

Students from years 9-11 entered our internal English competition to write either a letter or a poem for their favourite Olympian!

The response from the students was phenomenal with over 200 pieces sent to the relevant associations. We were beyond pleased with the personal responses received by the school from British Athletics, the British Paralympic Association and British Rowing.

Both organisations ensured the students' work was forwarded to the relevant athletes and acknowledged the efforts and hard work of students on a first-name basis, describing their work as a delightful recognition of Team GB's triumphs.

Fingers crossed that further responses may include some free tickets for Rio 2016!

By Miss Hitchens

## 'Inspire an Author' Competition!

Year 7 and 8 entered a competition to design a front cover and blurb for a new book by their favourite authors Cathy Cassidy (who visited the school last year), Anthony Horowitz and David Walliams.

We have sent the entries off to all the authors concerned and we are hoping to keep up our run of replies from all we write to. While all the entries were impressive, there were five overall winners. Lily Hopkins-Murphy, 7PMI; Jack Povah, 7AGR; Libby Silverwood, 7NHN; Morgan Rogerson, 7NMN and Megan Burns, 7SWN all won a Waterstone's goody-bag for their phenomenal efforts!

Well done to everyone who entered; look out for the next competition coming your way soon!

Miss Hitchens



## 8.4b's Amazing Island and Ghost Projects

As part of the Y8 Travel scheme of work, 8.4b produced their own islands as inspiration for descriptive postcards and persuasive travel brochures.



They were incredibly resourceful and produced carefully-crafted models, intricate designs, melodic

national anthems and even baked edible islands (yum)!

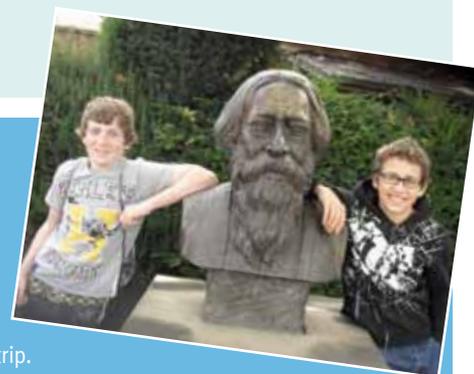
All work was created independently so this project put the students' 5Rs skills to the test. These skills were later applied when the students studied 'Hamlet' and created their own ghosts to inspire more creative writing!



Miss Hitchens  
Second in English

## Stratford trip

One sunny autumn morning in September, 48 Year 9s excitedly packed their rather large overnight bags (Charlotte Berry) and headed down to Stratford-upon-Avon for a two day English trip.



First stop was Shakespeare's Birthplace where students explored the house where he grew up and watched two Shakespearian actors improvise a scene in Shakespeare's garden. Students then had lunch and wandered around Stratford.

In the evening, we went to Frankie and Benny's for dinner and the whole restaurant erupted into a fairly out of tune rendition of 'Happy Birthday' for Millie Rose who was then treated to a birthday cake and sparkler. After dinner, we headed to the theatre and watched the performance of The Tempest. The highlight of the performance was definitely when Stephano and Trinculo were on stage.

The following morning, we jumped on the bus and headed to Anne Hathaway's house. Anne Hathaway was Shakespeare's wife (not the Hollywood actress who many of Year 9 thought lived there!) The gardens were beautiful with fairy walks, flower shoes and a rather large bunny. The final stop was to Mary Arden's farm. Shakespeare's mother's farm had pigs, horses, birds of prey and geese.

It was a fantastic trip and all of the Year 9 students were absolutely beautifully behaved. Thank you to Mrs McDonnell and Mr Crane who helped make it a superb trip!

Miss Seaston





## A Splendiferous Success!

A massive "Well Done" to Alfie Bryce-Clegg (8PAH) who entered the Roald Dahl Day Dream competition.

This was a national competition for teenagers that was entered by 3,000 students nationwide; Alfie's amazing dream description was deemed to be amongst the top twenty entrants! Alfie won some splendiferous Roald Dahl stickers, book marks and posters as well as a copy of Fantastic Mr. Dahl by Michael Rosen! The judges stated that they "loved [Alfie's] ideas and creativity".

*As the BFG would say, "Whoopsy – splunkers!"*

By Miss Hitchens and Mrs McDonnell



## WOW Magazine: The School Newsletter's New Rival?

Not to be outdone by the teachers, the Y7 and Y8 WOW Magazine team launched the first edition of their student magazine.

Featuring articles on the latest gadgets, fashion, sports events and celeb gossip, the students worked tirelessly to plan, write, design, photograph, edit and even sell their magazine. My favourite idea was the Cringe Page where students posted their most embarrassing moments for all to see – very brave!

Look out for the next issue at Easter!  
Miss Hitchens

## A Roaring Day Out!

The English Department took 100 Year 7 and 8 students to see the Lion King and what a treat it turned out to be.

All the students were glued to their seats as the vibrant colours of the costumes and the scenery unfolded before their eyes. Disney's cartoon version of 'The Lion King' was brought to life on stage from the very beginning with a performance of 'The Circle of Life' in which we were treated to an amazing carnival parade of jumping gazelles, plodding elephants, gangly giraffes on stilts and of course a display of African dancing.



As well as having an excellent visual experience our students were able to join in with songs such as 'I Just Can't Wait to be King' and 'Hakuna Matata'. Comedy was provided by Timon and Pumba as they did their best to look after Simba as he grows up in the Savannah. In all our students came away feeling like they themselves had spent an afternoon on the African plains!

Mrs Evans and Miss Hitchens

## 'There and Back Again': 'Book → Film Club' Trip to see 'The Hobbit'

At 'Book → Film Club', students in Year 7 and 8 read popular books that have inspired films and then discuss what they love about them.

So far this year we have read and watched 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' by J.K. Rowling and 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief' by Rick Riordan. Our next text is 'The Hobbit' by J.R.R. Tolkien and this meant the perfect opportunity to go and see the brand-new Peter Jackson film version which was released at the cinemas in December.

The film was amazing and to see it in 3D at the Apollo Altrincham was fantastic! After copious amounts of popcorn and lots of exciting moments where we didn't know if Bilbo would make it, we left the cinema excited to read the book.

Will we prefer the book or the film? We'll let you know!

Miss Hitchens



## Promoting Reading: Accelerated Reader

Year 7 have been introduced to a new reading initiative called Accelerated Reader.

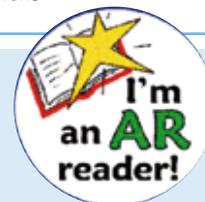
Every term in LRC lessons, students are tested to check their reading age. This test also indicates to students which books in the LRC are suitable for them. Mrs Ware has kindly put coloured dots on all the AR books in the LRC to help students find the books that they will enjoy. Thanks Mrs Ware!

Every time a student reads an AR book, they can access a quiz on the school computers at any point (and from home on any Apple Device via the Renaissance Learning app). If students achieve 85% or more on a quiz, the number of words read in the book is added to their tally. Miss Hitchens has created a league table for the students who have read the most words. There will be one winner per month per set and they will win a pencil and a certificate. Even if 85% isn't reached, all books read are recorded on the student's account and this contributes to earning certificates and, most importantly, helping to promote reading and allow students to keep improving upon their reading age.

Similarly, any student who achieves 100% in a quiz will feature on the LRC's Accelerated Reader board and win a prize and certificate. Here's Kieran Buckley, Yasmin Jalali, Jasmine Spinks and Caitlin Byrne who have already joined the 100% club!

