

# Wellington School

11-18 School



*Excellence in Everything*

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

Spring Term Newsletter  
January 2014

Welcome to the Spring Term 2014 Newsletter – a celebration of the Autumn Term 2013.

We hope you enjoy reading about all the activities, successes and events we have enjoyed last term.



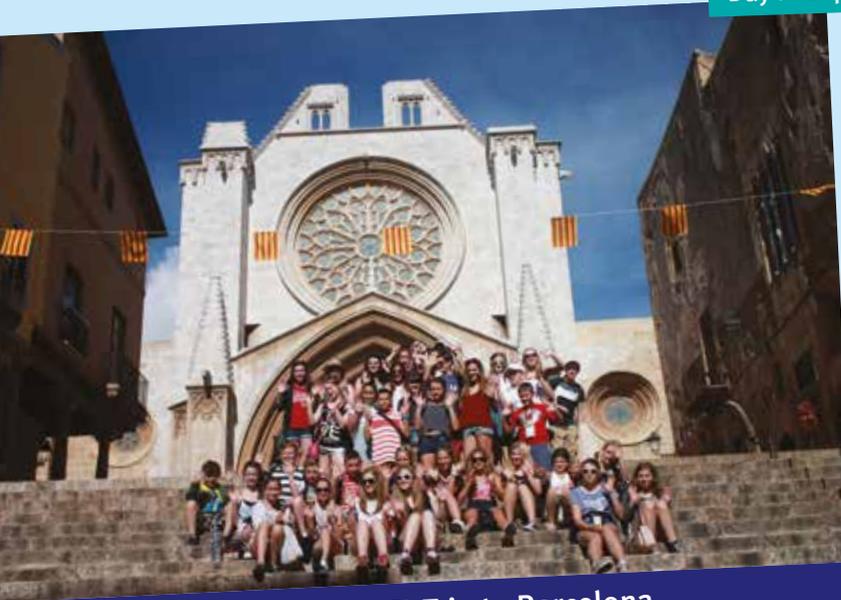
Year 7 Bonding Day in September



Year 11 Careers Fair - October 2013



European Day of Languages  
September 2013



Year 8 & 10 MFL Trip to Barcelona



'Wicked Wellington' Halloween Disco



Operation Christmas Child



Year 10 - 11 rugby



Presentation of Headteacher's Award for Progress to Paul Jennings and Danielle Riley, Year 13, at the Certificate Evening



## Welcome

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 that took place during the Autumn Term of 2013. 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 and staff) have settled into life at Wellington exceptionally well and have contributed enormously to our continued success and development. The transition of our new Year 7s is facilitated in so many ways by our dedicated staff but this process was enhanced further this year with the "bonding" day organised by Mrs Haley (Pastoral Manager). Read all about it in the Newsletter.

### Just a handful of my personal highlights from last term:

We brought forward the GCSE and A level Certificate Evening this year to September (much to the angst and sense of panic of Mrs Copeland) with a view to providing the opportunity of our departing Year 13s to attend before they became embroiled in university life. I am delighted to say that they and their Year 11 counterparts attended in bigger numbers than ever and we enjoyed a wonderful evening of celebration. The musical performances of Adiemus, Pie Jesu and Skyfall were phenomenal and a huge thank you to Mrs Armstrong (former Headteacher) for her kind and thought-provoking words.

Remaining on the musical theme but leaping forward to the end of term, the Carol Service will again live long in the memory, and not only for Jack Owens' attempt to sabotage my microphone. All the performers (choristers, instrumentalists and readers) excelled themselves and none more so than the joint staff / sixth form choir. Gareth Malone, eat your heart out! I have to say, the build up to Christmas overall was fantastic, with a perfect blend of continued diligence towards one's work and an element of festive fun.



Carol Service at Christ Church

You may be aware that I'm partial to a bit of sport and, therefore, I've been delighted with the refurbishment of the sports hall and the "old" gym in recent months and, of course, the addition of the all-weather pitch. The latter will doubtless further enhance the sporting experiences of our students, providing our own facility for hockey and tennis for the first time but also an excellent surface for training for other sports and for recreational use at lunchtime.

I can't talk about sport and not mention the development of rugby at Wellington. I haven't checked the "history books" but it must be some time since we fielded rugby teams at all age groups. A huge thanks to Mr O'Rourke, Mr Gerschler and Mr Tomlinson for their support in helping me to provide this additional opportunity to students. Thanks also to Jason Duffy from the RFU for his coaching input during lessons and to Bowdon Rugby Club for the use of their facilities. You can read reports on each team in this newsletter.

Thank you to those of you who have taken time to read my weekly bulletin on the School's website and, furthermore, taken the trouble to pass comment to me about it. I began this in January 2012 and I have to say it has to be one of the undoubted highlights

of any week. Of course, I am grateful to and dependent on staff for forwarding me details of events, activities, trips, student achievements etc. but when I sit down each Friday to type my report I realise how many opportunities we provide and how willing, enthusiastic, dedicated and, quite simply, wonderful our students and staff are. As

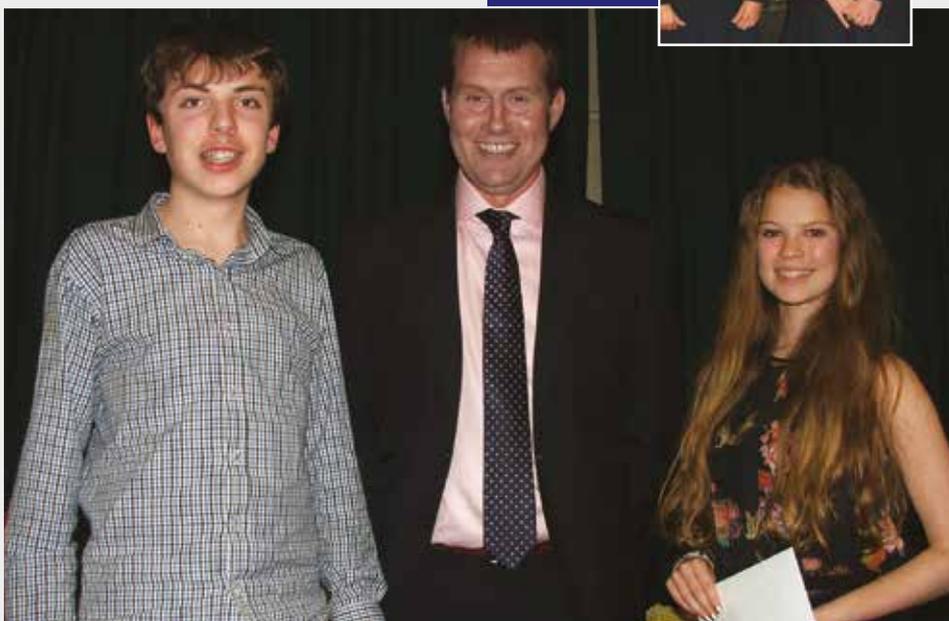
Headteacher, I can't help but have a feeling of immense pride. This Newsletter, like my weekly bulletin, encapsulates that spirit of Wellington. So, without further ado, I'll let you get on and read it.

Just a date for the diary (to add to the PSA events included herein and parents' evenings that you should / will be made aware of), our annual Sponsored Walk takes place on Friday 7th March and this year we are raising money for Moodswings, a Manchester-based charity supporting young people with a variety of mental health issues. This is an issue that impacts us all and I'm sure we can set our sights high for the thousands of Greater Manchester children who will benefit from the charity's fantastic work and once again raise a staggering £30,000 plus.

Enjoy the Newsletter and join with us to celebrate the success of our young people.

### S P Beeley Headteacher

### Certificate Evening - Laura and Katy perform 'Pie Jesu'



Presentation of Headteacher's Award for Progress to Charles Webb and Georgina Dalgliesh, Year 11 at the Certificate Evening

## Just One Cornetto!

Give it to me!

Delicious ice cream

From 7.1b!!!!

Well done 7.1b on your delicious creations.

Miss Grey



## Christmas Card Creation

A huge congratulations to Hannah Smith in Year 7 who came 2nd in a Christmas card competition run by the Messenger newspaper

Lovely design work, always good to see another budding artist!

Miss Grey



## Let them eat Cake!

7.1B created these relief cakes on the retro doilies.

The icing is made using plaster and then decorated with the pastel retro colour palette of Pop Artist Wayne Thiebaud.

Keep up the good work!

Miss Grey



## Project Based Learning

Last term all KS3 pupils completed PBL homework projects.

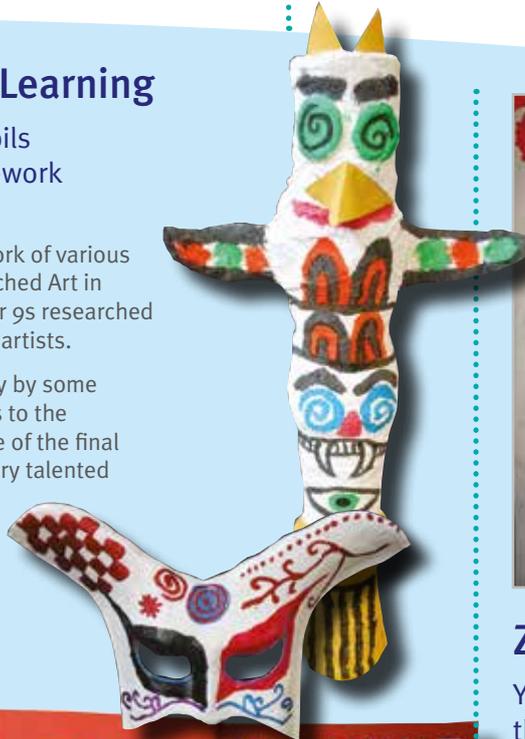
Year 7s researched the work of various Pop Artists, Year 8 researched Art in different cultures and Year 9s researched a number of pattern style artists.

We have been blown away by some of the personal responses to the homework! Here are some of the final outcomes made by our very talented pupils. Well done everyone!

Miss Grey, Mrs Kearney and Mrs Willingham



I LIKE THE  
DETAIL AND THE  
UNIQUE STYLE  
- I'VE NOT SEEN  
ANYTHING LIKE  
IT!  
THIS IS MY  
FAVOURITE →



## Zombie Club

Year 7s loved creating these scary and spooky Zombie faces.

They decorated the Vale Hall ready for the Halloween Disco.

Really well done Zombie Clubbers!

Mrs Kearney



### Nifty Nichos

8.4a have been studying the art of Mexico

They have each created their own nicho, which is a shrine made to celebrate loved ones, saints or the admired.



These shrines from 8.4a reflect themselves and their interests and apparently 1 Direction!!

Beautiful studies, well done.

Miss Grey



### Manga Club

Over 15 Year 8s have joined Mrs Willingham's new Manga Club.

Over the past two weeks, students have been creating their own Manga sketchbooks and learning how to draw Manga facial expressions. Students are preparing to have fun turning themselves into life size Manga characters after Christmas!



### kaleidoscope

Year 8 have been inspired by Indian Pattern and have painted these stunning Kaleidoscopes.

They have learned how to repeat pattern and have shown fantastic watercolour skills when adding colour.

Beautiful work Year 8!

Mrs Kearney



### REX RAY

9.3 have been looking at natural forms and the work of decorative artist Rex Ray.

The class has completed studies of leaves, seeds and pods and then translated this work into his style with a variety of collage and paint techniques, including using real leaves as a canvas. These have now been turned into a beautiful tree

Stunning pattern work, well done 9.3.

Miss Grey



### Oceanic Patterns

9.0 have been produced work based on Sea life.

They have been working to create large scale drawings using a wide variety of materials and techniques. They have been introduced to the work of Hannah Davies and have now started to develop some of their beautiful drawings in her style. I am so looking forward to seeing some designs next term and of course all the final pieces.

Well done 9.0!

