

Wellington School

11-18 School



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Spring Term Newsletter
January 2015

Welcome to the Spring Term 2015 Newsletter – an opportunity for us to showcase all the activities, successes and events our students enjoyed last term.



School Performance of Oliver in October



Year 7 Bonding Day in September



School Performance of Oliver in October

Welcome

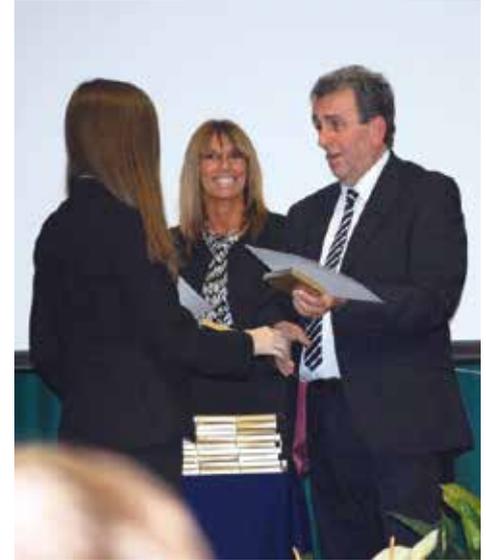
Happy New Year to you all and I hope the Christmas holiday provided you with a welcome respite after the challenges of a long Autumn Term. As always, the students of Wellington School crammed a huge amount into the first term and once again enjoyed considerable success in many areas. I hope you enjoy reading about a mere 'soupçon' of the wealth of activities and events that took place during the Autumn Term 2014. 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) seem to have settled well into life at Wellington. The transition of our new Year 7s is facilitated in so many ways by our dedicated staff but this process was enhanced further, for the second year running, with the 'bonding day' organised by Mrs Haley, Pastoral Manager. Read all about it in the Newsletter and take a look at Mr Travis's collage on the front cover. By the time the rewards' activities and Christmas Disco came around, I hope all our Year 7s felt settled at 'big school'.

Highlights since the last newsletter, when we first reported our outstanding success at GCSE level, thanks to re-marks our figure for 5A* - C with English and Mathematics has risen further to a fantastic 76% (now 5% above our previous best). Furthermore, we received the official DfE data analysis (the RAISEonline Report) just prior to the Christmas break which places us significantly above national averages in the vast majority of categories, and, indeed, in the top 20% of schools nationally. I'm sure the current Year 11s will wish to do even better.

We held our GCSE and A Level Certificate Evening in September for the second year, with a view to providing the opportunity for our departing Year 13s to attend before they become embroiled in university life. I am delighted to say that they and their Year 11 counterparts attended in great numbers and we enjoyed a wonderful evening of celebration. Read more details about the Musical items in Mrs Moorhouse's news

GCSE and A Level Certificate Evening



article. Our guest speaker was Eamonn O'Neal, Group Managing Editor of Trinity Mirror Regionals, broadcaster and Deputy Lieutenant of Greater Manchester who regaled us with humorous anecdotes and provided some words of inspiration. We also got a great mention from Eamonn on his BBC Radio Manchester Show the following morning and in his column in the Manchester Evening News.

Those of you who were fortunate enough to come to see 'Oliver' will doubtless have been blown away as I was by the quality of the performances. It would be wrong to single any individual out as they were all that good. Well done once again to the cast, all the staff and students who helped behind the scenes and co-directors Mrs Moorhouse, Mrs Rainford and Miss Hitchens.

Remaining on the musical theme but leaping forward to the end of term, the Carol Service provided a fitting and uplifting end to term. All the performers (choristers, instrumentalists and readers) excelled themselves. I have to say, that once again, the build up to Christmas overall was fantastic, with a perfect blend of continued diligence toward one's work and an element of festive fun. The introduction of an early lunch and a rewards' afternoon for each Year Group was a particular success.

We said goodbye to some staff at the end of term; Miss O'Malley (Art), Miss Warburton (MFL), Miss McEnroe (History) and Mrs Rainford (English). We wish them all well wherever their careers and lives take them and thank them for their hard work on behalf of the students. We welcomed back

Mrs Kearney from maternity leave, and last week, Mrs Chard began her maternity leave, and hot off the press, we hear she now has a beautiful baby boy. We look forward to welcoming Miss Costello back after February half term.

Thank you to all those of you who have taken the time to read my weekly bulletin on the School's website. I am immensely grateful to staff for forwarding me details of events, activities, trips, student achievements etc., but when I sit down each Friday to compose my report, I realise just how many opportunities we provide and how willing, enthusiastic, dedicated and, quite simply, wonderful, our students and staff are. At the risk of repeating myself, I can't help but have a feeling of immense pride. This newsletter, like my weekly bulletin, encapsulates that spirit of Wellington.

Just a date for the diary, our Annual

Sponsored Walk takes place on Friday 27th February and this year we are again raising money for the Genesis Breast Cancer Unit based at Wythenshawe Hospital. Let's set our sights high and see if we can top the £37,000 raised for Genesis in 2012.

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

S P Beeley
Headteacher



Year 7 Unhealthy Food

Year 7 have been working on the theme 'Unhealthy Food.'

The students produced some fantastic drawings based on their favourite junk food (we took a vote)... chips! The class worked really hard to make their chips look 3D and showed a lot of patience. All their hard work paid off though as now they have these showstoppers in the front of their books!

Mrs Willingham



Imperial War Museum

To commemorate the centenary of the First World War, the Imperial War Museum held a schools' competition, looking for responses to the theme.

The work completed by incoming Year 7 students at Summer School features matchboxes with text imagining the horrors of the First World War & life in the trenches and a further mixed media study, with reference to war poetry using collage techniques.

Both pieces were selected and displayed in the Imperial War Museum, an unbelievable privilege. The standard of work was high, but us Wellingtonian artists held our own!

Pictured are some of the students who took part and attended an award ceremony at the museum including Charlotte Crewe and Chayce Smith who had their poetry work selected for display.

Well done to everyone who took part.

Miss Grey



Pop Box

Year 7 Pupils created amazing boxes that reflected their chosen Pop Artist.

The use of materials and presentation was outstanding and it was clear that they understood the style and technique of the Pop Artists.

Look out for them in the LRC and classrooms. Well done!