Check the LRC board out for more details and news about future winners, prizes and reward trips!

Miss Hitchens



# Geography Department News

## Globetrotters

### Globetrotters has started with a bang!

Year 7 and 8 students have been taking the opportunity to research landmarks around the UK and then build them. So far our classrooms are full of exciting (and well made) models such as Stonehenge, the London Eye and Big Ben.

Project Flat Stanley has begun - we are in the middle of sending 'Flat Stanleys' (decorated like ourselves) around the world. On our decorated people we have written about what our life is like and what we enjoy doing, some of us have also made quizzes and sent photographs. We are very excited to start getting post addressed with exotic stamps!!

Miss J English



## Tree of progress in Geography

Lilly Hopkins Murphy 72a

Lauren Roberts 8-0

Megan Haycocks 9-3

Nathan Kent- Year 11

Olivia Smith 9.1

Lucie Abadi

Sophie Minshall

Lauren Hamblett 7-3a

Blair Duffy 7-4b

Ben Clough - 7-4B

Tara Clow 8-4a

Lili Butler 9-0

Jess Allan Year 11

Jessica Barnes year 10

Lewis Parry 75a

Marius Robinson 72a

## GEOGRAPHER OF THE MONTH

December- Lucy Evans 7-1B 2 full levels of progress between map skills assessment and Settlement assessment.

November- Mia Radcliffe A\* in first Geography mock exam (interim) Highest in year.

October- Ayat Khalid produced a fantastic end of unit assessment on Horrible Hurricanes. Great use of case study detail!

Mrs A Young  
Second in Geography

## Year 8 - Making Shanty Houses



Year 8 has been busy in Geography making shanty houses out of anything they could find!

8.0 have made a replica Kibera, which is the largest slum in Africa. The slum comes complete with corrugated iron for roofs, cardboard for walls, drains crafted from tubes and plastic rubbish everywhere!

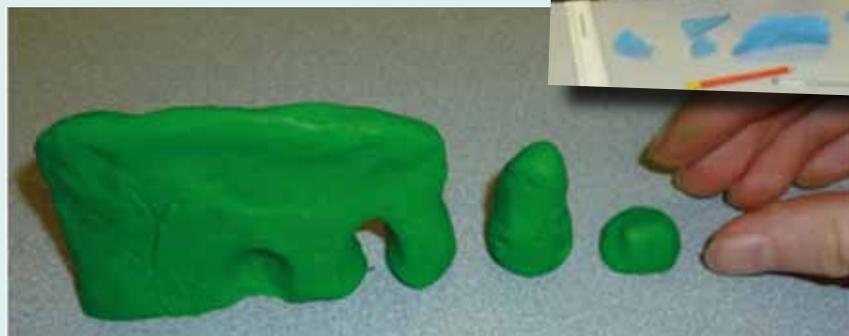
Mrs Young

## Year 9 - coastal modelling

Year 9 have been investigating the UK's diverse coast line.

To show off their understanding of the variety of coastal features they have been modelling the formation of faults, caves, arches stacks and stumps.

Mrs A Young



# History Department News

## Humanities Club

Humanities club is a lunchtime club for years 7, 8 and 9 where you make models of things related to History, Geography and Religion.

Miss Davison helps us make things like Planet Earth, pyramids, volcanoes, the Taj Mahal and lots more. I enjoy going to this club because I love building models of different places. Also, I have learnt a bit about different places as well, so it is very educational! The first model I made was the Earth, now I am looking forward to making the Statue of Liberty!

by Mia Pearce 7AGR



## 'Learn to Learn' lessons

Year 7 and 9 were set the task of researching a local History topic to increase their awareness of the world around them. Year 7 completed their project on a general history of Altrincham whereas Year 9's project looked at how Altrincham remembers World War One.

Students then peer assessed each others projects to share good practice. There were some really good projects. Well done to all members of 7.1b and 9.4 for your effort and enthusiasm with the projects.

In 8.4b's L2L lesson students had to complete a group challenge to develop their team learning skills. The challenge was to build a tower using a set budget and a set list of materials in only half an hour. The tower had to be free standing and hold the weight of a golf ball. The team that built the highest tower that could withstand the weight of the ball would win the challenge and a prize. Ellie O'Meara, Charley Elise Guy and Weronika Karczewska won the challenge with Harvey Tero, Jordon Roberts, Emily Topping and Georgia Ellis coming a close second and winning an additional prize for displaying best team work. Well done!

Miss Tidbury



## Debate Club

Debating club is run by Miss Davison on Thursday lunchtimes, it is open to year 7-9.

It is a fantastic opportunity to express your opinions and learn how to form a structured and balanced argument. This skill can help you within your lessons, to make sure you can get your point across in an effective way, but also in your future as well! Examples of things we do are, speed debating, opening a can of worms and my favourite is every other week we choose an interesting and thought-provoking topic that we discuss in smaller groups.

The following week we debate against other groups. We have also been to the Watson Hall to perform our debates where we even had Mr Beeley, Mr Ashworth and Mrs Stephens come to watch us! With endless topics, including assisted suicide, man vs machine and freedom of speech there is never a dull moment – we are still looking for charismatic and talkative members to join!

By Gabrielle Cartmell 9ERD



# Primary Links News

## Wellington Inter-School Quiz

On Tuesday 20th November, Stamford Park Junior School sent two teams to go up against other schools in an inter-school quiz.

The teams were; The 'SPJSers' consisting of Greta Brown, Alex Swinton, Matthew Best, Dan Mather, Eve Smith and Sophie Buttrum. The second team we sent out were 'The Stamford Smashers' consisting of Amelia Ellis-Webber, Adam



Meziane, James Fogarty, Rory Mackintosh, Milly Gow and Sophia Goddard. In the first round, the subject was General Knowledge. The 'Willow Wizards' and the 'SPJSers' were in the lead whilst the 'Stamford Smashers' were unfortunately second to last. The rounds were about Sport, London 2012, Music, Science, Geography, Books, TV, Maths and more General Knowledge. In the first 7 rounds the same two teams that started Round 1 were still ahead, but the Stamford Smashers crept up to joint second with the Willow Wizards, but clearly in the lead at that point was the SPJSers. In the 9th and 10th rounds, The Stamford Smashers were performing brilliantly and came up to joint first with the SPJSers. In the 11th round it was Geography. The Stamford Smashers got 7 while the SPJSers got 5. Thus making The Stamford Smashers the champions with 91 points and for the 4th year running, Stamford Park won the trophy.

By Adam Meziane, Amelia Ellis Webber and James Fogarty from Stamford Park Junior School.



## You're Hired!

Budding entrepreneurs from six local primary schools battled it out for the 'Wellington Apprentice Challenge' on Tuesday 27th November.

The competition featured Wellington's answer to Lord Sugar and Karen Brady in the shape of Mr Shaw and Mrs Mackay! The aim was for the teams to buy items then sell them, with the team securing the biggest profit claiming the title.

The team from Cloverlea swept the opposition aside, amassing a profit that would have made Lord Sugar proud!

The picture shows Mr Beeley presenting the successful team with the 'Wellington Apprentice Challenge' Trophy,

Mr Shaw

# ICT Department News

## ICT Curriculum Changes

There have been some exciting changes to the curriculum in Key Stage 3 ICT, where new topics have been introduced, such as exploring the components that make a computer, computer security and programming.

Students have been using Scratch to learn to program and have been making games and animations. This has been a very popular topic with Year 7 students.