Mrs Kearney



### 9.5 & 9.7 are Proud of their Prints

Both classes have been studying the work of illustrator, Angie Lewin.

They have worked hard this term to develop some designs and have explored a range of printing techniques. They have experimented with Poly Printing and practised Mono Printing. Next term they will be working hard to produce a 3 coloured lino print. Designs have already been drawn up and I can't wait to see the outcome!

Mrs Kearney



## Water Safety Poster Competition

Last year students from 9.1 entered a competition for Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service. They were asked to create a water safety poster for them to use as part of their Safe4Summer campaign.



Congratulations to Chloe Urmston who was one of the lucky winners. She received a certificate and tickets to The Sea Life Centre.

A fantastic achievement, Well done Chloe!

Mrs Kearney

## Chirpy Chirpy Cheep Cheep!

9.8 have created some beautiful bird studies.

They have explored a variety of materials and techniques and are currently creating 3D pieces in the style of artist Alice Melville. Look out for them in the next newsletter.

Well done 9.8.

Miss Grey



## WW1

As part of the WW1 centenary celebrations a competition was run by the Secretary of State for Communities to design a commemorative paving stone for all those who had won a Victoria Cross.

9.3 completed some amazing designs and many of their designs were commended by the judge. Students can be seen here proudly sporting their certificates.

Well done 9.3 and I hope you are very proud of the recognition you received in a national competition.



Miss Grey



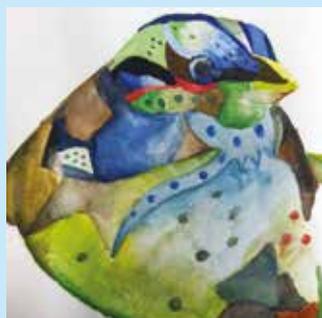
## Year 9 Decorative Birds

Year 9 have been studying decorative birds, focusing on the artist Millie Marotta, the students have produced some beautiful decorative bird drawings and paintings.

Some of the students were so interested that they emailed Millie Marotta who kindly responded and provided them with information about herself!

Students have really been on board with this project and should be extremely proud of the progress they have made and the work they are producing. Well done Year 9!

Mrs Willingham



## Yorkshire Sculpture Park

A group of 30 Year 9 students visited Yorkshire Sculpture Park in September.

They spent the morning sketching in the Yorkshire sunshine and having a tour of the park.

In the afternoon they worked in groups to build their own outdoor sculptures. The artist from YSP was very impressed with how the students had worked together in groups and felt their final sculptures were well thought out and meaningful.

In fact, he was so impressed, he even let them in to see a sculpture that is usually cordoned off to the public! Exciting!

The pupils loved it and we, the teachers, loved it! Overall, a great day out and the students were a credit to the School.

Mrs Kearney & Mrs Willingham



### Photography Club

Photography club has been a huge success with Year 9 this term.

Students explored the theme of Decay and learnt to take a variety of photographs.

Students are now working on the theme of Human Rights for the Amnesty International Young Photographer competition.

They will submit their work in February so keep your fingers crossed and good luck Year 9!

Mrs Willingham



### Calendar 2014

I think I say this every year, but the calendar seems to get better every year!

A pleasure to see our talented student's work beautifully presented making each month a delight to look forward to!

Miss Grey



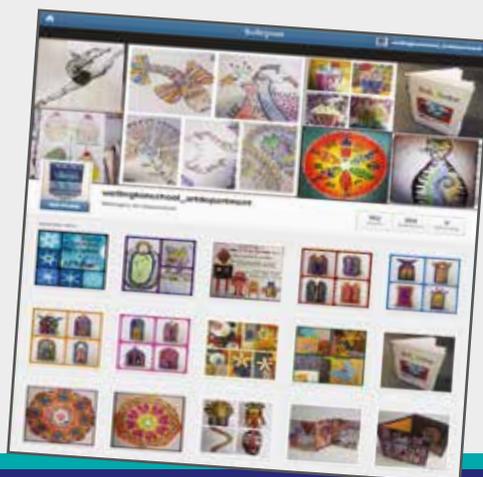
### Exciting times everyone..... The Art Department has gone viral!

Follow us on Instagram ([wellingtonschool\\_artdepartment](#)) to keep up to date with all our wonderful artwork!

Well done to everyone who has featured on Instagram. We have uploaded over 150 images and have almost 300 followers.

Spread the word and don't forget to click the 'like' button if you have a favourite!

Mrs Kearney

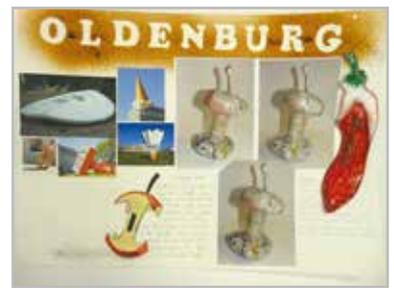


### Year 10 Fabulous Fruit

Year 10 have been doing a great job on their first GCSE project based on fruit.

They have been showing off their skills using a range of materials including acrylic, pastel, print and collage.

Can't wait to see how it develops!



### CAMMdesign

During October half term, two of our Year 12 students, Ella Haywood and Katherine Tilston attended a workshop with CAMMdesign. This company have been commissioned by Transport for Greater Manchester to Design and make a 'Floorscape' for the new Altrincham Interchange.

They spent the first half of the day taking photographs around the interchange and then in the afternoon, they helped to transpose these images onto slate which will then make up the floor design of the new interchange.

These slate tiles are now on show at 'Art with a Heart', Creative Surgery, Normans Place, Altrincham. If you get the opportunity, pop in and have a look at the work produced by both students.

Well done Ella & Katherine.



## Art with a Heart

Art work from our Year 12 students was selected for the Trafford School's Exhibition.

This was a fantastic achievement for each student and it was great to see our students, parents (and grandparents) attend in big numbers at the preview show.

All the work proved very popular with visitors to the exhibition and Katherine Tilston's 'Dragonfly' piece particularly attracted lots of positive comments.

Well done to all our Y12 Art students for taking part.

Mrs Kearney



## Drawing Delights

Year 13 coursework continues to develop and this is just a taste of the delights that they are creating. I can't wait to see how the final pieces turn out!

Keep up the good work.

Miss Grey



## Feathered Friends

Many of the Year 13 students have been using birds as an inspiration for their course work. The pieces are being created in a number of different mediums and styles.

I'm sure you will agree that the attention to detail is superb and reflects the hardwork of all our Year 13 students.

Miss Grey



## Fantastic Final Pieces

Year 11 are on track and have completed their final piece of their last piece of coursework.

The finish line is in sight! Well done Year 11. Here is an example of their work.

Mrs Kearney



## Well Green Primary School

In October, The Art Department visited Well Green Primary School to hold a number of Art workshops.

Some Year 5 pupils tried their hand at poly printing, Year 4's created some Calvera Masks and Year 3's made letters collaged with different patterns from different cultures. They worked really hard and achieved some fantastic outcomes.

Miss Grey, Mrs Kearney, Mrs Willingham



## Food

### KS3 Food Group Projects - Collaborative Learning

In Food Technology, Year 7, 8 & 9 students have been working collaboratively to plan, design and make a variety of food products that could be served at cafés, restaurants or bistros. Year 7 created an 'Afternoon Tea', Year 8 a fixed price 'early bird' Italian menu and Year 9, a range of Asian cuisine.



Students were challenged to complete the meals and present the dishes within a 50 minute time slot. They should be commended for their effective team work, level of effort, the quality their dishes and the high level of presentation.



I am sure you will agree they did it in style - move over Nigella, Jamie & Heston!

Well done to all!

Mrs Booth

### Gingerbread Houses

In Food Technology, Years 10 and 12 students have taken part in The Great Gingerbread House Sale. The event was run by the charity 'Shelter' to raise money to make Christmas better for homeless children. Students worked in groups to design and make their own gingerbread houses. These were then raffled with the proceeds of £57 going to Shelter. All who participated had a great time and the raffle winners were very pleased with their prizes.

Well done Years 10 and 12.

Mrs Ryan



### Wicked Wellington

The Technology Department were very pleased to be involved with the 'Wicked Wellington' Project with Year 7 students. We decided that we would link this with our 'Afternoon Tea' project so all the Year 7 'foodies' worked in small groups to prepare their own 'Halloween Afternoon Tea'.

Year 7 proved to be very creative and came up with some fantastic ideas. At the end of the rotation they all made their dishes and sat down to enjoy an afternoon tea party. I think they would all agree that the part they enjoyed the most was the eating.

Cooking Club was also involved with the 'Wicked Wellington' work and lots of Year 7 students had the opportunity to make spooky eyeball truffles and spider biscuits as well as doing some pumpkin carving.



Fantastic work Year 7 – they should be serving these treats on the 'Afternoon Tea' menu at The Ritz.

Mrs Ryan



## Product Design

### Toy Boat Project

In Product Design, Year 7 students have created a range of toy boat designs aimed at young children.

Students have developed a range of skills from hand drawn sketches to computer aided design and practical processes to create their toy boat from softwood.

Great work Year 7!

Mr Fletcher



## Year 7 Graphics

### Mechanical Toys

Year 7 have been studying structures & mechanisms and have created a range of mechanical toys called automata.

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

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

Mrs. Booth



## Year 8 Textiles

### Cross Curricular Project - Year 8 Hindu Bag project

This year in Textiles we are working with the REP department to develop a cross curricular project based on Hinduism. Year 8 students are linking the work taught in their REP lessons to develop designs based on the Hindu festivals of Holi and Diwali.

Students have learnt how to create a number of decorative techniques such as colour wash, dip dye, tie dye, and block print and stencilling. They have been very creative with the theme and designed their own Rangoli patterns.

As you can see, the bags created are a wealth of colour.

Fantastic job Year 8!

Miss Hudson.



## Year 9 Textiles

### Novelty Products

Year 9 have designed and created a range of novelty kindle or table covers.

Students researched their theme and audience to develop their ideas and learnt a variety of decorative techniques such as appliqué and reverse appliqué to develop their sewing skills.

As you can see the outcomes are very creative. Well done to all those Year 9 students involved.

Miss Hudson



## Big Brother is Watching...

Mr. Ashworth and I took 10

A Level English Literature students to Liverpool Playhouse during October half-term to see an adaptation of George Orwell's 'Nineteen Eighty-Four'.



The students study this novel as part of their comparative coursework alongside Anthony Burgess' 'A Clockwork Orange'.

It was really impressive how the students were keen to see the play in their own time to get a 'head-start' on their soon-approaching study of the novel. Indeed, many identified a number of thematic links to 'A Clockwork Orange' whilst also being surprised by the extremity of the totalitarian 'Party' depicted in the play, true to Orwell's vision of a possible post-war Europe.

The performance itself was extremely thought-provoking with a focus upon how the novel is still as relevant in the modern age as it was in 1948. After all, all great writing reflects not only the age it was written but the time in which it is read.

Thanks for utilising your half-term independent study time so well Y12: I certainly enjoyed our day out!

Miss Hitchens

## Anti-Bullying Week

Miss Hitchens and Mrs McDonnell developed a Speaking & Listening project for Year 10 as part of their Literacy group involvement for the English department to deliver.

The quality of work has been superb with students dedicating a lot of time in and out of lessons to produce excellent videos featuring emotive monologues which tackle the issue from a student perspective. While these videos contribute to their GCSE assessments, the students saw the true purpose of this unit as a means to give something back to students in younger years and have freely volunteered their efforts to be used, for example, in assemblies.

Phenomenal work Year 10! The English department are extremely proud of you.

Miss Hitchens



## 8.4b's Amazing Island Projects

As part of the Year 8 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, multi-coloured landscapes and even baked edible islands (yum)! All work was created independently so this project put the pupils' 5Rs skills to the test.