Miss Grey, Mrs Willingham and Miss O'Malley

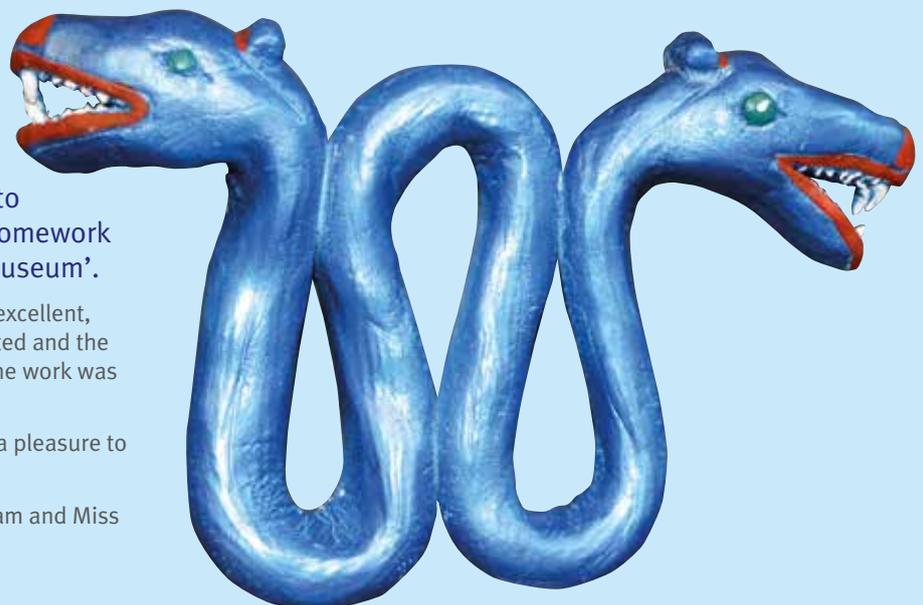
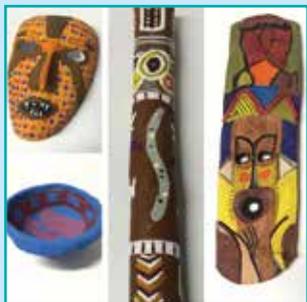
Night at the museum!

Year 8 have created wonderful pieces in response to the project based homework task 'Night at the Museum'.

The standard has been excellent, the materials well adapted and the care taken to produce the work was wonderful.

Well done Year 8 it was a pleasure to see this work!

Miss Grey, Mrs Willingham and Miss O'Malley



Year 8 Another Culture

Year 8 have explored Aztec and African artwork to develop their current project work.

They have been super enthusiastic and shown real skill in pattern work and use of colour to emulate the vibrant work from these cultures.

Well done Year 8!

Miss O'Malley



Indian superstars

Exploring the art work of another culture has been the challenge for 8.1B and they have done a fabulous job.

Utilising the pattern work of India, 8.1B have explored the development of pattern and the ideas of Rangoli as these folk stars clearly show.

The accuracy in which they have been painted and the pattern developed is outstanding, and they have been much admired on display on the Art corridor.



8.1B, what can I say? You are superstars!

Miss Grey

Magical Mehndi

Mehndi patterns were developed by 8.1B as part of their Indian research.

As you can see the class created some beautiful work.

The patterns represent the pupils and their personalities, so tell a story, and many, as is the tradition, have their initials hidden within the design.

The paint used to create the pieces was made using spices often used in Indian cooking, like turmeric, cumin and chilli to create distinctive colours and a different texture.

Hands down the best work I've seen!

Miss Grey



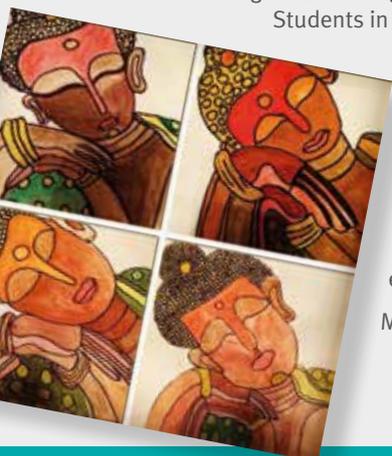
Buddhism

Students in 8-2A and 8-2B have been studying Buddhist art this term.

They have produced some stunning work that has even made it onto the department's Instagram. The students have created beautiful Buddhas from watercolours and collage and they have been working hard creating their own Buddhist quotes.

Students in 8-2A are now creating their own collaborative Buddhas as a class, whilst 8-2B are busy creating mixed media Buddha final pieces. Both classes have worked really hard on this project and deserve a big well done for all their hard work and enthusiasm.

Mrs Willingham



A passion for paisley

8.1B developed these beautiful paisley patterns as part of their cultural work.

The paisley motif is synonymous with Indian design and decoration and the group developed their own beautifully painted studies working over collaged vintage maps of India.



Stunning colours, details and pattern, well done!

Miss Grey



Dreamcatchers 8-3B

Throughout this term 8-3B have been studying Native American Culture.

They have produced a variety of work towards the project; in particular they created these beautiful dreamcatchers that have created a fantastic display in Mrs Willingham's art room. Students mixed pencil, ink and water to create their own unique designs. Well done 8-3B!

Mrs Willingham



Box Clever

Year 9 had the opportunity to create a box project which researched the work of a decorative artist of their choice.

The work they completed was amazing! Year 9 went to town creating beautiful pieces that not only visually represent the artist they selected, but included written information too.

We were blown away by their commitment to the work and their final creations which showed resilience and responsibility to complete their tasks.

Work is displayed in classrooms and the LRC, well done Year 9!

Miss Grey, Mrs Willingham and Miss O'Malley



Year 9 Wax Trap

9-7 have branched out even further with their woodland theme and produced some lovely wax traps based on the artist Tom Frost.

The class were both fascinated and excited to try the process and worked really hard and sensibly. Their designs now have pride of place on their collaborative tree.

Mrs Willingham



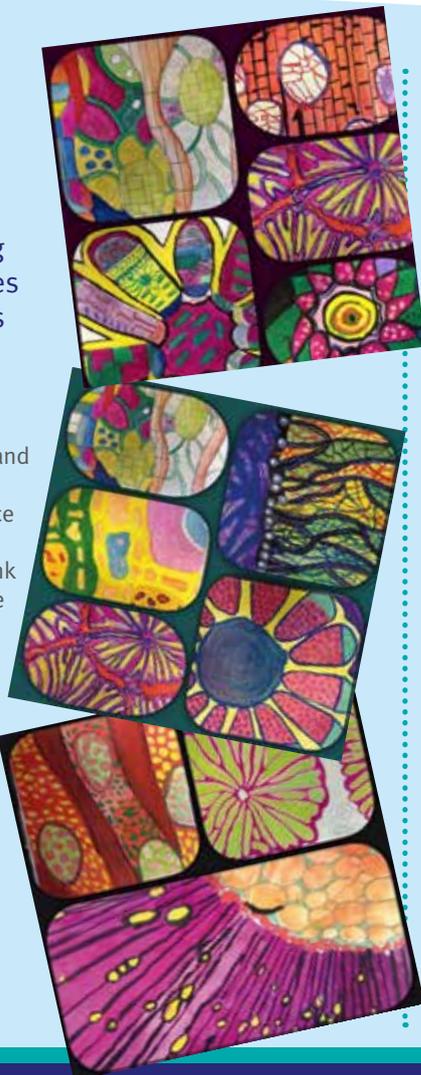
Brilliant Bacteria

9.3 have been producing some amazing painted studies exploring cells and bacteria.