Louis Williams said: "Lessons are fun and interesting. I enjoyed making game on Scratch. We learnt about viruses and how to prevent them so now I don't get viruses at home." Henry Browne enjoyed programming so much he made his own version of the classic computer game Pac Man at home.

## Mindstorms Club

In addition to the curriculum changes, there is another club in ICT, with 10 Lego Mindstorms robots making an appearance.

Year 7 students have been building and programming these robots which feature sensors that detect colour and light and an ultrasonic sensor to detect distance to objects. The robots have been programmed to act as a security guard. They follow a path drawn out and sound an alarm if they detect any objects. Year 7 students will have the chance to use the robots in lessons in the summer term.



Mr Little

# MFL Department News

## German Exchange 2012

The German Exchange 2012 was great!

We spoke to our German Exchange partners all summer and then met up with them in Stuttgart. It was an amazing experience, we got on well with our partners and we enjoyed every minute. Most of the time we went to places together and we learned a lot of new things about Germany. We visited the Mercedes museum in Stuttgart, the technical museum in Mannheim and had a wander around Heidelberg.

Their culture is a lot different to ours and their school is a lot less strict! They get to wear their own clothes and normally leave school at 1 o' clock. The food is also different but most of us loved it... me especially! However there were some similarities, such as fashion and shops like Hollister. We were really sad to leave them at the airport but not too sad as they came to visit us here at Wellington two weeks later! The most important thing was that we all made lots of new friends and learned a lot more German. Altogether we found it brilliant and loved everything about it and we cannot imagine not doing it next year as it was so much fun and educational!

By Millie Broad Year 10



## Ruby Yates

A huge "félicitations" to Ruby Yates in Year 10 for winning Salford City College's European Day of Languages competition!

Ruby, now the proud owner of a Kindle and £30 in vouchers, entered the competition, in which she had to design an image which represented her vision of language diversity. In just a few days, Ruby, with her fabulous artistic skills, painted this picture on canvas. It portrays Alice in Wonderland and the top of the Cheshire Cat's hat on a tree, which features more than 30 languages.

Mrs Williams



# Maths Department News

## Mathematics

During the autumn term, some of Mr Harpham's classes have been trying out new activities in Mathematics.

Firstly some year seven students experimented with reaction times, comparing theirs with, for example, those of a fighter pilot. They formed a hypothesis about the speed of their reactions, before testing it by measuring how far a ruler fell before they could catch it. Then they recorded their findings, before presenting the data using appropriate charts, and making calculations to confirm or disprove their original hypothesis.



Year nine students set about designing a house. Not content with a scale diagram of their dream home, they measured the plot and set it out (albeit in chalk) on the school playground, accurately marking the locations of exterior and interior walls. They also found the cost of building the house, using calculations based on floor area, and materials for walls, doors, windows, floors and roofing.

Further activities are planned, including flight planning (using bearings, scale drawings, costings, timings and speed calculations), while other members of the department are set to roll out these, and similar activities, with other classes.

Mr Poole



# Music Department News

## Brit Pop

During the first term Year 9s have been learning about Britpop music and the music that influenced it as well as current popular music, in turn influenced by Britpop.



All groups were given the task of creating an arrangement of 'Wonderwall' which they took incredibly seriously. The music rooms were full of students rehearsing their parts ready for their own rock concerts.

Next term the Year 9s will be completing their own School of Rock pieces, choosing their own repertoire and instruments to come up with their own cover versions of popular classics. I, for one, can't wait!

Mrs Moorhouse



## Housekeeping

**INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS** – just a reminder to students that instrumental lessons will carry on from term to term. Also, you must ensure that you are involved in at least one extra curricular activity this half term.

**GRADED EXAMS** – make sure you let Mrs Moorhouse know of all your achievements if you complete any music exams outside of school.

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES** – there will be some changes to the Extra-Curricular activities from January onwards. This includes the addition of a Music Technology Club for Years 9 and above, Sing with 7s will be joining Sing (rehearsals on Tuesday lunchtimes), Vocalise will now be on a Thursday lunchtime with Mrs Moorhouse and Mr Wynne & Mr Hayes will be running a Guitar & Ukulele Group on Friday lunchtimes. There will also be lots of other activities available – make sure you get your music captain to read out the notices every Monday.

Mrs Moorhouse

## Certificate Evening

'Sing with 7s' made their musical debut during the Certificate Evening this year.



They made a fantastic first impression and set the bar high for their performance at the Carol Service.

The Chamber Choir also performed during the evening, and performed a beautiful version of 'Over the Rainbow'. We all couldn't believe that the Wizard of Oz had only been performed one month earlier!

But we have to say a special thank you to an ex-student who has recently completed a Music degree at Bangor University, who showed our performers just what can be achieved through sheer hard work. Robert King, who left Wellington School in 2009, came back to perform a French song 'Les Roses d'Ispahan', which even earned him a compliment from Miss Mille on his pronunciation!

Mrs Moorhouse



## Music Captains

This year has seen the launch of Music Captains for all tutor groups in the school. Their responsibilities include reading out notices, ensuring that tutors play the Music of the Week and ensure that their tutor groups are well represented in musical activities.

Here are some of the Music Captains who were very excited to be receiving their badges.

Mrs Moorhouse



## Carol Service

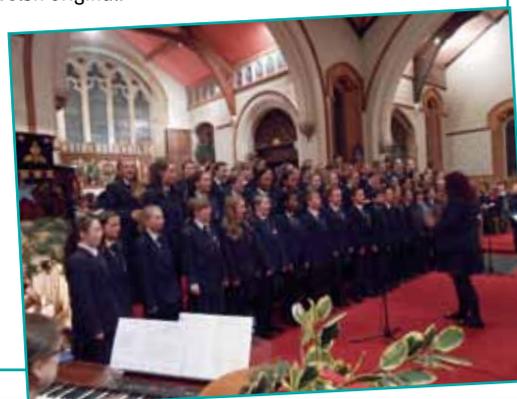
On Monday 17th December 2012 Wellington School students once again showed the depth and variety of talent that we have here. The Carol Service has been labelled 'the best yet' by many members of staff and it was fantastic to see so many students taking part from every year group.

The quality of the performances were so high it is very difficult to choose any highlights, but I have to say Vocalise's performance of 'Extraordinary Merry Christmas' was brilliant. However, my personal highlight was 'Christ the King', a song originally written for the Welsh musical '3-2-1' (of which I was a cast member when I was in Year 9). It's just a shame we had to sing the English translation rather than the Welsh original!

I hope to see all the performers making sure that the music making here at Wellington gets even better in the new year so keep an eye out for the newly organised extra-curricular activities.

A huge congratulations again to all involved in the Carol Service. You were A-MA-ZING!

Mrs Moorhouse



# PSHE News

## Year 8 Reward Trip to London

As part of a reward trip, Year 8 students were invited on a trip to London during the final week of term. The selected students and 3 staff were able to enjoy the many attractions in London at Christmas time. Experiencing London's West End, students were captivated by one of the most celebrated, award-winning musicals on stage today, Billy Elliot. Also, being just one week before Christmas, our trip was the perfect time to visit the London Eye and German Christmas Markets. We were even able to practise our skating skills in the open air skating rink!

Mrs Taylor-Crooke



## Citizenship Club

As part of Year 7 Citizenship Club students have worked together to promote Operation Christmas Child at Wellington School. Students thoroughly enjoyed being involved in an exciting, involving and meaningful pre-Christmas project.

As a year group, students donated a fantastic 49 shoeboxes! These were filled with thoughtful presents which will bring joy and hope into the lives of underprivileged children across the world on Christmas Day. What a great gift!