Miss Hitchens

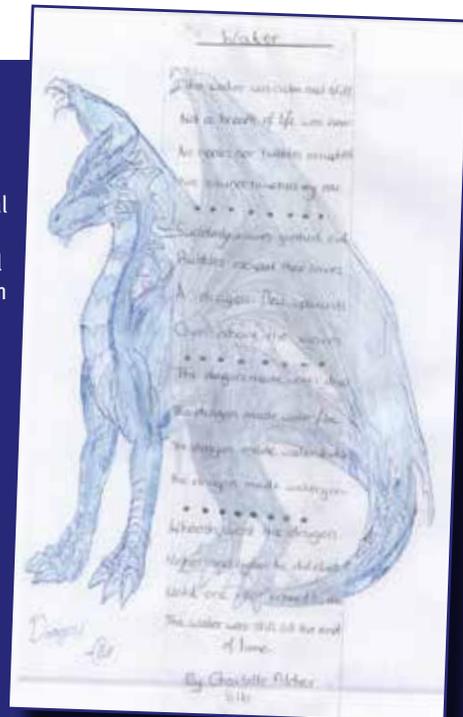
## Water, Water Everywhere...

The theme for this year's National Poetry Day was Water. Years 7 to 10 were invited to create unusual poems about creatures born from the water or even the discovery of some mysterious jetsam. Classes explored existing poetry to inspire them.

Lots of the very best work is on display in the English corridor but my personal favourite is by Charlotte Pilcher in Year 8.

Notable mention must go to Miss Warburton's tutor group, 8NWN who won the tutor time quiz as well.

Miss Hitchens



## Wicked Wellington: English - Style!

The English department's contribution to Wicked Wellington involved students creating their own monsters, mini horror films and then their own descriptions as if they were monsters about to capture their creator!

Students read extracts from 'Frankenstein' and took inspiration from their spooky musical compositions created in Music to produce their work. A big thank you to any parents and carers who had supplied props and instruments to add to these spooky lessons.

Miss Hitchens





## Truly WOW! - While of course the School newsletter is fantastic, the students will not let themselves be outdone by the staff!

Therefore, the WOW Magazine team have produced their Autumn issue and have researched, written and of course interrogated (in their own words) the staff to produce a fantastic read. The whole team have been amazing and produced this most recent issue not only on Friday lunchtimes when club takes place but in their own time too!

Even better, we have signed-up for BBC School Report so all future articles will be linked to the BBC website, building-up to an official News Day in March. The team and I are beyond excited and look forward again to showing-up the staff with our fabulous articles. Have a look at the latest issue on the school website, where you can already see Jasmine and Yasmin's 'One Minute Report'.

Miss Hitchens



## 'The Hobbit'

Book into Film' Club Cinema Visit!

Despite feeling slightly 'desolated' by the end of a busy term, there was certainly no excuse not to reward 'Book into Film' club with a trip to see the second instalment of The Hobbit trilogy 'The Desolation of Smaug'! The students read the text last year in BiF club and many saw the first instalment on last year's Christmas trip so, as promised, we had to see the next film...in 3D of course!

The students were phenomenally well-behaved and we had a fabulous afternoon out, the second day in a row for many as they came to see War Horse too! I can't wait to discuss the film and the original novel in our first club meeting after Christmas.

Miss Hitchens



## 'War Horse'

Lowry Theatre Visit

I was that excited to invite Year 7 and 8 as well as 'Book and Film' club to this five-star rated performance that I booked the tickets 14 months in

advance to secure amazing seats! War Horse is a book many students had read and a film many had seen but the opportunity to see the puppetry that brought these horses alive on stage was beyond belief. The students were exceptionally well-behaved as always and we simply can't wait for next year's theatre trip.

We highly recommend it.

Miss Hitchens

## The Punctuation Song Contest is Back!

In my recent Year 9 student forum, the students reminisced about the mighty 'Punctuation Song Contest'.

So selflessly, the students suggested allowing Year 7 and 8 to have a go! All sets produced lyrics that covered the respective rules for their set's chosen punctuation and even videoed their songs.

A massive congratulations and chocolate prize went to 8.2a and 7.1a! We can't wait to use these videos in the future.

Miss Hitchens

## Wonderful Wizardry!

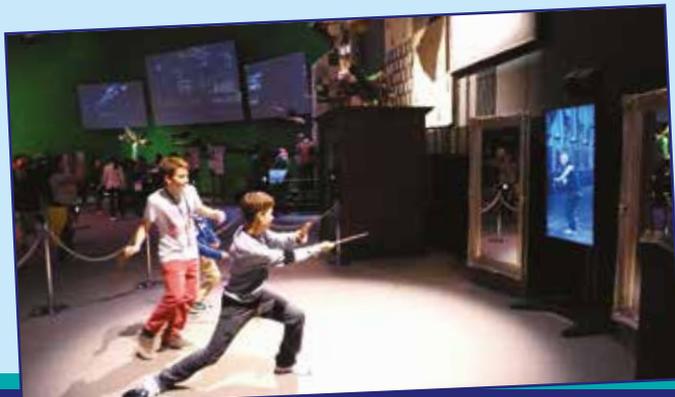
Warner Bros Harry Potter Studio Tour

On 10th September, myself, Mrs Rainford, Miss Spence and Mr. Crane took 46 students on the English Department Reward Trip to the Warner Bros. Harry Potter Studio Tour in Leavesden, Hertfordshire.



The tour includes a visit to the Great Hall, Diagon Alley, Privet Drive and an opportunity to see all the genuine sets, props and costumes from the films. Students were also able to take part in green screen videos and battle it out in wand duels. To cool down after the excitement, Butterbeer was on-tap before students got to visit the pièce-de-résistance: the massive model of Hogwarts used in the films (who can forget the wizards' first glimpse of the castle in 'The Philosopher's Stone'?).

Classic moments include Yasmin and Jasmine's 'interrogation' of everyone connected with the tour (they found out everything), the Year 9 boys' duelling (excellent moves Alex Grandage!) and the excitement of not just the kids but the 'big kids' on the trip too! On that note, a special request from me: please tell Mr. Crane that 'it is all real'!



Well done to all the students involved: you were fantastic! Oh – and don't forget to have a read of Jasmine's winning article: she won a box of Chocolate Frogs!

Miss Hitchens

## The Harry Potter School Trip

The school trip to Harry Potter Warner Bros Studio Tour was amazing. After a 3-hour coach ride to the tour, the giant studio greeted us.

When we entered there were giant posters on the wall of all the Harry Potter characters, and then when you looked closely you could see the fabulous flying car used in the Philosopher's Stone to get Harry and Ron to school when they missed the school train. We said goodbye to our lunches and we setting off to join the queue.

In the queue, we could see the set of Harry's cupboard under the stairs. When we had finished the queue we walked through to the video screening. After that we went into a big cinema screen and watched another video. Then the screen lifted up and we could see the wondrous and giant front gates to the GREAT HALL. There were two tables set out on each side of the room and in each corner of the room we could see the robes from all houses. As if that was not good enough we all looked to the front of the room and the teachers' clothes were nicely displayed, in the teachers' usual seats.

When we walked out of the Grand Hall, when we looked up we could see the golden snitch flying up. Then when we walked through to the ice sculpture from the Goblet of Fire. This was used in the film in the scene of the Ball. On either side of the ice sculpture (made of plastic) there were suits and dresses. When you walked down further you could see the education decrees from the Order of the Phoenix. Next we found the gates to the Castle. Then we saw things like the Gryffindor common room and Hagrid's Hut, Snape's Potions Class and the Ministry of Magic. We even got to go on our own broomsticks, and learn all the wand movements.

Later on we moved to the outside area where there was number 3 and 4 Privet Drive. We discovered a torched walkway and the Potter's Cottage from the Deathly Hallows. Then we saw chess pieces from the Philosopher's Stone. We had lunch and then walked into the next section where they had the make up and electronics. After we walked through the makeup section we entered a room filled with blue prints and paper models of all the houses.

To our surprise, when we then entered another room we found Hogwarts Castle. Everyone was beaming and that put an amazing end to this memorable trip.

Thank you to all the teachers that took us on the trip. It was amazing!!!

Thank you for reading!

By Jasmine Spinks, 8SWN, 82B

## Praise Postcards

Congratulations to all of the students listed here who were sent a praise postcard for excellent contribution in Geography in the half term September – October 2013:

### Miss Gyves classes:

7.1 A Adam Jennings Grace Mottram	8.1 B Jordan Burrows Charlotte Pilcher	8.4 A Zaki Essabi Katie Peckitt	9.7 Charley'Elise Guy Joshua Wykes
7.2 B Mia Jones Grace Sanderson	8.1 C Philippa Freeman Olivia Samuels	9.2 Genevieve Hoy Luke Noble	

### Miss Costello's classes:

7.2A Isabelle Barnes Nicole Oseman	7.4A James Buckley Connie Taylor	8.3A Heidi Almond-Riley Leonie Halliwell	8.5A Riana Finnigan Tim Dancu
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### Mr Whitaker's classes:

7.4b Travis Maguire Rosie Delahunty	7.1b Phoebe Ross Magnus Cole	8.4b Niamh Tomlin Thomas Walmsley	9.3 Isobel Wallis Joseph Cardoza	9.6 Georgia Carr Bradley Snowden
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### Miss English' classes:

7.3B Matt Firth Eleonora Grierson	8.3B Dominika Glodowska Charlotte Rourke	9.5 Hannah Curbishley Nathan Bradbury
7.5A Tiep Pothong Lucy Ryder	9.0 Phoebe Barlow Abreanne Fernandez	9.9 Luke Watson James Cummins

Congratulations to all of the students listed here who were sent a praise postcard for excellent contribution in Geography in the half term October – December 2013:

### Miss Gyves' classes:

7.1 A Alisha Bhudia Lauren Newton	8.1 B Issy Black Libby Silverwood	9.2 Angela Wisten Nancy Stewart
7.2 B Ghazal Motazedian Danielle Broadbent	8.1 C Samuel Gregg Leah Moghimi	9.7 Toby Doughty Weronika Karczeska

### Mr Whitaker's classes:

7.1b Eve Smith Thea Aldridge	7.4b Charlotte Lastoweczyi Reece Gaulton	8.4B Henry Hill Emma Beatty	9.3 Poppy Egerton Oliver Vaughan	9.6 Charlotte Richardson Sophie Carolan
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### Miss Fisher's classes:

9.8 Gestin Patole Elle Mae Kitchiner	9.1 Lauren Quilliam Savannah Walker	8.2a Melissa McDonagh Emily Mulvey	7.3a Maddison Daniels Ailsa Robertson
9.4 Adam Royle Olivia Ignatowicz	8.2b Leah Fraser Connor Oldbury	8.1a Gemma Curry Sophie Bakash	

### Miss Costello's classes:

7.2A Oliver Donnelly Bronte Ward	7.4A Rebecca Williams Tom Ford	8.3A Lauren Bolton Chloe Berry	8.5A Leah Shaw Lewis Parry
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### Miss English' classes:

7.3B Libby Nurse James Drummond	8.3B Amelia Liston Abehr Kutraj	9.5 Jennifer Phillips Megan Roylance
7.5A Faith Bristow Christos Blazos	9.0 Alice Buckton-Perkins Jake Howarth	9.9 Olivia Bradshaw-Bell Leah-Marie Stevens

## Geographer of the month

Congratulations to the following students on being nominated as Geographer of the month this term:

### September 2013:

Phoebe Barlow and Abreanne Fernandez in Year 9 who wrote and performed a fantastic song about natural disasters.

### October 2013:

Leigh Latham Year 10 for excellent contributions in class and homework.

### November 2013:

Phoebe Ross Year 7 who completed an amazing homework on settlement and has consistently excellent attainment.

### December 2013:

Leah Shaw Year 8 for outstanding contribution and attitude all term.

Well done to you all and keep up the good work!