The students exaggerated the colours, shapes and patterns of their images to produce these beautiful studies that I think you will agree are the perfect tonic!

Well done 9.3

Miss Grey



Year 9 Woodland

9-2 and 9-0 have been studying British woodland this term.

They have produced a variety of studies on all types of British wildlife from Toadstools to Barn Owls. We particularly loved their Toadstool studies, carefully created using watercolours. Well done 9-0 and 9-2.

9-8 and 9-7 have also been working on a woodland theme this term and used a variety of skills to create British leaf patterns and designs. Along the way they have been slowly decorating their own tree in Mrs Willingham's room. The tree has really taken shape and come to life through the students' hard work and they have enjoyed contributing to the process. We are all looking forward to seeing the tree completed.

Mrs Willingham



Rock and Roll stars!

9.9 have been working really hard this term creating pieces that reflect the music and architecture of Manchester.

The pupils used motifs from Manchester to create a print and painting, along with a collage of maps, different papers and lyrics from songs synonymous to Manchester bands.

No 'Blue Mondays' when they were making these, they were happy to get on to create a 'wonderwall' of a display.

Miss Grey



Something Fishy

Year 9 created these stunning tropical fish as part of their decorative art project.

What is really impressive is the detail and technique that they achieved in a variety of media.

Nothing fishy about their drawing skills!

Miss O'Malley



Yorkshire Sculpture Park

In October Mrs Willingham and Mrs Warburton took 30 Year 9 students to Yorkshire Sculpture Park.

The trip was a great success with all students thoroughly enjoying the experience. Students started the day with a guided tour of the park seeing some of the famous sculptures. They were particularly pleased to see an exhibition by Julian Opie whom some of them had studied last year. In the afternoon, students worked in groups to create their own sculptures out of a variety of materials based on the

theme of 'opposites.' At the end of the day students presented

their sculptures to the class which included robots and a solar system! The weather held up for us and we had a fantastic day which the students all contributed towards and thoroughly enjoyed.

Mrs Willingham



We're all mad here

9.5 have been exploring the theme of Alice in Wonderland.

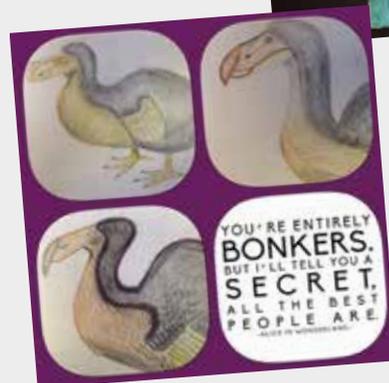
Work has been completed around the main characters, key objects and motifs from the book including quotes.

A variety of materials have been used including card relief, montage and wax entrapment.



The students have worked really well, keep up the good work!

Miss Grey



Make no bones about it!

9.3 have explored skeletal forms.

Working in groups the students produced these large scale drawings using mark making. The class worked well in their teams to enlarge their work and collaborate to complete the task.



The technique was quite tricky, but they 'wore their fingers to the bone' creating this work, showing light, shade and texture in their work.

I 'feel it in my bones', 9.3 are a talented lot. Well done!

Miss Grey

Wild Life

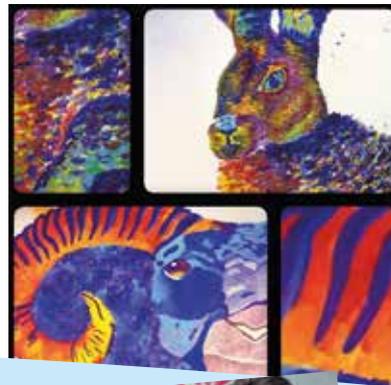
Well I could only have 3 images, but I'm not even sure that 103 would be enough to show off the talents of my Year 10 groups.

They have really worked hard and shown fantastic developing skills in their drawings of wild life for the theme 'Feather, Fur, Fin'.

Their work has amazed and inspired other students and is displayed in my classroom and it's always receiving comments and praise.

Well done Year 10, keep up the good work.

Miss Grey



Fragments

Year 11 have developed some amazing work this year based on the theme 'fragments'.

Students have worked independently and lead their own projects producing some interesting themes and pieces of work. They have truly worked hard with some of them, working here in the Art department every day, putting in a huge amount of effort. It has been worth it though and as you can see their dedication shows in their fantastic work.

Mrs Willingham

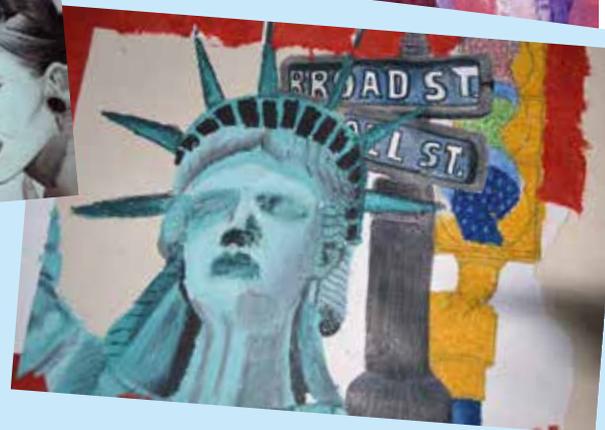
Year 11 GCSE Art

The students have explored a range of themes for their current project.

But they have one thing in common, the way they have developed their drawing skills and techniques. All the students have worked to a very good standard across a number of media including paint, pen, card relief and collage.

Can't wait to see how their projects develop. Well done Year 11!

Miss O'Malley





A-level

Year 13 have been working hard to produce work supporting their selected themes.

After the summer holidays it was a delight to see such lovely independent study and just how well their skills and work has developed.

You will only get a peek at a couple of pieces here but it does reflect the high standards across the whole group.

Can't wait to see how this creative lot get on this term!

Miss Grey



A-level Drawing

The A2 students have been focusing on detail in their work and building on their application of the formal elements.

Their work covers a huge number of themes and materials which adds to their portfolio.

Drawing work has also been experimental including working with elongated paintbrushes and paper cutting.



It's always exciting to see what they will produce!

Miss O'Malley

Instagram and Pinterest

We continue to update our instagram and pinterest pages, to make them a tool for the pupils to use independently.

Not only do we celebrate achievement and work by all pupils, but we ensure there are reference points and support available for projects, tasks and homework.

It's really worth following or checking us out regularly to see how talented our pupils are, the expectations of the work and the inspiration there is to be found.