## Year 11 Careers lessons

Students in Year 11 have been busy working through their work related learning module as part of their Personal Social, Health and Economic education.

We were very lucky to have a visiting speaker to explain the various occupations/careers that are available through an apprenticeship and consequently numerous Year 11 students have now applied for a variety of different apprenticeships ready for their next step in life. In addition to this, students have been researching their desired career choices, the various routes available to achieve their aspirations and they have presented their findings to their peers in class. This has been an invaluable experience for those involved as students have acquired a vast array of knowledge about a variety of different occupations available. Students are now currently working on their CV's ready for their professional portfolios.

## Anti-Bullying Campaigns

As part of the Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education, Year 7 students have been busy working in groups devising their Anti-Bullying Campaigns.

They had to research the different forms of bullying and consider the ways in which bullying could be tackled. After presenting their campaigns to their peers, students were given the opportunity to produce their own anti-bullying projects. Students have found this experience extremely valuable during their first half term at Wellington. One student expressed, "Creating my Anti-Bullying project has been one of the highlights of my term!"

## Sixth Form Psychology Trip

Our Sixth Form Psychology students were invited to attend a Science and Pseudo Science conference at Lancashire Cricket Club.

The event was an opportunity to facilitate students' understanding of Science whilst also entertaining students. 'Dr Dance', Peter Lovatt, gave us an insight into the link between dancing, hormones and thinking. Students even learnt some new dance moves! Gustav Kuhn helped students explore what magic can tell us about the way we see the world. Then finally we had a fascinating and funny end to the day as Andrew Newton performed hypnosis on some of Wellington's students.

It was a great programme that managed to be both thought-provoking and educational at the same time. The students were all beaming with interest and excitement and many of them were discussing what they had learnt during their next Psychology lesson.



## Year 7 Financial awareness lessons

Students in Year 7 have been very fortunate to have a financial awareness lesson led by Natwest bank during their Personal Social, Health and Economic education curriculum time.

Various members from the Natwest banking team delivered an exciting lesson about managing money, how to use a cash machine and how to write a cheque. Many prizes were awarded to the students at the end of the lesson.

Many students in year 7 have consequently opened their own personal bank account so that they are more autonomous with their own finances.



# PE Department News

## Year 7 Rugby

What on earth was I thinking? First term as Headteacher and I decided to set up a Year 7 rugby team. Well, I have to say it was one of my best decisions so far. Thirty-three enthusiastic young men turned up for our first training session in the third week of term, only three of whom had ever played before. Although we did lose a few squad members initially and now have a hard core of around twenty four players, progress over the first few weeks was remarkable, 'ducks to water' springs to mind. I felt a degree of trepidation going into our first competitive match after only five, one hour training sessions against a St Ambrose team who had considerably more experience. However, I (and the large number of travelling Wellington parents) was pleasantly surprised. 15-15 at half time thanks to a Marius Robinson hat-trick, only to go down eventually 30-15 as the experience of the Ambrose boys told in the later stages.

Our second game was a very competitive encounter away to Congleton High School, refereed by former Wellington teacher and parent Mr Warren. The game, in which Dan Thompson was outstanding, ended in a draw, 4 tries each, after a late and frustrating Congleton equaliser. We were hoping for more games or at least the opportunity to train before Christmas but, of course, plans were blighted by the weather.



**YEAR 7 SQUAD:**  
 Back row: G Anderson; J Hodcroft; J Morris; J Burrows; D Thompson; M Robinson; T Hilton; H Arrowsmith; F Dawe; H Hill  
 Front row: C Oldbury; L Fielding; M Brookes; J MacKenzie; J McGuinness; M Bryce-Clegg; T Waters  
 Not pictured: J Abadi-Johns; C Chesters; T Dancu; G Norton; C Ross; A Wilcox

I'm hopeful of future success for the boys and would always welcome newcomers who wish to give rugby a go.

Well done to all the boys and keep up the good work.

S P Beeley

## Athletics

December 13th 2012 - The year 7 and 8 indoor athletic teams achieve a top three finish in the Trafford Schools Competition!



In a strong field of nine schools the year 8 team finished in third place and the year sevens in second. Many of the boys were experiencing the fast paced multi event programme at Sale Leisure Centre for the first time. Jumping, throwing and running off rebound boards the boys efforts were rewarded with some excellent individual results. Well done to: Louie Crick, Jake Sullivan, Blair Duffy, Luke Mcendrie, Daniel Thomson, Clark Smith, Charlie Yates, Scott Milner, Taylor Nixon, Lloyd Gardner, Josh Wilkinson, Luke Noble, Daniel Jones, Marius Robinson and Daniel Jones.

Mr Morgan

## Year 7 & 8 Indoor Athletics

Well done to all the year 7 and 8 girls who participated in the Indoor Athletic event on Thursday 29th November 2012 held at Lostock College.

All girls competed in two or more events ranging from sprint relays to vertical jumps. The year 7 girls worked really hard and demonstrated great efforts until the final whistle. It was a great success for the year 8 girls, who once again won the overall event for their year group and are now entered into the Aviva Championships which will take place in March. Fantastic efforts all round, keep it up girls!

Miss Richards



## Netball results so far

The netball season has got under way and yet again Wellington girls have made a super start! The year 7's have joined in abundance and are really coming together as a team with thanks to Miss Mac Glinchey. The year 8's are in both the Trafford South and Greater Manchester South leagues where they have only lost three games! A brilliant way to start the year and long may their successes continue. The year 9's have won three of their games so far and we wish them lots of luck in the forthcoming tournament. The year 10 team have really found their feet this year and are developing into a very strong team with exceptional team spirit and wins over Altrincham College of Arts and North Cestrian. Mrs Lawson joins us in January as a new member of the department and a keen netballer and we hope to further develop the teams at Wellington!!!

Many thanks to everyone who has shown great commitment to their team and please do keep checking the bulletin for training and tournament dates.

Miss Richards





## Year 11's reach for success at High Adventure in North Yorkshire.

From November 26th – 28th thirty year 11 GCSE PE students completed practical assessments in Orienteering and Mountain Biking.

The centre staff praised Wellington students for their determination, cooperation, teamwork, leadership and resilience in demanding weather conditions. Mr O'Rourke made sure the navigation skills of our students were up to scratch on the North Yorkshire Moors, while Miss Richards and Mr Morgan did their best to follow the twenty mountain bikers through deep mud, streams, and some very steep hills! The trip was not only a fantastic experience for the students but enabled them to increase their GCSE practical scores to improve their all important final grade.

Mr Morgan

## Rebecca Jones Year 10

Becky has been acknowledged for her fantastic success in karate in newsletters before today and the PE department had the opportunity to enter her in the Trafford Schools Awards competition. There were many categories and many exceptional nominations yet Becky not only performed a solo routine in front of a huge group, she won her category of Individual Performer of the Year.



We are very proud of her achievements and hope she continues to do really well! Becky was also given a Headteacher's Award for her efforts. Well done Becky!

## Football Frenzy!



### Year 7

It's been an up and down season for the team so far this campaign. We started very brightly against Sale High winning by a 9-1 margin – Charlie Hatchell setting his standards high throughout the game. We then came unstuck against a very strong Sale Grammar team getting beat 10-1, we tried a new formation during the game which clearly didn't work and as manager I take full responsibility. Mr. Gubbins did point out the performance of Patrick O'Connor against Sale Grammar for his never say die attitude on the pitch. We then tightened up for the next game against BTH with a narrow defeat 2-1, but the signs were pleasing of a change in performance levels considering some players were missing from the team. Gentian Bogujevci won the Man of the Match Award. We then came up against Altrincham College of Arts and our inspirational manager gave a motivational team talk building upon our performance in the previous game – it worked wonders winning 7-1 with Dylan Milne shining brightest on the pitch. We have one more game to re-arrange against Broadoak and hopefully our momentum will continue. Mr. Gubbins is like the tinkerman at present searching for his right team and formation, I'm sure when it clicks they will be unstoppable like Year 11.