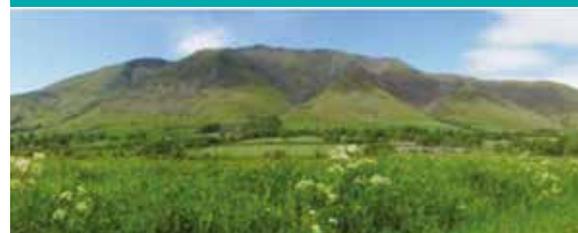
Miss Costello

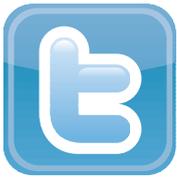
## Geography Field Trips

The Geography department are looking forward to the residential field trips we have organised for Spring term.

Some lucky students in Year 9 have been given the opportunity to go to Disneyland Paris from 9-12th March 2014 in preparation for their GCSE course starting in September. Thank you Miss English for providing the Geography department with this wonderful opportunity! Year 12 will visit Blencathra Field Study Centre in the Lake District from 18-21st March 2014 to gain some essential skills for their AS exams in June. Finally, 50 students from Year 10 will have the opportunity to visit Shropshire to gain some important Geographical skills as part of their GCSE Geography course.

Miss Costello





## Tweet Tweet...

Here in the Geography department we like to keep ourselves up to date with current issues and 'goings-on' all over the world and it seems the fastest way to find this out is through Twitter.

So we joined! We became an '@' and now we tweet a wide range of different things including fascinating maps, fact finding quizzes, interesting pictures and ever-so exciting news. We also post a wide range of articles aimed to inspire our students to become more interested in the world in which we live. It does after all, change every single day.

Not only have we joined twitter, but we have also got ourselves a blog (according to Year 8 this makes us 'well cool'.) Some of our fantastic Key Stage 3 students have got on board and spend their Thursday lunchtimes 'blogging' about interesting geographic events going on all over the world. Get involved – it's in Room 40 at 1:20 every Thursday!! You can find our blog here: <http://wellingtongeography.wordpress.com> - perfect for a bit of Saturday morning reading with a nice bacon sandwich...

If you are 'cool' enough to have twitter, then please give us a follow - @wellingtongeog – we promise to try and wow you! You could even win a lollipop in our weekly 'Where am I?' quiz...

Miss English



## HISTORY News

### Year 7

Year 7 have made an excellent start to the year in History.

They are currently studying the Romans and have been given the option to choose what homework they would like to do using a homework grid. There are many activities which range from writing a news report on Caesar, designing your own Roman Empire flag, cartoon strips to creating your own Roman Armour. Here are some excellent examples from our students, who are proud to show off their brilliant work. Well done year 7, keep it up!

Miss Davison



## The Poppy Appeal

All Year groups had assemblies at the end of October from a speaker from the Royal British Legion to highlight why the poppy appeal should still happen.

After listening to this assembly, we were all inspired to make a difference to this cause. Our friends, as well as a group of year 9 girls decided to have a bake sale for the rest of the school. After many days of planning, making flyers and baking, our event took place on Friday 8th November at lunchtime. It was great! We raised £85.10 and all the cakes were gone, which we were all very proud of.

Also, across the school we completed tutor activities to raise awareness of the poppy appeal, which was even better as it meant more people would go and buy a poppy.

We hope to do something similar next year and hope that we have inspired others to raise awareness.

By Georgia Hughes and Maddie Freeman 10 LDN



## Anti-Bullying Week

As part of anti-bullying week, many students took part in discussions around cyber-bullying.

They produced work giving advice to parents about what to do to help prevent this and how to deal with it. Some of this work is now available to view on the school website.

Cyber-bullying advice from a student:

What parents can do to help their child when they are being bullied:

- Teach kids to solve problems without using violence and praise them when they do.
- Give children positive feedback when they behave well to help build their self-esteem. Give them the self-confidence to stand up for what they believe in.
- Ask your children about their day and listen to them talk about school, social events, their classmates and any problems they have.

## Thinktank Trip

In December, Mr Little, Mr Webb, Mrs Evans and 40 Year 9 students went to Thinktank – a science museum in Birmingham.

They took part in two workshops – animation science and robotics.

Students made a short stop-motion animation and programmed a robot to navigate round various obstacles. There was also time to view many of the interactive exhibits and get rid of some unwanted money on some junk from the gift shop! The activities of the day took their toll on Mr Webb, whose loud snoring could be heard from the back of the coach. Feedback from the students about the experience was very positive, with two saying it was “well good”, another asking to go again next year and my personal favourite: “It was actually quite good”.



## MATHS News

### World Pi Day

Just before two o'clock, on Friday 14 March, will be an important moment in Mathematics.

The reason all becomes clearer on writing it as 3:14 1:59 (a short step away from 3.14159..., the decimal representing Pi, probably the most important number in Mathematics. World Maths Day is not being held in 2014 (the event is biennial, so it is only held if the year is of the form  $2n+1$ , where  $n$  is an integer!), so the department will make more of an event of World Pi Day instead this year.

Lessons across the school will use starters based on numerical content associated with the subject being taught. Did you know, for example, that the name of the popular search engine ‘Google’ came from a misspelling of the word ‘googol’, which is a very large number – the number one, followed by 100 zeros to be exact? This, in turn, is considerably smaller than the latest estimate of the number of atoms in the universe...

In tutor time, students will have the opportunity to win prizes in return for their solutions to a selection of mathematical puzzles and, in honour of the number Pi, we will again hold our memory-based competition. Will anybody beat last year's winner, Emma Whitehead, who won a pork pie (from Mr Poole's favourite butcher) by memorising Pi to 32 decimal places?

Mr Poole



### Year 10 Boys' Breakfast Club

While Year 11 students are getting into the swing of extra lessons, as they prepare for their GCSE papers in June, a determined and committed group of boys in Year 11 have started early, under the guidance of Mr Harpham.

During the final four weeks of the Christmas term a core group of eight boys attended a mathematics breakfast session. We have nothing but praise for the commitment and attitude shown by these students, forcing themselves out of bed on numerous cold and dark December mornings for a 7:30 start! The session covered a range of topics, fuelled, in part at least, by an assortment of breakfast snacks – the pancakes were particularly popular!

Mr Harpham

### Year 7 Intervention

Another group of students has been working to improve its mathematical skills, this time with the help of some of the members of our Sixth Form.

Guided by Mrs Lewis, some thirty Year 12 students have been helping their counterparts in Year 7, with a range of numeracy and practical activities. After the positive feedback, following last year's activities, twice as many students have been involved. Every Friday morning during registration, sixth formers get the opportunity to share their expertise and build communication and explanation skills, while year seven students get the benefit of one-to-one help to improve their basic maths skills: a win-win situation!

Mrs Lewis

### STEM Club

STEM Club this year has been undertaking one massive project.

After the departure of Mr Wynne over the summer, myself and Mr Fletcher moved swiftly in the transfer market to replace him; they were big shoes to fill! The addition of Mr Little to the team has allowed us to delve into the world of Computer Science.

The project, which is yet to finish, is looking at designing, making and playing computer games using Raspberry Pi's.

Mr Harpham



## Carol Service

On Monday 16th December 2013 Wellington School students began the festive season with an outstanding Carol Service.

Once again our service took place in the wonderful setting of Christ Church, Timperley and huge thanks to the Revd Jim Bridgman and the Revd Deborah Prest for welcoming us to the Church.

Highlights from the evening include the Chamber Choir (whose Welsh pronunciation was very good) singing Hwiangerdd Mair, a beautiful Welsh carol. Sing with 7s' performance showed us that the singing here at Wellington will only get better, and Sing were excellent role models to the Year 7s throughout the day and by the standard of both their performances. I think everyone would also agree that Wellington School Band and WEST are also moving from strength to strength, and a huge well done goes to Ruby James who led WEST's performance with Mrs Johnson. And we cannot talk about the Carol Service without mentioning the fantastic Staff & 6th Form Choir. Their performance of 'Still, Still, Still' was so good it gave me goose bumps, and 'Rudolf' was a personal highlight for me.

We have big plans for all our ensembles in the Spring Term including competing in the Bowdon Festival and Lunchtime Recitals, and new members are always welcome.

A huge congratulations again to all involved in the Carol Service. It was FAB-U-LOUS.

Mrs Moorhouse



## Well Green Arts Week

Sing went 'on Tour' in October, well, they went to perform at Well Green Primary School.

The staff and students were stunned by their singing and the head teacher was extremely complimentary describing our students as 'an inspiration'.

Mrs Johnson then stayed to carry out some workshops with Years 1, 2 and 6. Year 1 and 2 were Halloween themed (to tie in with our school 'Wicked Wellington' theme) and students learnt the '12 Days of Halloween' and created their own lyrics for 'If you're a ghost and you know it..' Year 6 created their own vocal sambas in 4 parts complete with actions and movements!

## 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 1 extra curricular activity this half term. Bulletin published weekly and on display in tutor rooms and also on the 'This Week' section of the website.

### 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 Year 9, and Jamie from Year 12 will be running a Guitar and Ukulele Group. The Spring Term also sees the return of the Wellington Talent Show and this year we'll also be looking for guest compères to help host the evening so keep your eyes and ears open for all the news.

### Rehearsals

Make sure your Music Captains read out the Music Bulletin every Monday, or check out the 'This Week' section of the website to check for groups and rehearsals.

Mrs Moorhouse

Jamie using the technology equipment to complete his composition.



## Sing with 7s visit Johnnie Johnson Sheltered Accommodation

It would have been remiss of us to have had so much Christmas cheer within school and not to spread it throughout the community – Sing with 7s acted upon this and sang for the residents of Johnnie Johnson Sheltered Accommodation – a visit much appreciated by all. We even met an ex-pupil who left Wellington School (the boys' side) in 1962!

## Christmas Fair

Sing with 7s got us all in the Christmas spirit at the Christmas Fair on the 24th November!

Fantastic singing and equally fantastic Christmas jumpers!

Mrs Johnson



## Certificate Evening

Yet another opportunity where our students shone!

As guests entered they were accompanied by Ruby James performing 'Tarantella' and 'The Swan'. Sing performed 'Skyfall' brilliantly. Laura McDonagh and Katy Allen performed 'Pie Jesu' – which certainly brought tears to a few eyes, and Laura McDonagh, Matilda Bennett, Cleo Chan and Lauren Ng performed 'Adiemus' – which again, was absolutely stunning!



# German Exchange 2013

The German Exchange was a great experience for the English and the German students.

The German students were able to see Manchester, the Museum of Science and Industry and Jodrell Bank, along with their experience of a British school. On the return leg, we were able to visit two German museums as well as visiting a German school. The exchange was a great way to practise the language and we look forward to the next one.

Jake Howarth gNWN

We even made the local press... The article here features Ella Hardy and her German Exchange partner. A reporter from the local paper interviewed the girls about their experiences on the exchange and it ended up being a double page spread in the local newspaper!

Miss Warburton



# Pen Pals

Year 8 students of Spanish were excited to receive letters in the Autumn Term from their pen pals in Albacete, Spain.

We are now in the midst of replying and look forward to finding out more about Spanish culture. This is an excellent opportunity for students to develop their language knowledge and skills independently beyond the classroom.

Miss Hoban



# Russian Club

On the first week back after October half term we were told by Miss Mille that a new club called Russian club was going to take place. We decided to join it and we certainly did not regret it! The club took place every Friday at Lunch and Miss Knapton was our teacher.

We learnt how to greet in Russian and we learnt some facts about this huge country. Did you know that Russian was the 5th most widely spoken language in the world?

We also learnt how to ask for a metro ticket and saw pictures of the beautiful metro station in Moscow. The alphabet was quite tricky to learn but very interesting. We learnt about Russian food and we have to say that cabbage seems to dominate the cuisine. We would like to try salmon or caviar as it does look appetizing. We thought that Miss Knapton's anecdotes were interesting because she had lived in Russia for a year.