Cherry on the cake

As has been a staff tradition for the last few years all departments create a cake for the Macmillan coffee morning.

After much planning and decision at break, lunch and after school the Art Department came up with an idea!

Mrs Willingham made these beautiful cup-cakes and they were displayed on top of the very famous painting we aimed to replicate!

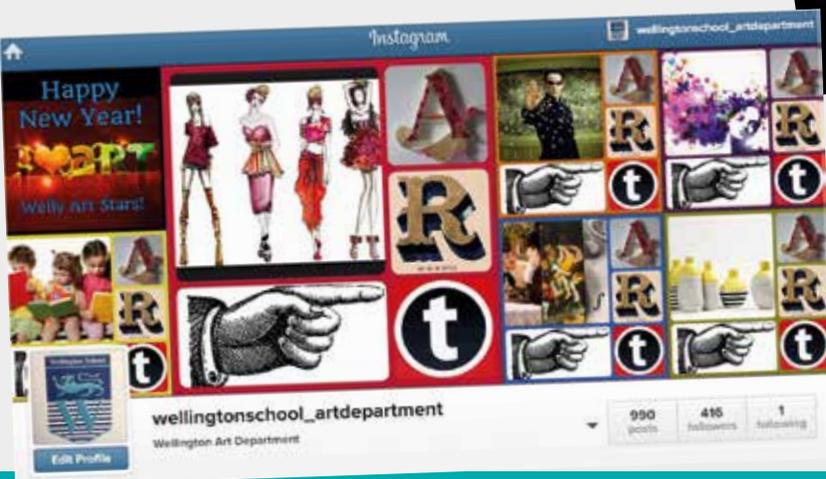
Now we aren't showing off but we won!!!!

Art can be everywhere!

#teamart

By the time you read this we will have posted more than 1000 images by Welly art stars!

Miss Grey





KS3 Cake Decorating Club

In October Mrs Cook and Mrs Ryan began a key stage 3 cake decorating club during Monday lunch times.

The club proved very popular with the allocated 14 places being quickly filled each week.

The first week pupils were given the opportunity to show off existing skills by using fondant icing to decorate the top of small cakes. They all worked on their own ideas which proved very promising.

The next two weeks saw pupils make fondant pigs or sheep and then use them to decorate chocolate muffins.

Pupils also produced some 'spooktacular' Halloween designs which worked very well and definitely suited the given theme.

Those pupils involved have impressed both Mrs Cook and Mrs Ryan with their enthusiasm and creativity – who knows if their creations made it home - I bet some got eaten on the journey!

Mrs Cook and Mrs Ryan



KS3 Year 9 Super Star Cooks

Eleven Year 9 pupils have been involved in a "Superstar Cooks" competition run by the supermarket Sainsbury's.

Participants were required to create a main meal for four people that responded to the recommendations of the Eatwell Plate.

Pupils learnt about the 5 main categories of foods: carbohydrates, fruit and vegetables, protein (non-dairy), milk and dairy food, and food and drinks high in fat and/or sugar. They investigated the proportions that should be consumed for each category and then put the knowledge into practice by designing a suitable dish.

Each dish had to serve a family of four and pupils produced a "recipe card" of their final design as well as making the dish.

Entries were then submitted to Sainsbury's and we are still waiting to hear if any of them have made it through to the next round of the competition. Keep your fingers crossed for our budding young chefs.

Mrs Ryan



KS3 Food Technology

Pupils in Years 7 – 9 have been involved in themed projects which developed and improved skills in research, design and making.

Year 7 pupils participated in an afternoon tea project. Small groups of pupils worked together to create a themed afternoon tea. A variety of themes were used including Christmas, Halloween and Batman. Pupils learnt some basic recipes and they then went on to either adapt these or find suitable alternatives to suit their chosen theme.

Year 8 pupils produced an Italian set menu, building on skills gained in Year 7. Pupils researched a wide variety of Italian dishes as well as different sauce making methods and presentation techniques. The Italian theme worked well with many of the dishes achieving restaurant quality finishes.

The Year 9 project was inspired by the Great British Bake Off which introduced an element of competition into the lessons. Pupils were eager to impress and had plenty of opportunity to do so. The categories included, bread, pastry and decorated cakes along with a final show stopper. Pupils needed to work independently and show resilience and responsibility. The standard of work was very high and demonstrated excellent creative skills.

Well done to all pupils in Years 7 – 9 on all your hard work and an excellent start to the school year.

Mrs Ryan



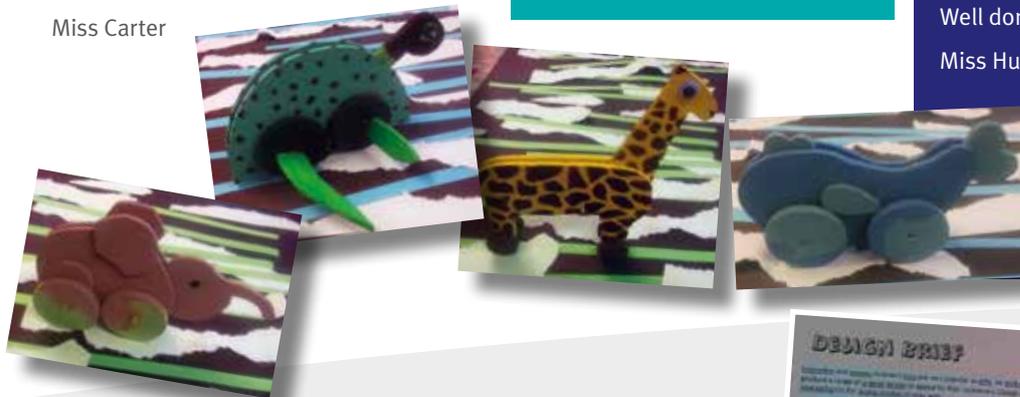
KS3 Product Design

Students in Year 9 have created a range of toys, around the theme of endangered animals.

They have researched CAM mechanisms and used this research to build their toy with a working mechanism inside, making a feature move up and down as the toy is pushed along a surface. During this project pupils also wrote a poem about their chosen endangered animal to help them learn more about the subject and create packaging using their own brand identity.

The emphasis in this project is on producing work to a high finished standard whilst learning through independent planning and research, preparing students for the experience at GCSE level.

Miss Carter



Example Poem

No Space – Jordan Burrows

*I'm tired of carrying my home around
A 3 bed detached is nowhere to be found
With dingy brown walls and no central heating
And only one room that I can just keep my feet in
As much as I complain I'm really quite attached
I'm not sentimental, I've just had it since I hatched
I will outlive a dog, a cat or a horse
I'll even outlive you,
I'm a turtle ofcourse.*

KS3 Textiles

Fabulous work on Instagram – have a look for yourselves!