### Year 8

'Sack the manager' came the cries from the terraces after the first game because of a change in management from the retiring Mr. Sparkes. Mr Harpham faced the crisis that Rafa Benitez faces at Chelsea – he had to win the fans over. He made a great start beating Altrincham College of Arts 4-0 in a convincing performance with Jack Rundle setting the benchmark for the rest of the team. He continued the winning formula against Sale High winning 8-0 with Matt Loizou putting in the man of the match performance. After two games Year 8 had scored 12 and conceded 0 – how football has a habit of turning fortunes on its head. The next two games the team came crashing back down to earth, firstly with a 4-0 defeat at Sale Grammar with Scott Milner battling his way right to the end of the game and secondly a 7-1 thumping at the hands of BTH with Will Kelly putting in the man of the match performance. With Broadoak next to play we need to recover our early season form and put the season back on track.

### Year 9

Under the leadership of the Wolverhampton Wanderer Mr. Morgan, Year 9 have made a very good start to the season. The season has been disrupted by cancellations but Year 9 remain undefeated leading into the New Year. They started with a narrow 3-2 victory over Altrincham College of Arts, the game was a battle of attrition and the performance and result were what the team deserved, Daniel Mullings setting the standard for the team. This was followed by a 4-1 victory over Sale High, a better, fluid performance from the team increasing the margin of victory; Sam Corbishley showing his true potential with a sterling performance. The season finished with a 6-3 victory over BTH and newcomer to the team, Elliot Bent, shining brightest in a very commanding performance. With two games left to play, the Year 9 team are in a healthy position over the Christmas break.

### Year 10

Following the relatively slow start the Year 7 and 8 teams have had, the older, more established year groups are leading by example. A good solid season so far for year 10 resulting in three victories and only one defeat leading into the New Year. The team started with a 1-0 victory over Broadoak with the tireless Kieran Wright picking up the MOM award. The team continued the good run of form winning the next game against Sale High 3-2, all narrow victories at present but as they say in the business, it's the results that matter – Joe Cronshaw picking up the MOM award on this occasion. However, the train came off the tracks at Sale Grammar losing 3-1, the team performed poorly, over confidence costing us the game. We recovered well in our final match before the break beating BTH 3-1 in a hard fought game where Sam Roscoe needs to take credit for leading us to victory. We are in a good position and hopefully a win in our final game should see us progress to the finals.

### Year 11

Now for the most successful team in Wellington history. We always knew this season would be the toughest with managing revision sessions, extra classes and preparing for exams. But I have to say, the team has managed it admirably. There have been a few hiccups along the way but we remain unbeaten for the season so far. We have adopted a policy of giving other players a chance within the team in their final year of school and the players who have come in have not let anybody down. We started with a 2-2 draw against Altrincham College of Arts – a very poor performance by our standards but I believe fatigue played its part as the night before we won in the English Schools Cup. Ross Elliot was a very solid performer across the two games and shone in the Altrincham College of Arts game. We then played Sale High winning 3-0, Jake Foy in his new position of striker setting high standards and proving Mr. Tomlinson wrong that he can play there. We then went on the road to Sale Grammar with a caretaker manager of Mr. Gubbins as the usual manager was off getting training tips from Pep Guardiola. Mr. Gubbins led the team well in a 7-0 victory reporting back that Marc Bellingham performed superbly in the game. Apprentice became head coach just for one game. We finished the season against our strongest opposition; we have had running battles throughout the years against BTH, this one ending square at 2-2 with George Edmundson and Iain Milner bossing the game down the middle of the park. The English Schools Cup has again been a good tournament for us – we progressed past two stages this year coming unstuck against All Hallows in Salford. We couldn't quite live up to the heights of last season almost reaching the last 64. We beat Tytherington School from Macclesfield 4-0 in the opening round with Jake Foy again outstanding and then defeated Mr. Tomlinson's old school, Lymm High, 7-1 with Grady Jackson-Fayle coming into the team and performing very well. We lost 6-5 after extra time to All Hallows but know that we should have won the game as our performance level dropped when it mattered the most. With one game left to play in the league we are in a good position to qualify for the semi finals for the fifth year running.

Mr Tomlinson and Mr Gubbins

# REP Department News



## A New Age Dawns - From RE to REP

The start of a new term at Wellington marked the beginning of a new era for the RE department. This gradual transformation is focused upon a change in the curriculum from Religious Education, (RE) to Religion, Ethics and Philosophy (REP).

This adaptation has begun with a change in the year 7 curriculum and will continue to be amended across the whole of Key Stage 3 within the near future.

During each academic school year, students will now study a term of each, Religion, Ethics and Philosophy. The objective of this transformation is to ensure that all Wellington students leave the education system, not only with an understanding of different faiths and cultures, but also as well-rounded citizens that have a considered approach to ethical issues and morality. Furthermore, the ability to think philosophically stretches students academically and encourages them to think about the great questions of life, including that of existence and the meaning of life.

The change in curriculum has meant new engaging teaching and learning strategies being trialled within lessons. These have included a visit to the hall to explore students' beliefs in a kinaesthetic style, a lesson in the computer room to explore the world faiths and student presentations to their peers in order to teach one another the fundamentals connected to the six major world religions.

Both students and staff have been extremely positive about the changes made and as the Head of department, I am extremely excited to continue to lead the transformation of this relevant and valuable subject.

Mrs Stephens

### Year 7 Curriculum Overview REP

#### TERM ONE - RELIGION

World Faiths- symbols, places of worship, leaders, holy books and ways of life.

#### TERM TWO- ETHICS

Values, rules and the 10 commandments  
Prejudice, discrimination and the Good Samaritan  
Environmental Ethics and Stewardship.

#### TERM THREE- PHILOSOPHY

Does God exist?  
Creation theories  
Is science and religion compatible?

### Some quotes from year 7 students when interviewed:

*"I think REP is really important as it helps to broaden our horizons on religious beliefs and not become racist".*

*"I have really enjoyed REP this term because we have done fun activities but I have learnt a lot about religions".*

*"I loved going on the computer and designing a presentation to help teach other people in my class"*

*"I didn't enjoy RE as much in primary School but I love REP at Wellington".*

*"I think lessons in REP have been really fun and we have had the chance to work in groups a lot and we do practical activities quite a lot instead of sitting down and writing all the time."*

*"I have enjoyed having discussions about beliefs and being able to give my own opinion about different topics that affect me".*

*"I loved the lesson when we went to the hall because it was an interactive lesson where we moved about and heard different people's opinions and beliefs".*

## Lessons from Auschwitz: A trip to Auschwitz Death Camp

During the October half-term we went on a thought-provoking trip to the infamous concentration camp, Auschwitz, organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust.

The aim of the Trust is to inform young people about the Holocaust, to humanise it, by teaching us to think about the individuals affected, rather than just seeing them as numbers or statistics.