Overall, we enjoyed it as it was fun. On the last lesson, we did a quiz to summarize how much of the language and culture we had learnt and received some certificates for being enthusiastic members of the club as well as being committed to learning a new language.

By Dan Jones, Arron Richardson, Myles Cunney and Morgan Nelson in Year 8.

## Ess Paradies

A big “danke schön” to Ramin and Maryam of the German restaurant “Hotspot Ess Paradies” in Chorlton

Where Miss O’Neill and myself took 26 Year 9 students to experience some tasty German cuisine! Students also conversed with Ramin in German about their orders and as you can see from the pictures, we all really enjoyed the food! Vielen Dank!

Miss Hoban



## Cineclub

Cineclub is on every Tuesday.

We watched ‘School of Rock’ first in Czech. I really enjoyed it, the main reason being that it was in my own language so I could understand it without reading the subtitles! Secondly, we watched ‘Coraline’, a Halloween movie. I think it was in Dutch and I really enjoyed it even though it wasn’t in my language.

Then we watched ‘Ice Age: Christmas special’ which was just great. It was funny and adventurous and all the things I like. We also watched ‘Rio’ in Spanish, my second favourite foreign language. Finally because it is nearly Christmas we started to watch ‘Arthur Christmas’. I have attended Cineclub every time (except for once when I was ill) because it is such a great club. Come along on a Tuesday in Room 1 to join in the fun!

Matty Bhunjun 7 MME

## Spanish club

In the Autumn term, I attended Spanish club where we learned Spanish words and played fun games!

I have been to every one. I especially enjoyed the memory games and the party. We learned Christmas themed things and put them onto a Spanish Christmas card that we made. We have also learned lots of other things, it has been really fun! Come along, I recommend it!

Emma Travers 7MME

## Barcelona trip – Autumn 2013

A group of 38 students from Year 8 and Year 10 went on a 4 day trip to the city of Barcelona.

Miss Mille, Miss Weeks Mrs Roe-Bennett and Mr Whitaker accompanied the students to Barcelona in October. During the trip, the students were given a tour of the city by coach. We visited the Picasso Museum where students appreciated the early paintings and sketches from the painter. During our stay, we also visited Sitges, where we did a town trail. We then spent some time in Tarragona and had a walk in the old town. We stopped for a “merienda” which is a snack Spanish people have in the afternoon and this gave students yet another opportunity to practise their Spanish. On the same night, we went out for a Tapas night in the village we stayed in. Students could choose from a variety of delights such as “Calamares a la Romana”, “Gambas al ajillo”, “Paella”, “croquetas al pescado” and many more. Our stay culminated when on the last day we visited the Barcelona Stadium and museum Camp Nou. We had an audio guide which explained the history and all the features of the stadium. We then had our lunch in the beautiful “Parc Guell” where Gaudi used to live. We had a quick look at the “Catedral de la Sagrada Familia” and we had a walk up on “Las Ramblas and stopped in “El Mercado de la Boquería” where we sampled again the local food. The stalls were beautiful; full of spices, fruit, ice cream etc. Students had some time for shopping in “El Cortés Inglés” and finally had a meal in the Hard Rock café.



Our students brought back many pictures, memories and made a fantastic video from the trip. They had many opportunities to use the language but I also think that they had a great exposure to the local culture and way of life. They enjoyed their experience in Spain and were once again a credit to the school. We received countless positive comments and praise from the staff at the hotel, in the tapas restaurant, bus drivers, tourist office agents and the airline company.

Another very successful trip for the MFL department! Look out for our next travelogue from the MFL trip to Madrid which will depart on the 10th January 2014.

Miss Mille

## Football Frenzy - Year 7

The Year 7 football team have made an excellent start to their footballing careers at Wellington.

At times we have been as free scoring as City or Liverpool scoring 41 goals in 7 matches with Jayden Barrington, Tom Carr and Marcus Jones leading the line in excellent fashion. At the back, only 18 goals have been conceded which is largely thanks to Reece Gaulton, Liam Munday, Matt Firth and Oliver Senescall. Our record stands at played 7, won 5, lost 2.

Our opening game of the season could not have got off to a worse start, after following the directions of two boys (who will remain unnamed) we found ourselves on the M56 heading towards Manchester Airport and not Stockport where our game was being played! (Note to self: make sure navigators can read a map). We finally arrived at Reddish Vale where we won comfortably 9-2 playing some great football – MoM Jayden Barrington.

Our second game of the season was a 13-0 thumping of Broadoak with Adam Brownhill, Nathan Richards and Tom Carr all bagging hat tricks with midfield general Louis Wright scoring a brace. However, it was incidents off the pitch which would put a dampener on the afternoon. Shippad-gate! I now know how Roberto Mancini felt when dealing with Mario Balotelli.

After some stern words, our season continued in excellent fashion on the field with wins against Sale Grammar, ACA and

importantly Canon Slade in the English School's 2nd round. Two star performers of these games were James Buckley with some excellent touches and vision in the heart of midfield and Jayden Barrington, scoring all six in the Canon Slade triumph. The ACA game saw the debut of Dan Flisk, and saw the best goal of our season to date, a screamer from Dan Tandy from outside the area into the top corner.

Our first defeat of the season was a 4-3 reverse against current league leaders BTH. Losing 3-0 at half time the boys battled to the final whistle and were very unlucky to come away with nothing. Ethan Pearce was outstanding that day at the heart of defence and correctly picked up the Man of the Match award. A feature of Ethan's game is the way he picks the ball up and isn't afraid to run with it, a young David Luiz some say.

Our final game before the Christmas break was a fixture against a very strong Calderstone's team. Unfortunately the boys were outplayed by a better team losing 7-0 – like Sheffield Wednesday every year in the FA Cup, our cup run was over in the 3rd round.

I hope the boys use this defeat and come back stronger in the New Year. Our goals have to be completing the Trafford League and Cup double.

Well done to all pupils who have played this year – you have not let your school down, and thank you to over 40 pupils who have been to training sessions, I hope you have enjoyed it as much as I have.

Mr Harpham

## Lacrosse

The PE department continues to work with coaches from across Trafford to complement and support the curriculum and extra curricular programme at Wellington.

Autumn term was the turn of Lacrosse, which focussed on our Year 10 students. Tim Lucas from TCC put together a programme which gave a group of Year 10 boys and girls access to Lacrosse coaching and a final tournament against local schools. The programme has been a big success with the students enjoying the challenge of learning a new sport. The Year 10 boys team were successful at the Timperley tournament winning all of their games and coming away with the silverware.

Mr Morgan



## Year 8

Mr Gubbins has added strength and depth to his team over the summer months with both old and new boys joining the squad.

The return of Ben Royle in particular to the midfield has allowed other players to flourish in his presence. They have adopted a 4-5-1 formation this year and everyone's game is suiting the change. The lads have played 4 fixtures to date and have won 3 out of the 4 by playing attractive football. The old Year 7 panic and long ball strategy is long gone and the boys finally look comfortable in possession and utilise the new tactics to great effect. Along with their great league performance the team have gone further than ever in the English Schools Cup, narrowly losing to a very good Newall Green side. Mr Gubbins is going into the winter break full of optimism, and rightly so too because if they win their League game against Sale High they will be 2nd in the League and qualify to play a Semi-Final match against a North Manchester school.

## Year 9

Somewhat like the second coming of Jose Mourinho at Chelsea, our very own 'special one' has managed to impart his wisdom and experience to his Year 9 squad.

Mr Tomlinson took control of the Year 9 team after parting ways with his Year 11 team last year. Since the appointment, the Year 9 boys have been raving about him and his experience as a player and a manager speaks volumes. The Year 9 team are still unbeaten this year! They have played 5 fixtures, winning 3 and drawing 2. On only his first game in charge he made a bold decision to move Josh Wilkinson, last year's centre-back and winner of man of the match awards, to a striking role. The messiah struck again... he is the team's top scorer and has been an asset for them up front. His strength and speed makes him a match for any defence. The boys will take a well-earned break over Christmas knowing the possibility of a semi-final play off is on the horizon and come back in January prepared

for what the remaining fixtures have to offer.

## Year 10

Mr Morgan and the Year 10 squad set themselves up for a season as Trafford League Winners and they have not been disappointed.

They are still very much in contention to return to Carrington this year after taking 7 points from 4 fixtures. The Year 10 league is always a greatly contested league with any of the 6 teams in contention to end as the top 2. Mr Morgan and the team are waiting patiently for the remaining fixtures and are going to treat each game like a cup game, leaving everything on the field as any good winning team should do. Liam Rogerson is the team's top scorer and they will look for him to continue with his form well into 2014.

## Year 11

These young men are going through a transitional period at the moment, much like Manchester United.

Mr Fletcher took charge of the team when Mr Pinkerton stepped down last year and has had big shoes to fill right from the start, not too dissimilar to David Moyes. The lads reached 2 finals at Carrington last year yet have still to make an impression on the league during this campaign. Out of the 4 fixtures they have only won 1. There has been some off-field antics and this has led to some players metaphorically hanging their boots up. This left Mr Fletcher with some concern regarding the League competition. After meeting with the team and airing his worries it was clear the team had settled any differences, picked themselves back up and were ready for the battle ahead. Again much like Manchester United, Mr Fletcher was the 'chosen one' and if anybody can turn this around, it is him. The lads are preparing themselves for the Cup competition starting in February and are ready to show 'bouncebackability'. Let's hope the similarities with Manchester United continue as their record in the Champions League is fantastic.



## Rugby Report

In an effort to develop rugby further at Wellington, we have had the pleasure of having Jason Duffy from the RFU teaching our Year 7, 8 and 10 boys in lesson time. Jason has helped to inspire boys to join the rugby teams in School and we have also had some joining local clubs with Jason's help. The buzz and vibe he has created in school has helped encourage players of all abilities to enjoy and take part in rugby. His manner and professionalism with the boys has been great.

All four rugby teams are looking forward to more games this term.

### Year 8

The Year 8 team is developing well with training taking place at lunchtime on Tuesdays and after school on Thursdays on our superb new all-weather pitch.

It is a pleasure to coach this enthusiastic group of young students who are determined to raise their game. Despite a mixed bag of results (1 win against Stretford Grammar and losses against Sale Grammar and St Ambrose) and the recent loss of our top scorer, Marius Robinson, who has now moved to another school, I have no doubt that tries will come thick and fast from others and with the deadly boot of Max Brookes (a total of 30 points in 3 games), other teams need to be forewarned of the spirit, grit and determination of the Wellington Year 8 rugby team.

Mr O'Rourke

### Year 10 /11

We had a target this year to create a rugby team in each year group and build upon the work that had been done last year.

I had the pleasure of trying to put together and sustain a Year 10 and 11 Rugby squad and the uptake was very good. We had been training throughout September building up our confidence as a team and on Tuesday 1st October the rugby season for Wellington School started and it was left to the older students to show the way.

After the training sessions we were thrown into the fire of playing together against a team who had already played a game. We were up against Stretford Grammar School at Bowdon Rugby Club. The teamwork and energy from the team was fantastic with Mr. Tomlinson at the helm. The team was impressive in its intensity and support for one another, the Year 11 players set the standard and foundation and the Year 10s followed. There was leadership and encouragement from the Year 11s, especially Sam Warren, Jack Appleby, Jamie Stamper and Declan Davenport which made us proud of their maturity. The game finished 52-5 to Wellington (and an excellent refereeing performance from Mr. Beeley) and the rugby season was up and running in some style. Try of the day was finished by Ed Stenhouse but it was a real team try with slick movement and passing.

Our next venture came in a three way tournament on the 10th December at St. Ambrose school. We were again matched against Stretford Grammar, but the pool also included a strong Sale Grammar

### Year 7

My goodness, I thought last year's Year 7 were a keen lot but this bunch were on a different level.