All of the first rotation Year 7, 8 & 9 classes have been very busy this past term and to celebrate their outstanding efforts we have uploaded many photographs of their outcomes onto Instagram. This has involved each teacher from our department nominating their top five pupils from each class. All these pupils have shown great dedication to the subject by coming up with their own innovative designs based on a given design brief. I'm sure our pupils would appreciate everyone taking a look at their fabulous work by searching for our username on Instagram: Wellington_design_technology.

Well done to all,

Miss Hudson



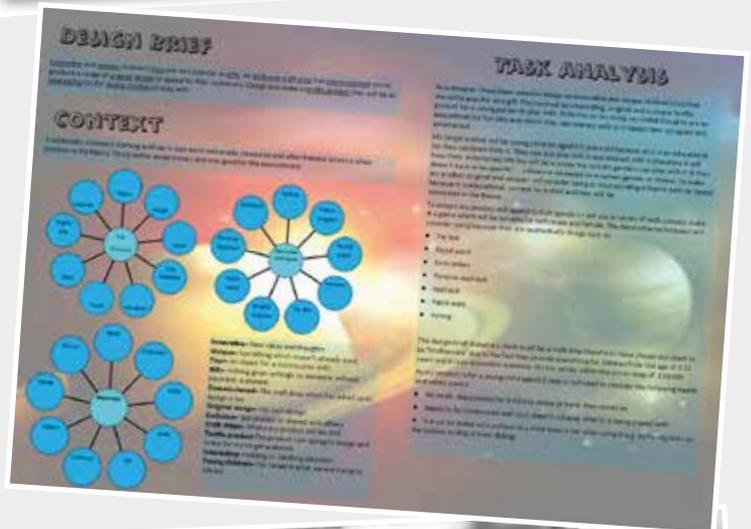
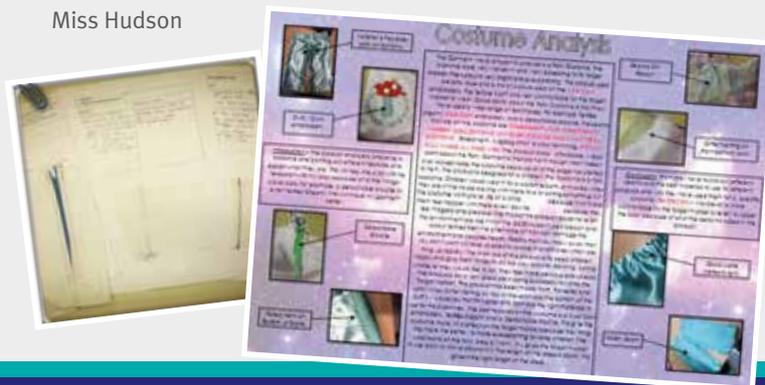
KS4 GCSE Textiles Technology Year 10

Having now completed their first GCSE term, I would like to acknowledge how hard the Year 10s have been working.

So far they have developed basic sewing skills involving being able to sew a variation of seams, hems and many fastenings. So parents if you need any garments altering, pass them to your children and I'm sure they would show you how it's done.

Also all pupils have had to revise all of their theory-based knowledge for the first mock exam towards the end of the Christmas term. Many pupils did very well but as usual there will be many more moments for pupils to show off just how much they are learning. Pupils are now getting excited to design a range of initial ideas for their controlled assessment and this year I have chosen a Costume and Children's Toy brief for the pupils to get their teeth stuck into. I am very excited to see their ideas and I would like to see them all reap the rewards in Year 11, so keep up the hard work.

Miss Hudson





KS4 Product Design GCSE Product Design – Year 10

GCSE Product Design students have been working extremely hard on their Controlled Assessment.



Their project brief was to design a product for an interior space inspired by an historical design movement;

these have included Art Deco, Bauhaus and the Memphis Design Movement to name a few.

Students have completed comprehensive research and created some outstanding initial design ideas and we look forward to seeing how these designs develop.

Your hard work, effort and dedication hasn't gone unnoticed and we look forward to a successful Year 11!

Mrs Booth & Miss Carter

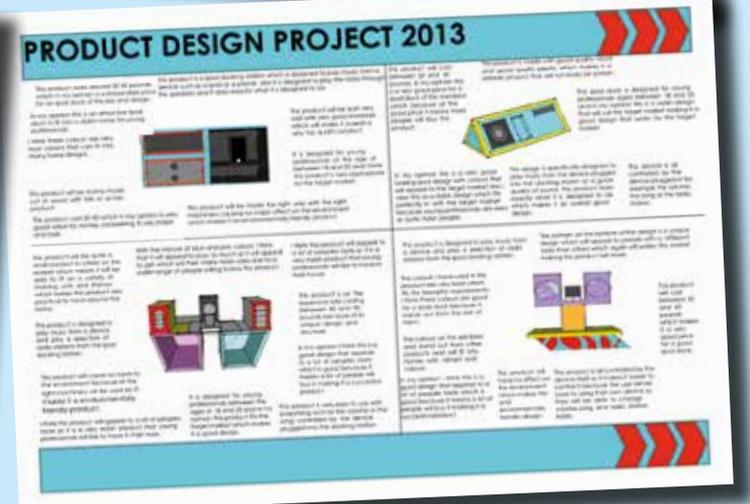
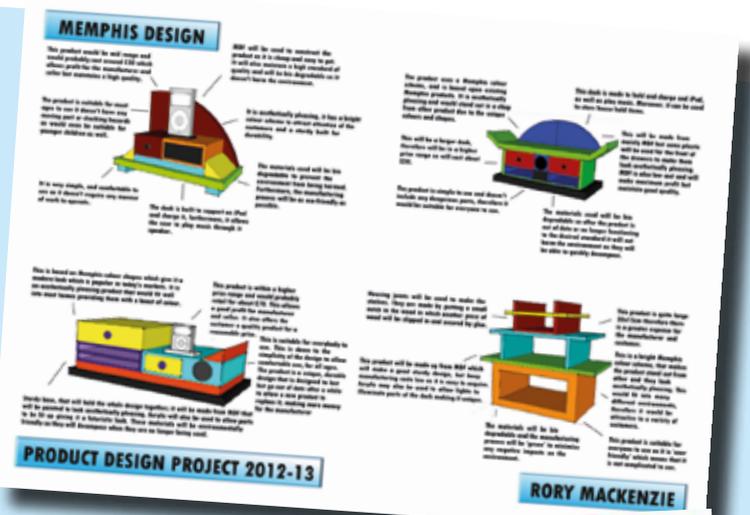


KS4 Product Design GCSE Product Design – Year 11

The Year 11 Product design students are making great progress with their Memphis inspired iPod docks.