Before the trip we had a presentation by Zigy, a concentration camp survivor. He spoke to us about his experiences before, during and after the war and how he coped with his imprisonment and mistreatment. Upon arrival in Poland we visited a Jewish Synagogue, the only one left in Owicim, the town which was renamed Auschwitz by the Nazis when they invaded. The Nazis used it as a food warehouse for the rest of the war which is the reason it still remains today. Before the German invasion almost half the population of the town was Jewish and they were all murdered.

After the Synagogue we visited the concentration camp. Auschwitz 1 is the site of the famous metal gate with the words, "arbeit macht frei" (work makes you free). This was originally an army barracks which the Nazis converted into a camp. The buildings shocked us because they were not what we were expecting, as they were extremely ordinary from the outside. However, when we entered and saw the rooms where so many normal people had been harmed, we started to realise what the place actually was. The exhibitions with the belongings from those who were prisoners in Auschwitz affected us the most: mountains of people's suitcases with their names on, the room full of human hair from the prisoners who had it all removed, a wall of thousands of pairs of shoes, even kettles and cutlery from bags packed in a hurry. These rooms made us realise that these prisoners were ordinary people who didn't realise what was going to happen to them. The display of children's clothing made us reflect upon humanity and our own actions: how could anyone harm an innocent child just because of their ethnic or religious background?

Following this we went to Auschwitz-Birkenau which was the purpose built extermination camp. We instantly recognised the railway line and watch towers widely associated with the Holocaust. Birkenau was the camp that we were expecting; big and empty, with an aura of death. By this time it was getting darker and the weather was starting to get colder but no one complained. It made you think about the people going through these extreme conditions wearing only pyjamas. They were treated like animals rather than humans and as it started to get misty, despite being surrounded by other visitors, we really began to feel alone and lost in a place so big and desolate. The feelings that young children would have had, looking back at those gates when they arrived are unimaginable. We learnt that when people arrived they were taken off the train and separated into two groups - left and right, those on one side were marched straight to the gas chamber, the others were stripped, shaved and branded or tattooed with numbers before being put to work. When we went to where they took the belongings off the new prisoners, there was a wall of pictures which had been confiscated by the Nazis. These pictures showed the prisoners in their previous life, the pictures showed normal people with ordinary families, laughing and enjoying themselves, just like our own family photos.

The trip affected us deeply, after seeing the horrors for ourselves and hearing some of the stories about different people in Auschwitz, it made us reflect upon our own lives, realising that some things that happen to us aren't as bad as they seem. Zigy said that he felt no hatred towards those that harmed him, this acceptance of what has happened is something that everyone should aspire to, and has stuck with us long after we returned.

Megan Griffiths and Sam Evans - Year 13



# Science Department News

## Chemistry investigation

The Year 13 Chemists embarked on a month of carrying out the practical investigations that they had planned completely independently. These investigations are organised by the students and they liaise with the Science technicians to order the equipment that will test their hypothesis. They then spend a month obtaining reliable results to verify the core aims of their investigation.

Mrs Shelley



## Spectroscopy in a suitcase

The Year 12 Chemists embarked on 'Spectroscopy in a suitcase', an activity designed by the Royal Society of Chemistry. The activity gives the students an opportunity to learn more about how chemicals are analysed. During the activity the Year 12 students carried out an analysis of paracetamol. University students delivered the event that was organised by Mr Holmes.

Mrs Shelley



## Science club

This year so far has been record breaking in terms of students attending Science club. Miss Rengifo has organised a variety of different experiments and projects.

Science club went all spooky at Halloween with students building eerie scenes and making them explode with blood! The following weeks were a 'Bonfire night two weeks special' where students made sparklers and watched demonstrations of homemade smoke bombs and rainbow fire. During December students have competed in 'Zappy Zoomer' and parachute competitions and even got to dissect eyes - those who were brave enough! Science club ended the term with a Christmas party which included a science quiz, party food and even a bit of robot dancing. A big well done to the joint winners, and the staff team who achieved 100% on the quiz (obviously they know their science!).



**2013 will be even better, so if you have an interest in science and want to learn more – BE THERE OR BE SQUARE!**

Miss Rengifo

## Physics Olympics 2012

For the third year running Wellington A-Level Physicists entered a team in the Liverpool Physics Polymics (slightly rebranded due to the threat of a lawsuit in 2012!) Abbie, Joe, Ed and James proudly represented our school amongst 26 other teams from the North West area. After competing in a series of events including hidden sources of radiation, rocket trajectories, and a simple paper plane competition – which resulted in an unfortunate injury to Mr Hayes, we finished in a very respectable 5th place overall, beating local rivals, Team Loreto! Well done to everyone involved we're aiming to get our name on the trophy next time.

Mr Wynne



# Wizard of Oz



On the 31st October and the 1st November we had our own parties full of wizards and witches here in the Watson Hall with our performances of the Wizard of Oz.

This was a new challenge for the Art, English & Music Departments as we decided to put on a musical in a quarter of the time we would normally spend. In years gone by we would spend 2 full terms rehearsing and preparing and the challenge this year was to complete it in half a term. I think you'll all agree that the cast and crew pulled this off magnificently.

We would like to thank all the students and staff who took part in the Wizard of Oz.

Miss Grey, Mrs Moorhouse & Mrs Rainford



## DOROTHY

*"From the first day back in September to the final show on Thursday, I was choc'a'block with rehearsals for the Wizard of Oz. Now my lunches feel really empty! Every rehearsal was really fun and I loved every second of it. I made lots of new friends through WoO and the cast was like a little community. There were a few ups and downs but when the show finally came together it was amazing. I am now looking forward to our cast party in February, although I would definitely have done WoO even if there was no reward! I will really miss the laughs we had when doing WoO, with teachers and students, but will never forget what a good experience it was."*

Katy Allan 9ERD



## THE SCARECROW

*"I enjoyed being the Scarecrow in the Wizard of Oz. It was a fun performance and one that I enjoyed a lot. I especially enjoyed the acting part of the play, but I also enjoyed performing and it proved to be an exhilarating experience. I also think that the directors did an excellent job in co-ordinating the performances. The rest of the cast did excellently as well."*

Fraser Dalgliesh 9CSN

## THE TINMAN

*"I enjoyed not only taking part in the Wizard of Oz, I enjoyed feeling like a family in the musical. I was quite anxious about how I was going to learn the lines and play the character of Tinman, but with my friends we all stuck together and helped each other out. Getting up on stage was the best feeling I ever have in my life. I love singing, I love performing and I love singing and performing with my friends. I would just like to thank everyone who helped out behind the scenes. All the teachers, all the 6th formers who gave up their free time to make the performances the best of the best. Thank you."*

Callum Duffy 9JHS.