As well as a wealth of enthusiasm, 'squad building' was helped by my availability for training earlier in the term and also by the fact that more boys had played the game before. This meant that training was of an appropriate intensity from the start. The rugby playing experience of Marcus Jones, James Buckley, Toby Redman, Sebastian Whitehead and Henry Howarth amongst others stood us in good stead and these boys set high standards from the outset, but I was most impressed with how quickly the newcomers, particularly James Drummond, Stan Bradley, Dan Flisk and Cameron Stenhouse took to the game.

So it was with a degree of confidence and adrenalin pumping through the veins that we took on Stretford Grammar in our first game; for many, their first ever game of rugby. Against a far bigger team who had already played and beaten Sale Grammar, we ran out winners, 22 - 5, thanks to Jayden Barrington's hat-trick (not bad for a footballer). You would never have thought it was the first outing for many. All things considered, we were right to be expectant for our second encounter against Sale Grammar. Unfortunately, having played some excellent,

free-flowing rugby (with Miss Tidbury supporting / screaming wildly from the touchline) we conspired to surrender a well-deserved lead, to draw 15 - 15.

Our next game was expected to be a step up in standard; against St Ambrose, a school renowned nationally for their rugby prowess. We, therefore, suggested we play their 'B' team. Although only drawing 5 - 5 midway through the second half, we were dominating the game and they struggled to cope with our physicality. Victory was on the horizon. That is until they brought on a wave of 'A' team players whose vast rugby experience was too much for our boys who were rather and understandably naive by comparison. 'We was robbed!' as they say, losing commendably 5 - 20 in the end. The boys did enjoy the experience of playing on their 4G pitch under floodlights though.

Our final game of the term was a resounding 48 - 5 victory against Congleton High School at Bowdon Rugby Club, to whom we are most grateful for the use of their facilities.

There are more and more boys joining the squad, including some football converts and those talent-spotted during PE lessons. We will be training every Monday lunch and Thursday after school and look forward to further success this term. Well done to all squad members.

Mr Beeley



side. In the first match, we played Stretford Grammar and won a very hard fought encounter 12 - 7 against a team which was much improved, playing some excellent rugby and showing fantastic defensive resolve with Callum Mash showing his tackling qualities close to our own line. Nathan Chandler and Jack Appleby scored the tries. We lost the second game against a very capable and well-drilled Sale Grammar side but took a lot of positives away from the 17 - 7 defeat. Sale dominated our team through the backs but our forwards more than matched them in the scrum and ruck with Ryan Morgan, Jamie Lehwald, Max Shaw and Joe Daulby leading the way. Injuries to the impressive Billy Banks and Nathan Chandler prevented us from playing our natural way against Sale, which didn't help our team structure. With a little more effort and practice this will be a very capable team.

Mr. Tomlinson

### Year 9

The Year 9 Rugby team have been training together since September and have quickly shown that they have the skills required to become a fantastic team.

There is a real mix of differing abilities in the squad. We have experienced players that have played for club teams, like Bowdon and Altrincham Kersal, and players that are playing competitive Rugby for the first time.

The squad trained hard in preparation for our first (and only...so far!) fixture away to Stretford Grammar School on 3rd October. Despite their relative inexperience as a team, the boys put in a courageous display and showed great togetherness, losing narrowly to a strong Stretford team. Our boys showed good defensive intensity and displayed their developing tackling skills, with standout performances from Jake Howarth, Toby McAughtrie, Louie Crick and Gianni Bandiera-Leigh.

The boys have continued to hone their skills in weekly training sessions and are raring to play again in 2014. I am confident that they will develop into a great team and will chalk up a few more victories in the New Year!

Mr Gerschler

## Year 7 Netball

The girls have started their Wellington netball careers absolutely fantastically! They have been victorious in all of their league matches so far, which will leave them more than likely top of the league.

We have had 25 girls regularly attending Monday lunchtime and after school training, which has been a very impressive turnout. Having such a large number of girls training really gives us a great number of options when selecting teams and it is this dedication that has led to us being so successful.

The girls have played some lovely netball, developing their skills and appreciation of the game very well in their transition from primary to secondary school netball. This has been clear in our friendly games against very tough opposition such as AGGS, where the girls demonstrated excellent drive and determination to play well and use the new skills they'd learnt, even when the game wasn't going their way.

Overall, an excellent start to the year, and we look forward to the Trafford tournament next term, where we can continue our success, I'm sure!

Miss Hodges

## Year 8 Netball

The Year 8 netball team have gone from strength to strength this year.

The season started off a little shakily with small numbers at training and some losses, but the girls didn't give up easily at all. New team members were quickly recruited and we soon had a regular 12 girls training every week. This made a huge difference to our success and we soon started winning matches and playing much better netball. The season ended on a high with an 11-0 win against North Cestrian, which the girls wouldn't have thought possible back in September.

They've worked tremendously hard over the term to improve individually and as a team, and this has been clear to see in the scores and results they have achieved.

We will now move on to the Trafford netball tournament next term with our heads held high, ready to demonstrate how far we have come this season.

Miss Hodges

## Dance

Year 7 dance has got off to a great start this year!



We have been taking inspiration from the Wicked Wellington project, where the whole of Year 7 performed a 'Thriller' flash mob at their Halloween Disco. The performance, in full costume, looked absolutely fantastic, and the pupils really did themselves and the staff involved proud.

Dance club took on the challenge of adding to the thriller choreography and creating their own pieces to extend it. The girls worked with myself and Charlotte Bendall Dixon (Year 12) over a few weeks to create a full version of the performance.

We were then able to take our performance to the Trafford Dance festival where it was performed in front of well over a hundred people, the girls did exceptionally well, and the audience thought their choreographies were exceptional.

We are looking forward to learning a new choreography from Charlotte ready for the Trafford dance competition in March.

Miss Hodges

## Year 9 Netball

The Year 9s started in the winning Wellington way, beating Ashton on Mersey 47-9! With spirits high, we went on to play all the Trafford south teams with a clean sheet for not one, but two games.

All the girls have worked hard to get a place on the team and with so many new faces to include it was a pleasure to have such choice and enthusiasm. Overall, the Year 9s have won all their games and go on to play the winner of Trafford north in the final later this season. Please wish them lots of luck!

You may recall this year group also enter the Greater Manchester south league and did exceptionally well last year. We had a bit of a shaky start against Loreto, but found our form drawing with Cheadle and beating AGGS. Then came our nemesis – Withington!

Having lost in the final last year to them, we hoped to 'up our game'. We certainly did that, but they are very strong team and we fought till the final whistle. A loss again this time, but there are more matches to be played so we are still in hope of more points.

Well done to all the girls who have played both Trafford and Greater Manchester games so far this year. The concluding games are after the Christmas break and both tournaments fall in March. Nancy Stewart is worthy of particular note as she received the most occasions as 'girl of the game', well done Nancy!

A thrilling start to the season with many new faces and plenty of returning players for the Year 10 team. Trafford netball started with the tournament where we came third beating some of our old rivals along the way. Then the league began with trials and tribulations throughout.

## Year 10 Netball

The Year 10 team fought hard throughout all their games, finding tough opposition along the way.

We have worked hard on set plays and were finding them to be effective, especially against Ashton on Mersey. We narrowly lost 15-10 but filled with motivation we went on to play our remaining games. The most challenging game was against Sale High. We were 2-1 up at half time but fitness went against us. Heads went down and we lost just 3-2. Some unhappy faces on the bus home but plenty of plans to work on. We finished the year with a win against BTH and Maddie Freeman once again received girl of the game. Well done to all who played.

Miss Richards



Year 9



Year 10



## Cheerleading

Cheerleading club has been going from strength to strength this year with the added input of Chloe Kay (Year 12) who is a cheerleader outside of school.

The girls have learnt and performed Miss Richard's choreography over the last term, with 15 girls regularly attending on Tuesday lunchtimes. They've been getting to grips with learning the choreography, using their pom poms and developing their team cheer!

They put all of their hard work into action at the Trafford Cheerleading festival, where the girls performed the entire choreography with their cheerleader smiles on, in perfect timing and showing some fantastic formation changes the other schools could only be jealous of!

We're looking forward to developing the choreography even further next year with Chloe's help, ready for the Trafford competition in March.

Miss Hodges



## It's Judo Time!

In the first term the renowned 'Sky Sports Living for Sport' initiative began with Miss MacGlinchey and a select group of Year 9 girls.

The scheme was set up to encourage more students to take part in sport and activity and to increase their self-confidence. The girls were lucky to have two visits from their Sky Sports Mentor Michelle Vidler.

Michelle Vidler is a Judo athlete who competed in the Beijing Olympics and Commonwealth Games. The Year 9 girls spent all day taking part in practical team building activities,



workshops developing their communication, leadership and people skills and some fun judo specific games. Michelle shared some stories of her time as an Olympian and was an inspirational athlete to all the pupils involved.

Miss MacGlinchey

## Trafford Cross Country

On Wednesday 4th December Wellington School took part in the Trafford Cross Country Championships.

Wellington Boys entered a Year 7, joint 8 and 9 and joint 10 and 11 team. The lads were excellent in both their conduct during the day and their effort and enthusiasm. The Year 7 team consisted of Dan Flisk (finished 7th), Toby Redman (finished 11th), Tom Carr (finished 23rd) and Luke Turner (finished 40th), which is excellent considering it was their first event in amongst 70-80 competitors. The Year 7 team finished 5th in Trafford and both Dan and Toby have been selected to run for Trafford at the Greater Manchester tournament in February.

The Year 8 and 9 team consisted of Luke McKendry (finished 9th), Dan Thompson (finished 20th), Harvey Tero (Finished 25th), Joe Abadi-Johns (finished 29th), Matt Heeron (finished 44th), Charlie Yates (finished 54th) and Scott Milner (finished 55th). The Year 8 and 9 race seemed to have the most runners involved with close to a 100 competitors. Special mention goes to Dan and Joe who were Year 8 competing with Year 9 and finished in very good positions. The team finished in 6th position with Luke going on to run for Trafford at the Greater Manchester tournament in February.

We entered a Year 10 and 11 team to try and aid individuals with their GCSE practical scores as

well as running for the enjoyment of it. The team of Year 10s consisted of Jack Wright (finished 19th), Alex Worthington (finished 28th) and Cameron Kemp (finished 46th). The team of Year 11s consisted of James Kelsall (finished 48th), Elliot Guy (finished 49th) and Kyle Taylor (finished 50th). Thank you to these boys for competing and making a team that finished 8th overall and special congratulations to Jack who finished very well and scored highly on his GCSE assessment.

The boys made Mr Tomlinson very proud when he saw them entering the final stages of the race, the sheer guts and determination to keep going on a cold and windy day certainly warmed his heart. Special mention to Dan Flisk, Toby Redman and Luke McKendry for being selected to represent Trafford in the Greater Manchester event.

Mr. Tomlinson



## Girls' Cross Country

On a cold afternoon in late November, Wellington's girls' cross country team braved the elements to take part in the Trafford Schools cross country championships

We had a team of newly recruited Year 7 girls, and a combined team of Year 8 and 9's entered.

Both teams performed exceptionally well, with the Year 7 girls coming 6th and the 8/9 team coming 5th out of 14 schools. This is a fantastic achievement for our girls, who were up against seasoned competition.

I'm sure the girls will be ready to enter again next year, and improve on their placings.

Miss Hodges



## Interform

This year interform is bigger and better than ever! Each tutor group has been represented by eager and enthusiastic pupils.



We started the year with dodge ball which saw over 90 students from each year group involved!

With thrilling throwing and dynamic dodging, the Year 7 dodge ball champions are China (7MME). In Year 8 the dodge ball champions are Great Britain (8LSS) and in Year 9, the champions are China (9ZHS).