All of the students have produced their design proposals in 3d using computer aided design and have conducted a great deal of research to ensure their proposals meet the needs of their target audience. We have now started the manufacture of these designs in the workshop and I'm hoping the finished products will look even better than their 3d design ideas. Keep working hard Year 11!

Mr Travis



KS4 Graphics

The Year 10 Graphic Product students have made an impressive start to the course.

The class are currently conducting research into Point of Sale displays, existing chocolate bar design and the requirements of their chosen target audience. The students have now started to formulate their own design specifications and will be producing their design solutions in the near future.

Mr Travis



KS4 Food

Year 10 Great Cheshire Pie Maker Competition

The year 10 GCSE Food Technology group have been involved in "The Great Cheshire Pie Maker" competition run by Reaseheath College. The theme of the competition was sporting events and pupils needed to design an appropriate pie.

All pupils produced a sheet detailing the brief, target audience, specification, initial design ideas and final design. Each pupil was responsible for the planning and organisation of producing their dish within a two hour time limit.

The pupils all worked well showing a high standard of skills and high quality products.

The top three were submitted to the college for judging and we will hopefully find out soon if we have reached the semi finals.



KS4 Food Year 10 visit to Reaseheath College

On Friday 14th November fourteen year 10 GCSE pupils visited Reaseheath College in Nantwich who have invested £7.4 million in a world class food innovation centre combining technical and educational facilities.

Pupils had the opportunity to learn about industrial practices in the food industry as well as take part in a number of practical sessions.

During the morning session they learnt how to make butter, which they then put into practice by making their own block. Next came the part the majority of the group enjoyed the most - a taste testing panel and investigation of how this is vital for new product development.

Pupils then received a tour of the facilities including the butchery, dairy and bakery. The day ended with pupils participating in a final practical where they made pastry hearts which looked delicious.

Pupils were able to get a valuable insight into the world of the food industry which will be useful for the GCSE controlled assessment and the final written exam. They were also able to learn about the wide variety of career options within the industry.

Mrs Ryan



KS5 AS Textiles Technology

Mrs. Booth & I are delighted with the research Year 12 have completed to create a range of exquisite and original designs.

They have all worked independently and have indicated how much they are enjoying their projects.

Each student has created their own brief, design theme, client & audience and we are looking forward to seeing how they bring their ideas to life.

Miss Hudson & Mrs. Booth



Shop Report



As part of my research I will be carrying out a shop report I have gone into boutiques and charity shops and looked at various styles of clothing. I have taken photographs to see what inspiration I can get and also looked at the shop window displays to see what they are selling.



KS5 A2 Textiles Technology

All students are working really hard and should be very proud of their Coursework which demonstrates real flair and creativity.

We have enjoyed seeing how they have progressed through the course to be confident designers. Their development samples are coming together well as they have been experimenting with a range of materials, decorative and manufacturing techniques to create original designs.

Miss Hudson & Mrs. Booth



BBC School Report: Radio 1 'Best Day Ever' Competition

While we didn't make it into the three national finalists, Jasmine Spinks and Yasmin Jalali represented the school fantastically in producing an entry for the Radio 1 'Best Day Ever' Competition as part of BBC School Report.



The competition was to create a 30 second original music video featuring staff stating why we should have Radio1 DJs presenting from the school for Children in Need.



A massive 'Thank You' to Mr. Fenwick, Mrs Shelley, Miss Hodges, Mr Cropper and Mrs Moorhouse for their starring roles – excellent singing and dancing all round!



Miss Hitchens

9.9: 'Trash' by Andy Mulligan!

I have been thoroughly impressed with 9.9's 'Resourcefulness' this term in English.

The set are studying a new novel and have been helping me to plan the unit through a series of 'Pupil Voice' sessions. The class also designed a series of 'Takeaway Homeworks' to inspire a project on the theme of 'Trash' (the novel's title). My personal favourite was the option to create a song about how 'One man's trash can be another man's treasure' with the song having to be played with recycled instruments!

Furthermore, given the mystery in the novel, pupils were keen to share their interests in real-life mysteries and produced informative presentations on conspiracy theories. I am now convinced that I will see Elvis waving to me in the supermarket and that aliens don't just exist in 'Doctor Who'. Well done to 9.9 and their help in creating a really enjoyable scheme of work!

Miss Hitchens



'The Hobbit' 'Book into Film' Club Cinema Visit!

It was that time again as Film club embarked on their third trip to see the final part of 'The Hobbit' trilogy.



The pupils have read the text at club and were excited to see how the film linked into 'The Lord of the Rings' series.

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

Miss Hitchens

IWM North Remembrance Competition

The English department decided to approach this year's National Poetry Day theme of 'Remembrance' by entering the Imperial War Museum's competition on the same theme.

Pupils from across the key stages were involved in creating war poetry masterpieces and the staff were thoroughly impressed with the students' imaginative ideas.

While we have displayed lots of work across the school to help us commemorate World War One, it was decided that entries from Georgia Higham (Year 8), Charlotte Crewe, Chayce Smith, Joshua Wykes, Emily Topping and Lauren Temple (all Year 10) were to be sent-off for the consideration of the museum's judges.

Excitingly, Chayce and Charlotte's poetry was selected for exhibition at the museum and was well received by visitors. Well done girls and to everyone who entered!

Miss Hitchens



8.3a's Amazing Island Projects

As part of the Year 8 Travel scheme of work, 8.3A 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)! Most unusual was Oscar Clarke's pizza island! All work was created independently so this project put the pupils' 5Rs skills to the test.

Miss Hitchens



Shrek: The Musical'

In December, Miss Hitchens organised a trip for 45 lucky Year 7s to go and see 'Shrek: The Musical' at the Palace Theatre in Manchester. She's left it up to the pupils to detail the trip...

Shrek-tastic

On the 10th December 2014, 45 pupils from Wellington School visited the Palace Theatre, Manchester to watch the spectacular 'Shrek the Musical'.

As the curtains opened, the crowd clapped and cheered. Shrek, a mighty ogre came through an enormous book and the scene opened with 'A Big Bright Beautiful World'. Shrek and Princess Fiona were told to leave their family homes to explore the world.

The sets were straight out of a children's fairy tale story book with magical castles, enchanting forests and beautiful sunsets.

Highlights of the show included a magnificent dragon who flew around the stage singing (incredibly) to persuade Donkey to stay with her.

Laughter filled the theatre as the comedic Pinocchio lied and his nose grew and grew. The three little pigs were large and funny, making the audience laugh out loud!

My favourite part of the show was the incredible finale when the cast sang 'I'm a Believer' and encouraged the audience to-sing-along. All the characters gathered around a huge cake with Shrek and Fiona on the top. This was a memorable trip; I will remember it forever.

By Amelia Buckley.

Shrek Review

I really liked going to see Shrek because of the actors and the incredible props - the dragon especially because it looked so real! When the back stage men controlled the dragon, the dragon's eyes blinked and its mouth opened and closed. It was amazing!