## THE LION

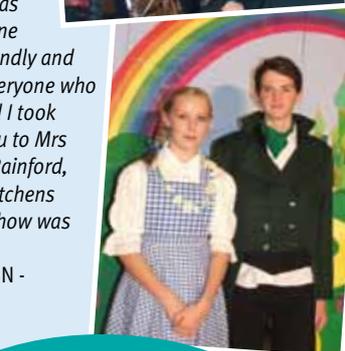
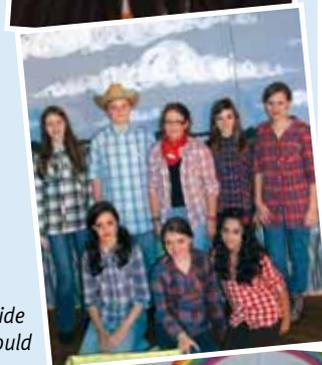
*"My experience from the Wizard of Oz was phenomenal. I enjoyed every minute of it and it was a great opportunity. Moreover, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Grey, Mrs Moorhouse, Mrs Rainford and Miss Hitchens for their patience and hard work along side all of the cast. I would also like to thank Fraser, Callum and Katy for making it such a pleasure to take part. The whole thing was amazing. I will treasure those moments for ever."*

Isaac Farrell 9CSN

## Here are some experiences of the pit band:

*"My experience performing in the band for The Wizard of Oz was phenomenal! I enjoyed both rehearsing and performing, they were all extremely exciting. At both shows the atmosphere was incredible, everyone was incredibly friendly and appreciative of everyone who took part. I'm glad I took part and thank you to Mrs Moorhouse, Mrs Rainford, Miss Grey, Miss Hitchens & Mrs Cook, the show was fantastic."*

Amy Ashmore 9CSN - flautist



## Wizard of Oz quotes from the audience

*"Katy Allan as Dorothy was a-ma-zing"*

Maddie 9LDN

*"All the main characters were fantastic"*

Rachael 9ERD

*"Everyone was an Evening Star"*

Lucy 9KKY

*"I thought it was amazing."*

Mathew 9LDN

*"The orchestra were fantastic"*

Danielle 9ARI



## Year 7 News

### Natwest Bank visit Wellington school

Wellington School, in liaison with Natwest Bank, runs a 'school bank' that all students can access during the school day. The purpose of this venture is to encourage financial awareness.

During this term, Year 7 have taken part in interactive lessons which showed the students how to use an ATM machine, the safety aspects of PIN numbers, write cheques, deposit money and how the banks work in general.

Comments from Year 7 students:

*"I enjoyed watching my classmates using the ATM machine as it is really important for me to know".*

Charlotte Pilcher, 7JWS

*"I enjoyed the interactive ATM, the video and the quiz because they make you think about financial awareness"*

Zulekha Howell, 7NMN

*"In the presentation I enjoyed writing my cheque, because I have never done it before and it made me feel grown up".*

*"I learned that not only can you earn interest by putting money into your account, you can track your money and save easily".* Jed Mackenzie, 7RHS

£10 gift cards were presented to 5 students, who successfully answered all of the quiz questions.

Mrs Mackay



Wow, what an incredibly busy first term Year 7 has had!

From the first hectic week of new timetables, new books and new teachers and learning to find their way around school, the action for Year 7 has been non-stop.

The Year group have embraced the new opportunities that secondary school presents from new lessons like L2L to all the different extracurricular clubs that are on offer at lunchtime and after school. Furthermore the Year group have been fortunate enough to see 'The Lion King' at the Palace Theatre (thanks to the English Department), play interform sports and have their own Christmas Disco and Carol Singing Competition in the last week of term. I'm sure Year 7 will embrace the Spring Term with the same enthusiasm and vigour.

Miss Tidbury, Director of Year 7



And don't just take my word for it; read on to see what Year 7 themselves think of their first term-

*My favourite thing about Wellington is my music lesson...I got a 6c*  
Ben Ryder

*My favourite thing is performing in the Year 7 choir*  
Michelle Moyo

*I have enjoyed Spanish because it is enjoyable and something new*  
Annie Dickinson

### Buddy Scheme

To further help the transition from primary to secondary school, Year 8 students have been acting as buddy mentors for Year 7 students. The students meet on a weekly basis and discuss a range of issues from homework to organisation or anything else that Year 7 might be having trouble adjusting to. So far the buddy scheme has proved very beneficial for the Year 7s involved and the Year 8s are revelling in their new responsibilities and wearing their shiny new mentor badges. The Buddy Scheme will continue for the rest of the year.

Miss Tidbury, Director of Year 7



## Year 8 News

### Year 8 News

#### Food bank collection for Timperley Methodist Church



In the run-up to Christmas, all of the year 8 tutor groups raided their cupboards at home for food to be donated to Altrincham Foodbank based at Timperley Methodist Church. Every tutor group brought in shoe boxes to be wrapped up in shiny paper and filled with non-perishable foods.

The food bank collects donations and gives out food to the poorest families in Trafford. This is particularly important over Christmas time, when some families will be struggling to put food on the table. The amount of effort put into the collection was amazing, with over 60 food parcels being put together. A special mention for 8EJN, who collected 20 boxes!

Congratulation year 8 – you have done Wellington proud!

Mr Williams

### Anti-bullying Week

Anti-bullying week took place on the week of 19th November 2012.

Year 8 students were asked to enter a poster competition to encourage people to report issues of bullying in school.

The entries were judged by Mrs Copeland and the winner was Hannah Curbishley, 8EJN.

Congratulations to Hannah, who received a big tin of "Heroes" for her efforts!

Mr Williams



## Year 9 News

### Year 9 Book Bonanza

This term, each Year 9 student has prepared and delivered a presentation about a book they have recently read. We have been working hard on literacy skills in preparation for GCSE level. In tutor time, students have worked on their handwriting skills and every Monday have the opportunity to do silent reading for 20 minutes. Activities centre around book presentations – this encompasses reading (as they have to

have read the book), writing (preparing their presentation), speaking (as they have to deliver the presentation to the rest of their tutor group) and listening (as students have to assess and gather information from the presentation).

The presentations were no longer than five minutes and students had to discuss the plot, the main characters, the ideology of the story, whether they enjoyed the book and if they would recommend it and why? Each tutor group

seemed to enjoy the presentations and worked well on designing them and listening to them.

Mr. Tomlinson



## Year 10 News



### Laura McDonough

Despite an initial setback in my first ever singing festival at Alderley Edge in May, I was determined to do better second time around at the Blackpool festival in November.

I took part in three categories this time and sang three songs. I started with the musical theatre class, where I sang 'Wishing you were somehow here again' from Phantom of the Opera, but was once again disappointed when I failed to perform at my best. Despite this, I didn't let it get to me and continued on to the last two categories. Vocal Solo, where I sang a classical piece named 'The Prayer' and the Pop Solo, where I sang 'Wuthering Heights', originally sang by Kate Bush. This time, I was delighted as I came first place in both! It was such a surprise as everyone was so good, but I was ecstatic I had finally won something.

This year, I hope to participate in a lot more music festivals and hopefully come in the top three in a lot more classes, starting by participating in the Bowdon Festival in February.

I would encourage others to get involved in the singing opportunities at School or wherever they can.

Laura McDonough Year 10

### Air Training Corps



Nathan Dean and I are members of the 145 (Altrincham & Hale) Squadron Air Training Corps and on the 2nd of December 2012, along with 9 other cadets, we were invited to visit RAF Shawbury for a day visit. Whilst there we were taken for a flight in a Griffin Training Helicopter, did an RAF PT session (Physical Training) and we also visited the Fire Station on the base.

Lauren Gage

## Year 11 News

### Year 11 – Assertive Mentoring Programme

A new exciting mentoring programme started in September 2012 for all students in Year 11. Each Year 11 student was appointed a member of staff who will be their mentor for the whole of the year. There have been 2 mentor meetings so far and students discuss their predicted grades and the progress that they are making towards their target grades in each meeting. The mentor and mentee then create some targets which should be completed before the next meeting on how to improve further. The mentor is also someone that students can go to discuss anything that is happening in school both academically and also the pastoral side of their life. The feedback from staff and students so far has been very positive and it has made the year group much more aware of where they need to improve with their work

The Year 11 team are currently organising a reward trip for students who are making progress in relation to their target grades.