In the last week before Christmas we held our second inter form competition of the year. The girls participated in netball and the boys took part in football. This allowed yet more students to participate and represent their tutor group. The year 10 GCSE PE students who helped referee and umpire the games were very professional and fair and the competitions wouldn't have run as smoothly without them. For the Year 9s, a soggy Monday morning saw the overall netball winners as China (9ZHS) – a winning tutor group some might say! It was great to hear lots of cheering from the side-lines and congratulations must go to the Year 8 champions China (8AGL). The Year 7 netball was another nail biting competition with Great Britain (7KGS) finishing on top.

The inter form football competition was an exceptional tournament with great enthusiasm and effort. The school astroturf made a massive difference in terms of the spectacle and made the inter form that bit better. With three pitches set up there were skilful 'Messi' style competitors to be seen all over. However, there can only be one winner and the Year 9 football champions are Hungary (9EJN); the Year 8 champions are Great Britain (8LSS) and the Year 7 champions are Germany (7ESS).

Miss MacGlinchey

## High Adventure GCSE PE trip (North Yorkshire) November

For the second year running, the PE department organised a three day outdoor pursuit's assessment in North Yorkshire.

Fifteen Year 11 GCSE PE students headed to 'High Adventure' to be put through their paces in either climbing or mountain biking. The trip not only develops the skills and experience needed for students to be assessed with GCSE criteria for each discipline, but gives opportunities for teamwork, cooperation, communication and leadership skills.

Mr Morgan and Miss Mac Glinchey were impressed with the application and attitude of all fifteen Wellington students; this was reflected by the marks awarded by the instructors with each student giving themselves a high activity level to be put towards their final GCSE grade.



The students worked extremely hard over the three days. It was a tough environment to work in particularly at the end of November. The effort levels were highlighted by the bus journey home being the quietest ever experienced by Mr Morgan.

Mr Morgan



## Year 7/8 Indoor Athletics (Boys)

Wellington continues their rich tradition in athletics with a fantastic result at the Trafford indoor championships on the 17th December.



Year 7/8 boys competed at Sale leisure Centre in a variety of indoor sprints and field events, the speed bounce, standing triple jump, vertical jump, indoor shot, and six lap paralauf give you a flavour of this multi discipline event.

Mr Morgan was extremely proud of the team who put in a massive effort against strong squads from across the borough. Dan Thompson and Marius Robinson led from the front to gain several event wins for the Year 8 team, they were supported well with great work from Blair Duffy, Will Greaves, Lloyd Gardner and Cameron Ross.

After trials in school and some talent spotting in lessons, Mr Morgan was able to put out a Year 7 squad who were competing in athletics for the first time at Wellington. Sonny Wilcox, Stan Bradley, Henry Howarth, George Harris Stelfox, Jayden Barrington and Daniel Flisk performed as though they had done it all before; they were phenomenal taking many victories over a variety of disciplines.

It is always difficult to decipher how well a team has done at indoor athletics as the event is so fast and furious with results being decided in different areas of the sports hall. Mr Morgan and the squad waited patiently at the end of the meet to hear the final placing being read out. The team was suitably thrilled with the result; the Year 8 team finished second, all gaining a silver medal, and the Year 7 team finished first, a brilliant achievement which will see them representing Trafford in the Greater Manchester athletics competition in March.

Mr Morgan

## Hockey Coaching from Sportivate!

With the arrival of the new astro we were pleased to receive some hockey coaching sessions.



The event involved students from Years 7, 8 and 9 being taught new skills, developing game play and positional awareness, as well as some competitive action too.

Some comments from those involved: "We learnt loads of new skills", "We did lots of mini-games, so it was really fun" and "It was interesting and we had new ways to learn hockey".

The sessions will continue in 2014 with more classes receiving the coaching and also a new lunch time hockey club on Thursdays with Miss Richards on the astro. Please get involved so we can enter local tournaments!

**NEW HOCKEY CLUB**

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January**

**Astro from 1:05 - 1:30**

**Just bring your trainers and shin pads!!!**



**See Miss Richards for more details.**



## Chemistry Week 2013

The Royal Society Chemistry Week 2013 was celebrated in Science in November.

The theme was 'A Picture of Health'. Firstly, a group of Year 10 Chemists took part in the Global Experiment being run by the Society. This involved the students investigating the levels of vitamin C in a variety of fruit and vegetables and getting very messy! They then shared their data on a special website, for the whole world to see. According to our Chemists, tomatoes contain the highest level of vitamin C. Well done to our outstanding Year 10 Chemists.

In excess of 50 students also attended a Science club 'special' where students investigated the pH level of common substances either put in or on the body.

Mrs G Brown



## Science Club

Science club has been a real success during the past term; there have been lots of new faces and plenty of old ones too.

Students have had the chance to do lots of different activities such as testing acids and alkalis, making rocket reindeers, testing their body reactions, making colourful cocktails with different layers, as well as trying to beat the falling over machine.

We have just started off the new term with a raft building competition and there is plenty more to come! I have been so impressed by the enthusiasm of the students and the number that attend each week, they are excellently behaved and a real credit to the school. If anyone hasn't been yet but still wants to come to Science club it is every Wednesday lunchtime, in Room 35 and all are welcome.

Miss Workman



## Wicked Wellington

Year 7 students were "turned into vampires" in their Science lessons as part of Wicked Wellington in October.



During their Science lessons, they made their own "fake blood" to enable them to go unnoticed around school (after all, what would they possibly eat at lunch time?). They then tested their "fake blood"

in a series of competitions to see who made the "most realistic", "most splattable" and "gloopi-est" fake blood.

A follow-up lesson involved the students (or vampires) writing "recipes" for their fake blood (i.e., a scientific method). The most creative recipes were displayed in the Science corridor, and there were even some vials of fake blood on display during the Halloween disco! All students thoroughly enjoyed the change to gain some extra (and extra messy) hands-on practical experience.

Dr Scales



## Love Thy Neighbour

Year 10 had a really exciting day today. A theatre company called 'IN YER FACE' came into School to perform a production for our year group.

The play was called 'A town called Malice' and was a modern day version of the parable of the Good Samaritan.

The play itself shocked me because it used a lot of racist language and behaviour but I realised that it had a very true meaning and message. It portrayed what parts of society have become in modern Britain today. It showed the prejudice faced by many different races and religions all over the country.

The story was about a white British family that were extremely racist and intolerant towards a local Muslim family. The white British teenager showed prejudice and racism towards the Muslim girl in the family and she made her life miserable. However, the outcome of the play was that the Muslim girl saved the life of the white British girl. The moral of the production was to 'love thy neighbour' whether your neighbour is your friend, family, a person of a different race or religion or even a complete stranger.

In a world that is driven by media and politics I believe that it is hard for people to be accepting of others but the play was showing the importance of showing love to others regardless of their religion, race or gender.

Megan Shufflebotham Year 10



## Philosophy Club

This term has seen the emergence of a brand new club within the REP department.

Philosophy club has been open to all Key Stage 3 pupils and has involved debates and discussions about a wide variety of philosophical questions ranging from the reasons behind the existence of the universe, the possibility of life after death to the question of evil and suffering alongside the existence of a creator God.

The sessions have had regular input from our sixth form philosophy students who have thrived at being given the opportunity to share some of their wisdom and lead discussions on these ultimate questions. I have been extremely proud of the sixth form students involved and grateful of their input to this club.

The pupils that have attended have really enjoyed the club and I am sure they will continue to do

so throughout the remainder of the academic year. Here are some of their comments:

'Philosophy Club is a great place to go and express your opinions about the world. Recently we had a debate whether there is life after death; each side had really good opinions. In the end it seemed to be that we had convinced the opposition to believe in life after death. Everyone who goes enjoys philosophy club and we hope you would like to come and express your opinion too.' Florence Davies-Collins

'I have really enjoyed philosophy club mainly because it is about thinking outside the box and thinking differently about normal things in the world. I think Mrs Jones and the sixth form have taught us well and I am definitely going to carry on going to the club.' Iman Jacoby

'I really enjoy getting stuck in to debates at philosophy club and I feel it is good to be able to explain what you think about different topics.' Megan Denniston

Mrs Jones

## SIXTH FORM News

Another busy term for Wellington Sixth Form, here's a flavour of what's been going on!

### Lancaster Residential

Students enjoyed a trip up to the prestigious Lancaster University, where they took part in a number of activities and found out more about university life.

Workshops were held on personal statements, studying and finance. A meal in the evening and disco was a chance to let their hair down and helped both Year 12 & 13 get to know each other. It was great fun and a chance to develop a useful insight into life at uni.

### Northumbria University

Northumbria university ran a workshop for Year 12 to help them with the transition from GCSE's to A-levels, which can be challenging and tough.

However the team from Northumbria also provided ideas on organising time, study skills and preferred learning styles to help the transition be as smooth as possible.

### MMU Workshop

Year 13 had one to one support with personal statements for their UCAS applications from staff at MMU.

A great opportunity to get insider knowledge and I know our students found it invaluable.

### UCAS

A bumper crop of UCAS applications have now been sent off for an amazing variety of courses and universities.

Huge thanks to all the tutors who helped support and guide the students in preparing their applications and Mr Cropper who checks every single application before it goes off!

### Mentoring

Well done to all the students who are giving a little back and have taken on the role as a mentor to another pupil lower down in the School.

From supporting Year 10 with all that is new in GCSE's to paired reading in lower school, it is great to see so many prepared to help and support others. Well done & a big thank you from all the Directors of Year whom you are supporting.

### Private Study Manager

We are blessed in the form of Mrs Wilson now residing in Private Study.

A seasoned pro, she has been a god send in supporting the students, mentoring and organising events, activities and keeping myself and Mr Cropper on track! Great to have you as part of the team.

### What will next term bring?!

Miss Grey



## Year 11 Careers Fair and Workshops

What was possibly one of the highlights of our Careers events to date a Year 11 “Careers” fair was held for all Year 11 students in the Watson Hall on Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th October.

Of course, it is our responsibility to prepare students as best we can for the next stage of their education. For many that means remaining at Wellington to study A Levels but others may seek other alternatives.

The event covered all post-16 possibilities and pathways. During these two days, all Year 11 students took part in a carousel of activities, which included a Careers Fair and group sessions providing them with information on Universities and Colleges, apprenticeships and employability. Each student spent time with employers compiling a Curriculum Vitae.

Employers, which included Jarvis EU, In training, Manchester Metropolitan University, Skills Solutions, Blue Training, Carillion Plc., SETA and Kaplan, to name but a few, gave of their time freely to facilitate the event for which the School is extremely grateful. The activities provided the students with excellent opportunities to interact with employers and obtain first-hand information about career paths. All agreed that it was a very worthwhile event and the students thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

A lot of work has gone into apprenticeships nationwide in the last two years and for many students, of all levels of ability, they are a viable and the most appropriate route both post-GCSE and post-A Level.

Mrs Mackay



## Year 11 Finance Event

On Thursday 19th December all Year 11 students were involved in a Money Skills Event.

The activities were interactive and informative and were designed to enable students to think about the financial skills, services and resources they might need in the future. They were also able to use and develop their broader personal and social skills. Students took part in “Who wants to be a squillionaire?” which introduced them to a number of personal finance terms and concepts. They participated in an activity “Money and Me”, which helped the students to explore what money means to them and to identify some of their attitudes and values. The final workshop was called “Budget Battles” and the students were presented with scenarios involving budgeting and financial implications of their personal choices. One student stated that he used to have the attitude that when he was earning money he would “Spend, Spend, Spend”, but that now he realised that he would need to budget for bills, food, living expenses and then “spend”.

The students not only enjoyed the activities, but were also given an insight into real aspects of financial management for their own futures.

Mrs Mackay



## Engineering and Construction Roadshow - Year 9 students

On Tuesday 22nd October, all Year 9 students attended an Engineering and Construction Roadshow in School.

This was interactive and lively requiring student participation on several occasions, which was great fun as well as educational and informative. The students were provided with an inspirational presentation on all aspects of the Engineering and Construction industry with practical demonstrations, quizzes and sketches. Jake Sullivan even won a £20 voucher !!