Donkey was extremely funny but one thing that really made me laugh really loudly was when 'Lord Farquaad' rode the horse that beeped when it reversed. Another funny scene was when 'Lord Farquaad's knight held up the 'Laugh' signs to make the crowds laugh.

Many of the actors had to sing in a high pitch to play the fairy tale characters when I know it's very hard to do that. The costumes were very impressive. When Pinocchio's nose grew that was excellent because I couldn't tell how they did it! The dances, set, actors, costumes and props were great; I loved how the director used the characters from other fairy tales. Some of those fairy tale characters were: The Three Bears, Fairy God Mother, Ugly Duckling as well as the Gingerbread Man and the Big Bad Wolf.

I would definitely want to see this again and I would rate it 5 stars! Thanks to Miss Hitchens for organising the trip.

By Emma Tanner.



Year 9 Coasts

Year 9 Geography students have been recently studying coastal processes and landform formation and are now equipped with the knowledge and skills to embark on their Swanage Bay project.

To recap the features and their knowledge students have been recreating landforms through using play dough – oh how they enjoyed creating these features and smelling the dough! They also created innovative coastal defence structures using the dough.

Mr Whitaker

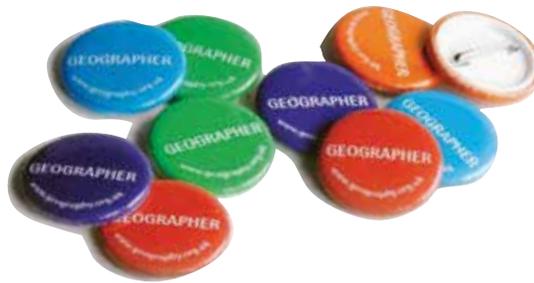


Geography Badges

Worth more than their weight in gold, the Geographer badges that we have procured from the Geographical Association, have become the sought after accessory of the winter season.

In a variety of colours, the badges have been awarded for excellent commitment in and outside of class for such acts as developing independent investigation through asking questions, homework efforts and demonstrating Geographical skills as well as general impeccable effort.

Mr Whitaker



Year 11: Jacob Farthman – Geographer of the month

A Big Congratulations to Jacob who is currently producing a superb Controlled Assessment project on tourist management issues in Castleton.

Jacob has also actively contributed in 'Twitter' revision sessions. Well done - and continue to keep this up!



Year 8 Slum Dogs

Year 8 have been investigating how life in Kenya is different and similar to life in Timperley.

This has investigated everything from rural dwellers to city folk and a couple of weeks ago, 8.1b dismantled the classroom to create a slum of their own which developed sewage systems, shacks, washing lines and several hair salons.

Mr Baker



Geography praise postcards for this Autumn half term

Each half term we send out congratulation postcards as a department to Key Stage 3 students who have shown real effort and progress in Geography. The following students have been chosen this time:

Mr Whitaker

- 7.1a Samuel Jolly & Lillie Harris
- 7.4b Molly Wilbraham & Mir Thaheem
- 8.3b Kate Abbott & Matthew Firth
- 9.5 Leonie Halliwell & Benjamin Clough
- 9.1 Charlotte Pilcher & Jessica Walsh

Miss English

- 8.1a Ally Brooke & Isabelle Fallon
- 8.4a Abi Cannavan & Greta Brown
- 9.2 Leah Moglimi & Olivia Gaskin
- 9.6 Aimee Griffiths & Sophie Garrett
- 9.9 Cody Wilson & Riana Finnegan

Mr Baker

- 7.2a Thomas Waddington & Zainab Shather
- 7.2b Sam Thompson & Molly Short
- 7.3a Lucy Smith & Amelia Karabedian
- 7.4a Adriatik Hoxha & Victoria Batty
- 7.5a Hollie Adamson & Mickey Brown
- 8.1b Thea Aldridge & Luke Turner
- 8.2a Elliot Jones & Katherine Cummins
- 8.5a Alexia Gordon & Alfie Hewitt
- 9.0 Luke Kelly & Laura McLaughlin
- 9.8 Megan Hibbert & Thomas Eaton

Mr Heyes

- 7.1b Eleanor Marsh & Evie Penfold
- 7.3b Omar Abunasra & Lauren Wardle
- 7.5a Kieran Garner & Hannah Ogilliev
- 8.1c Lily Smith & Harry Buxton
- 8.3a Mohamad Bawadeskji & Benjamin Gill
- 8.4b Aicha Henry & Connor Walton
- 9.3 Lily Hopkins – Murphy & Dominika Glodowska
- 9.4 May Brookes & Eliona Ferizi

Mr Holt

- 9.7 Chloe Griffiths & Sheu Bvepfepfe
- 8.2b Mina Faisal & Luke Winkley

Window Geography

Faced with all the AMAZING Geography that happened across the world over the summer holidays, the Geography department were faced with some tough questions on the first day back!

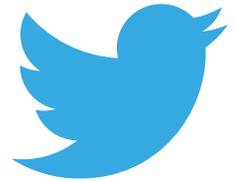
Miss English was excited and determined to show students that Geography does in fact happen outside our own windows. We invited students to tweet us (@WellingtonGeog) the view from their window and then we discussed the interesting Geography we could see.



Some fascinating conversations happened across the whole department and our display really has started to make some of our students think outside the window.

Miss English

Twitter Update



Not only have we been tweeting about Geography outside our window but we have been getting Year 11 involved with weekly revision throughout this last half term to prepare them for their mock exams.

We have had really good feedback from Year 11 saying how useful they found this and we have big plans for something different in the new year. Year 11 watch this space!

We have also been using twitter to 'show off' amazing Geography work, we have been encouraging students to use '#Selfie' in their books when they are particularly proud of something and have been tweeting it. We have so much amazing work that happens in Geography and we want to show it off as much as possible – Twitter helps us to do so, especially when we have run out of room on displays!

We can't wait to expand twitter further so please keep updated and give us a follow...

It's **@WellingtonGeog**

Miss English

HISTORY News

Grosvenor Museum Visit

Miss Davison, Mrs Haley and Mrs Roe-Bennett took 40 Year 7s to the Grosvenor Museum in Chester to enhance their Roman study.



Miss Davison reports; "It was a fantastic day.

Year 7 were incredibly enthusiastic, sensible, well-mannered and an absolute credit to the school. They enjoyed two museum sessions as well as a more hands on activity where they dressed up and played CSI trying to solve the mystery of the skeleton. The students were able to see and touch real life artefacts that we have been discussing in lessons. Thank you Year 7



for being such a delight and a big thank you to Mrs Haley and Mrs Roe-Bennett.

Miss Davison

Year 10 get to grips with Ancient medical artefacts!