### Healthy Eating

At the start of the school term I entered Chartwell's, the School Caterers, competition where I was required to answer a questionnaire on healthy eating - with the first prize being a new bike! Out of all the students who took part I was surprised and thrilled to be the selected winner. Mr Beeley proudly presented me with £150 Halfords Vouchers and congratulated me on my prize. I would like to thank the School dining room for their support and I'd encourage other students to enter future competitions!!! Thank you



Matthew Tarry Year 11

# Sixth Form News

## Anti-Bullying week

For Anti-Bullying week 12NME held their own version of Question Time. With Sabreen standing in for David Dimbleby we were in good hands for our discussion on bullying. We had several contributors on the panel which included Kieron (a journalist from the good old days), Aisha (a human rights lawyer), Samantha (the CEO of BeatBullying), Lewis (a cabinet MP), Adam (a Headteacher) and Andrew (the Head of Police). The audience contributed many thought-provoking questions which caused some ill-feeling between the panel, however David, sorry Sabreen, managed to keep everyone calm.

*I wonder what discussion the next episode will bring?*

Mrs Moorhouse



## The new Sixth Form Common Room

No folks this isn't a selection of images from World of Interiors magazine it's our new Sixth Form Common Room in action!



Students have a great facility to relax and work in. It has lovely seating, work tables, storage, TV's, music, a kitchen area and vending machine... it's better than the staff room!!!!

It's a clean, bright and welcoming space that Year 11 have been down to visit and to see for themselves.

As with any space, it evolves and we continue to develop it!

Miss Grey



## 6th Form Residential

Well it was off up the motorway as we headed to the prestigious York University for this year's residential.

Over the two days we had a number of activities to help students find out about university life. This included a guided tour round the facilities, workshops in writing a personal statement for UCAS applications and talks on university life, expectations and prospects.



Year 13 ran a Q&A activity with Year 12, offering sage advice with their wealth of experience on how to cope with A-levels, study tips and the bigger picture. I was really impressed with the quality of advice the Year 13's offered and how astute the questioning was by Year 12.



There was also some team building activities that involved spaghetti, marshmallows and towers! Students also joined in with cheerleading activities; Sam Curtin and Sam Evans took quite a shine to their pom poms and were exuberant in their routine, Tom Vail also did an impressive somersault!



No residential is complete without the evening meal and disco, we all looked gorgeous and shapes were 'cut' on the dance floor!

So now we are back at Wellington, and the visit has had a notable impact; Year 12 and 13 know each other much better, the visit motivated Year 13 to get their applications for UCAS well under way and the Year 12 can see a focus and long term plan with their studies.



Well done and thank you for your effort and enthusiasm on the trip, the university also commented on how impressed they were with you!

Miss Grey

# Sixth Form News & Events

## Well it's been a very busy term, here are a few of the events and activities that Year 12 & 13 have been involved in so far...

**Northumbria University** – visited Wellington to speak to the Year 12's to give them tips on managing the jump from GCSE to A-levels. The speaker was great and really reinforced the expectations and workload increase as well as offering advice on how to cope.

**MMU application advice** – Year 13 had a talk from MMU on how to apply, with top tips and common mistakes to avoid in the UCAS process. It really was of invaluable benefit to the students.

**MMU Personal statement workshop** – MMU kindly came in and were able to see some of the Year 13 students and help them with their personal statements for their university applications.

**Mentoring** – Lots of the Year 12 & 13 have been mentoring students lower down the school. Their work is really helping the students grow in confidence and build on skills. I'm sure all Directors of Year and staff, join myself and Mr Cropper in saying well done for this commitment of time, effort and support.

**LRC** – The Sixth form are there every day after school helping lower school students with their homework. Mrs Ware is delighted with their efforts and there is a bit of a fan club in Lower School too!

**Apprenticeship meeting** – Inevitably, not everyone will elect to go to university and many of our students may wish to have an alternative option. So, we had Churchgate apprenticeship group in to speak to those students who were interested. They have now been to an open day to see all the options available and applications start in the New Year. Good luck with that, everybody!

**Skills day** – Year 12 had a day off timetable to undertake one of our eagerly awaited skills days, we want to ensure that we look after the welfare as well as the academic lives of our students. So there were talks on life and prospects after 6th form, drugs awareness and a visitor from Genesis Breast Cancer Research came in to talk about fundraising. It was a great day!

**UCAS** – Well done to everyone who has completed and sent off their UCAS applications! Mr Cropper has worked really hard to ensure that these have gone off for everyone, and tutors worked hard to write references for all their tutor groups. Already there are offers coming in from Universities.

**Work experience** – Many of our students are interested in a career in teaching. With universities requiring experience to be considered for courses, some have been undertaking weekly placements in local primary schools. They have shown real commitment by doing this and it is already paying off; interviews have already come through from some universities.

**Sixth Form interviews** – Following the Sixth Form Open Evening, Mr Cropper and I have been really busy in the last few weeks of term interviewing Year 11 students for a place in Wellington Sixth Form in September 2013. We have met some lovely, enthusiastic and determined students in Year 11 who can see the benefits of being in the supportive structure of Wellington Sixth Form and are really keen to come here. It was lovely to meet all of you and places will be confirmed in the new year.

**Good Wellingtonians** – Many of the Sixth Form are a great support to the School, from attending open evenings, to helping at the Year 7 Christmas disco, helping with duties on the back gate and recently in the Choir at the Christmas Carol Service, to name but a few examples. Mr Cropper, myself and all the Sixth Form team want to say a big thank you for this help, support and presence at events from the students at Wellington.

Phew! That's quite a lot to be getting on with and I'm pretty sure I haven't mentioned everything!!! Much more to come next term.

Miss Grey

Assistant Head of Sixth Form

## Dates for your diary - Spring Term 2013

Thursday 31st January  
Year 9 Parents Evening

Monday 4th February  
Parent Staff Association Meeting

Wednesday 6th February  
KS4 Evening

Thursday 14th February  
Year 8 Parents Evening

Friday 15th February  
School closes - half term

Monday 25th February  
School opens

Thursday 28th February  
Year 7 Parents Evening

Monday 4th March  
Parent Staff Association Meeting

Thursday 14th March  
VI Form Parents Evening

Thursday 21st March  
GCSE Preparation Evening

Friday 22nd March  
School closes - Easter

Monday 8th April  
School opens - Summer Term

# School Council News

A busy year for School Council has started with the appointment of this year's Executive Committee. Liaison Officers for all Year Groups have been appointed under the guardianship of School Council President Isaac Farrell, Chairperson Marnie Hallworth and Erin Storey, Vice Chairperson - all from Year 9.

Setting priorities for this year has been a key topic of meetings so far. Tutor reps have brought ideas to the meetings on how aspects of school life may be improved. Groups were asked to consider how the school site could be improved and to suggest improvements to the

way in which we learn. Proposals put forward included more places to sit in play areas, more covered areas and suggestions for teacher / student discussions to share ideas.

The School Council has also been involved in setting up an ongoing Inter-Form competition which will encourage students to participate in Wellington life. During meetings, Council reps have worked in groups to decide which activities should earn points. Suggestions ranged from being awarded points for attendance at lunch-time clubs, to appearing in school productions and having 100% attendance with

lots of suggestions put forward for prizes - from breakfasts to ice skating trips - so, a busy year ahead of us!

Finally, perhaps the most pleasing aspect of School Council this year has been the record attendances at meetings. All members of the Wellington community are entitled to attend meetings and with over 60 students contributing to the last meeting, we may have to find a bigger venue!

Mr Holt  
Assistant Headteacher



**The Schools Network**  
The Specialist Schools and Academies Trust