Career opportunities for the future were described and illustrated, which gave Year 9 an insight into qualifications necessary and routes available, which would enable access to all.

Staff present all agreed that this was extremely useful and well presented; an event definitely worth repeating in the future.

A big “Thank You” must go to the E.C.T.B.(Engineering and Construction Training Board ) for bringing their exciting workshop to Wellington.

Mrs Mackay

## Year 7 First Term

Wow, what a busy first term Year 7 have had! Students have worked incredibly hard to make the best first impression on their new tutors and teachers. They really have been the embodiment of the Year group's motto, 'Respect for Success'.



Students have been producing some fantastic pieces of work in a range of lessons, which I have had the pleasure to drop into. For example, 7.1b's cupcake creations in art, which I know Ms Grey is particularly proud of, were particularly impressive, as was 7.5a's Maths lesson where they were balancing out equations. In tutor time, students have been equally switched on. To help with the move to 'Big School', students have also had the opportunity to complete a range of transition activities in tutor, as well as have their own Year 10 mentor to adjust to life at Wellington. I would like to take this opportunity to thank 'Team Year 10' for all their hard work helping the Year 7s. I know Mr Tomlinson was very proud of the support that his year group have provided for the 'newbies'.

Finally, the students' enthusiasm for all things Wellington has also been reflected in their approach to the Year 7 Tutor Competition; it is clear that there are some very competitive tutees (and tutors- Mrs Jones!) in the year group. Tutor groups have been involved in the weekly quiz and half termly Five R Challenges, starting with the Aeroplane Challenge, which was won by 7 GBN. The challenge was to design a paper aeroplane that would fly the furthest. And the year group rose to the challenge, with KJS bringing their entry over in a protective case and SLS even sending a co-pilot to the competition; I am not sure what they thought might happen to their pilot between their tutor base and the Year 7 Office! This half term's challenge is the annual Christmas Carol Competition, tutor groups will be singing their hearts out for yet more tutor points on the last day of term as they are judged 'Strictly Come Dancing' Style. So get those Severrrrrn paddles ready!

Well done Year 7, and here is to yet more success and achievement in the Spring Term!

Miss Tidbury

## Summer School

Twenty-five nervous (and somewhat intrigued) soon-to-be Year 7s greeted Miss Tidbury on a sunny July morning awaiting the start of Summer School.

Their faces were etched with a thousand questions as to what they would be doing on the first day of their summer holidays.

Summer School is an opportunity for selected students to have their first experience of Secondary School, as part of the transition from their Primary Schools. Summer School allows them the chance to get to know other new students and sample lessons before the start of the new academic year all based upon the theme of celebrating the 75 years of Wellington School. Lessons included making a timeline of Wellington's History, designing a time capsule for future generations, making celebration cards and cakes and building the school out of midget gems and cocktail sticks!. The week ended with a 'chippy' lunch and a birthday party, when all of the students' work was put on display. Students were very positive about their experiences as their quotes below will testify.

**'I had a great week; building with the midget gems was fun'**

**'I really enjoyed making cakes'**

**'My favourite part of the week was the sports'**

Well done to all who participated!

Miss Tidbury, Director of Year 7



## Year 7 - Bonding Day

As part of the transition to Year 7 for new students, all members of the year group had the opportunity to participate in a Bonding Day.



The idea behind the day, which was run by Challenge For Change, was to provide an opportunity for students not only to get to know each other better, but also to get to know their tutors and the rest of the Year 7 Pastoral Team. The day was split into two parts. At school, team building activities were organised that included a giant skipping competition and a team race on mats. Even more challenging were the activities based at Challenge for Change's warehouse at Trafford Park. Students, and some members of staff, had the opportunity to use zip wires, an aerial assault course and a giant tyre pond to continue to develop their team building skills, but also their own individual ability and agility. The day was a great success and the students loved every minute of it!

Mrs Haley





## Year 8

There has been a great emphasis on team-building in Year 8 this year and as such, the relationships which were formed during Year 7 have been well and truly cemented.

Despite fierce competition from elsewhere, Mrs Stephens' Tutor group have now been crowned as the best attending Tutor group for two half terms running. They have been rewarded on both occasions with breakfast delivered to their classroom. However, they face an uphill task to hold on to their position as best attenders after everyone else saw the quality of their croissants!

In November, Year 8 students used their time to complete numerous activities relating to the national Anti-Bullying Week. This provoked thoughtful and important work and culminated with a competition to produce a poster which highlighted the issue.

More recently, Tutor time has been spent learning about potential careers within the NHS. These range from the obvious doctor or nurse to the less obvious engineering and gardening. Pupils have entered a national competition to create an innovative job advert and job description for a career in the NHS. Hopefully we will have news of some winners by the time the next Newsletter is published!

Mr Holt

## Year 9

### It's GCSE Options time!

Throughout the Autumn term, all students in Year 9 have been completing work books based on careers in preparation for their important GCSE Options choices.

During the Spring term, Year 9 students will choose their GCSE Option subjects. In tutor time, they will receive information from each department offering an Options subject and use the information to choose which subjects they wish to study in Year 10.

Before the half term in February, students will receive their Options form to complete. I am sure that everyone in Year 9 will make the right choices and be as prepared as they can be for the start of their GCSEs – it's all building up towards results day in Summer 2016!

A massive thank you to all of those parents who attended GCSE Options Evening before the Christmas holidays – your support, as always, is much appreciated. If you have any questions regarding GCSEs and Options, please ask your child's subject teacher at Parents' Evening on 6th February.

Mr Williams

Director of Year 9

## Year 11

It's been a busy term for the Year 11s.

On top of the hard work in lessons for upcoming GCSE examinations, countless hours revising for mocks (I hope?) and continuous lectures from me about doing well, there has also been plenty of fun in Year 11...

Mr Manifould and I recently took a large number of year 11 pupils to the AMC cinema in Manchester. This was a reward for excellent commitment to learning in school and excellent attendance. Mr Manifould and I, along with Mr Eckerlsley and Mr Harpham, had absolutely no idea what the Hunger Games was. We still don't know now for that matter...or was that just me?

We've also had a Careers day which helped present the year group with a whole host of options and career choices for the future. The pupils had a great experience many leaving with much clearer ideas of where they see themselves in the future. Many of the girls left with free hairspray and Max Spencer even had his hair straightened!

The Finance day was also another year group highlight. At Wellington we appreciate the urgent need for adults of the future to be able to take responsibility for their financial affairs. This day was all about that with small classes being held discussing everything from budgeting to mortgages. Conversations with the pupils afterwards confirmed that the day had provided 'food for thought'.

Mr Travis

## Year 10

### Mentoring madness

At the start of the second half term we introduced a mentoring scheme which included the whole cohort of Year 10 being responsible for mentoring the whole of Year 7. When we initially had the idea, we were unsure whether it would work or not due to the logistical issues but we were lucky that the Year 7 and 10 form rooms were in close proximity.

The Year 10 students approached the mentoring with great maturity and showed they were very good role models to the Year 7 students. They had a booklet to follow which was there as a guide to help keep the conversation going. Walking around school on mentoring days, I have been overwhelmed with the number of students engaged in conversations about education and life. The 15 minute sessions have flown by and witnessing the smiles on faces as students came out of the classroom talking about it was proof of its success.

Many of the mentor meetings finished last week and the students were involved in reviewing its success this week by completing feedback questionnaires. I know that the majority of Year 10s have been very enthusiastic and talking to me passionately about the whole process. Taking a step back, it has been such a pleasure to talk to my year group about issues away from their school work and hear how they have developed their own communication and listening skills as a result.

The buzz of busy classrooms on a Wednesday certainly increased my desire to involve year 10s as ambassadors for the school and in their first task they certainly stepped up to the mark.

Mr. Tomlinson

We discussed how to stop getting in trouble for not listening.  
Lucy Turnbull (Yr10)

I enjoyed engaging in conversation about how to improve him as a person.  
Tom Swindell (Yr10)

We talked about how to stay on top of homework.  
Asha Piatkiewicz (Yr10)



## School Council Review

It has been the busiest term yet for the Wellington School Council. As always at the start of a new year, the Executive Committee was elected. This is a group of 12 pupils from Years 7 to 10 who meet each week to organise the agenda for our full Council meetings and act upon anything which was decided at previous meetings.

We began the year by surveying the blinds in each classroom and deciding which ones were in most need of an upgrade. It is great to see that 10 classrooms were fitted with new blinds over the Christmas holiday – this will make it easier for pupils to see the board on those rare sunny days!

As well as making sure that pupils have a say in how things work at Wellington, the School Council has also been busy becoming involved in community projects. In November, six Year 9 pupils spent the day at Trafford Housing Trust head office as part of the Children Commissioner's Take-Over Day. We put our ideas for a community fun day together and produced a winning bid against other schools. This means that later in the year we will help to organise an event that will benefit the wider community – and we get to decide how Trafford Council spends its money!

Our Year 10 Council members have also become involved in wider community matters. Nine pupils attended a conference of the Trafford Youth Cabinet and put their ideas and opinions to Council leaders, the head of Trafford CYPs and the Head of Children's Services. This was a huge event and many of our delegates spoke passionately in front of over 150 guests.

Mr Holt



Cllr. Matthew Colledge, School Governor and Leader of Trafford Council awarding prizes to our delegates at the Children Commissioner's Take-Over Day



## Dates for your diary for the Spring Term:

Thursday 30th January  
Year 10 Parents' Evening

Thursday 6th February  
Year 9 Parents' Evening

Tuesday 11th February  
Year 8 Parents' Evening

Friday 14th February  
School closes for half term

Monday 24th February  
School re-opens

Thursday 27th February  
Year 7 Parents' Evening

Monday 3rd March  
PSA Meeting – 7.00pm

Friday 7th March  
Sponsored Walk Day

Thursday 3rd April  
Year 11 GCSE Preparation Evening

Thursday 10th April  
Wellington School Talent Show

Friday 11th April  
School closes for Easter

Monday 28th April  
School re-opens. This will be Week A.

## PSA News

### PSA AGM

The AGM took place on Monday 11th November.

Many thanks to all those who gave up their time to attend. The newly elected committee are:

- Chair: Mrs N Green
- Vice Chair: Mr S Carter
- Secretary: Mrs C Lavin

The next meeting will be Monday 3rd March, 7.00pm in the LRC. All are welcome.

### Family Fun Night

The Family Fun Night took place on 17th October.

The combination of Bingo, a fun quiz and licensed bar proved a huge success and all who attended had a brilliant evening. We'll certainly be repeating this event next year and hope many of you will join us in this fundraiser.

### Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair this year was on Sunday 24th November.

We would like to thank all parents and students who supported this event and special mention to the following for donating prizes for the Silent Auction or Christmas Draw Prizes:

Fresh Farm Foods, Sale Sharks, Altrincham Football Club, Salford City Reds, Bean and Brush Art Café, Paul Michael Salon, Mrs E Jones, Hale Grill. We really do appreciate your support.

### Christmas Draw Winners

The first prize of £100 went to Mrs S Dalgliesh; the delectable looking hamper donated by Governor, Simon Carter, Fresh Farm Foods, went to Susan Shufflebotham; the third prize of £50 went to Maureen Gallagher and fourth prize of £25 to Helen Jackett. Well done

to all the winners and thank you to everyone who bought tickets; our students will certainly benefit from the proceeds.

In total, the various events organised by the PSA this term have raised a collective £2,750, a fantastic amount.

### Family Race Night

Our next event will be a Family Race Night on Thursday 6th March

see how lucky you are at predicting winners! 7.00pm – 9.30pm with licensed bar, more details to follow shortly.

We do hope you will be able to support the Parent Staff Association in some way, whether attending meetings and bringing new fundraising ideas along, helping or attending events – we hope to see you soon, we're a friendly bunch!

Mr Shaw, PSA Co-ordinator



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