In late November an inquisitive and enthusiastic group of Year 10 students accompanied Mr Ashworth, Miss Tidbury, Mrs Ware and Mr Eckersley to Manchester Museum where they were able to handle real artefacts from the Ancient World.

The focus of the visit was to apply their knowledge of medicine in the Ancient World to supplement their work for their GCSE History course.

The students were able to handle genuine ancient bones, surgical implements, study ancient papyrus scripts in order to reach conclusions about how ancient and primitive man tried to treat diseases and injuries from well over 2000 years ago.

The students wowed the museum and university experts with their extensive knowledge of ancient medicine and all are much better able to discuss this period in their examination questions. Well done to you all on an excellent visit.

Mr Ashworth

Get online with the Mathematics Department!



The mathematics department now has an on-line blog and has launched its Twitter account.

These aim, in particular, to help share revision hints and tips with Year Eleven students, but other year groups have already been taking part, for example tweeting pictures of work and projects they have produced. There are lots of revision resources available online and the blog aims to direct students to the best ones, and provide hints and tips on how to successfully revise and prepare for external examinations. Some students have said that this is invaluable as June and the GCSE examinations approach.

The blog can be viewed at <http://wellingtonmaths.wordpress.com/>

and we can be found on Twitter at [@welly_maths](https://twitter.com/welly_maths).

Origami club

Mrs Nolan and Mr Lane have been running the Year Seven Origami Club this term, and have been making flowers, frogs, dogs, gift boxes and all manner of paper creations!

This culminated in them all making hats (as shown in the photograph) just before Christmas. The club looks set to continue well into the new year; rumours that the club was going to fold are unfounded!

Mr Poole



MFL News

French Spelling Bee

All Year 7 pupils have taken part in the first stage competitions for the Routes into Languages Spelling Bee this term.



French classes have been working hard to learn a list of 50 French words, which they have had to spell out loud under timed conditions using the French alphabet.

Pupils have risen to the challenge and each class has put forward 2 winners to the next round of competitions, set to be held in February. The awe-inspiring Charlotte Cosh managed to spell 11 words correctly in one minute! Finalists Rebekah Court and Robyn Hill have both gone through after a nail-biting "Spell-Off" proved inconclusive, as they both spelled all their words correctly!

The boys were well-represented, too, with Aadam Ashraf and Mir Thaheem demonstrating their determination and winning themselves a place in the next stage.

Mrs Ramsumair is looking forward to working with the winners to learn a further 50 French words, and hopefully taking some winners to the Regional Finals in Manchester in March. Well done Year 7! Bien fait!



German Exchange

On Friday 10th October we went to Stuttgart to revisit our German Exchange partners.



We had a brilliant time and we were all really excited to see all our partners again (even though we had only seen them the week before). We had a very eventful week! We experienced German school first hand and found that it was a lot less strict than our school here. We also went on two trips, one to a fossil museum where we able to dig for our own fossils and one to a beautiful castle where we learned all about the history of Stuttgart and other nearby towns. At the weekend most of us were able to visit the 'Wasen' which is Stuttgart's version of Oktoberfest. There were lots of rides, games and tasty food for us all to try. We also were able to go to the 'Fellbacher Herbst' which is a smaller festival in the town where the school is. On the Sunday night they had a brilliant firework display to close the festival. Overall the week in Germany was absolutely amazing. Everybody got along really well and we all made lots of new friends. The hardest part was saying goodbye and almost everyone ended up in tears when we had to leave!

By Chloe Higgins, Leah Kilvert, Elle-Mae Kitchiner.



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. The bulletin is published weekly and on display in tutor rooms and also on the This Week section of the website. Likewise, please come and grab a letter if you'd like to take advantage of our very competitively priced Music Service.

Graded Exams – make sure you let Mrs Moorhouse know of all your achievements if you complete any music exams outside of school. Congratulations to Tom (Scotson) in 13JCK on passing his Grade 5 piano exam.

Extra-curricular activities – we'd love to see more of you getting involved in the Music making here at Wellington School. The choirs will be working towards the Bowdon Youth Festival in February throughout this half term, and there'll be no rest for the Band as they start their rehearsals for the Bridgewater Hall. Also, if anyone is interested in the support side of musical performances i.e. sound and lighting, then please come and tell Mrs Moorhouse.

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.

And finally congratulations to Rachel in 10MBH on successfully auditioning for the RNCM youth theatre. We'll keep you posted on her progress and when we can go and watch her at the Royal Northern.

Mrs Moorhouse

Certificate Evening

This year's Certificate Evening fell very close to the beginning of the term and as always our professional Chamber Choir thrilled everyone with their version of Pentatonix's 'Evolution of Music'.

As the departing Year 11s and 13s missed out on this performance at the Bridgewater Hall for Awards Evening I'm sure that everyone was once again blown away by the talent of these young people. We were also treated to a performance of Pergolesi's 'Nina' by Laura, one of the new Year 12 students and it was wonderful to welcome back a departing student, Tom Vail. Tom, who is currently at Edge Lane University studying Music and English, performed one of his favourite songs 'Last Request' as his swan song to the rest of his departing year group. We wish Tom all the best with his Music studies.

Mrs Moorhouse



Carol Service

On Monday 15th December 2014 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 for welcoming us to the Church.

There were many highlights during the evening's service, and the musical performances and readings maintained the high standards that we have for the Carol Service. Once again, most of the department's extra curricular groups contributed to the evening. However, in contrast to other years it was amazing to see the students take such ownership of events. The piece that the Chamber Choir performed was written by one of the members, Ruby in Year 11. 'Glory be to my King' was a beautiful, sophisticated and mature composition that had Mrs Stephens in tears during rehearsals. Katy, also from Year 11, composed a piece especially for Sing with 7s. In her pursuit for 'Excellence in Everything' Katy was tweaking with the arrangement of 'Jesus Christ was born today' up until the last rehearsal. Sing with 7s have also been led this year by Laura, one of our Year 12 students, who has done a brilliant job running weekly rehearsals and teaching these pieces to the Year 7s, ably assisted by Maggie on the piano. A special thanks also goes to Dan and Tom from Year 9 who were in charge of the sound for the evening.

And as always the Staff & 6th Form Choir were fantastic. As a Sixth Form Tutor I always enjoy seeing my Year group well represented at the Carol Service and they didn't let me down. They performed both their pieces as if they were professional musicians. Thank you to all the staff who also gave up their time to rehearse the 'very easy' songs.

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

Mrs Moorhouse

Christmas Fair

The Year 10 Music GCSE group really got into the Christmas spirit with their Christmas jumpers, tinsel and I believe that someone had some fairy lights twinkling on their clothes.

They were given the challenge during their Friday practical lessons to come up with a set list of popular Christmas songs and they didn't disappoint. A huge thank you as well to our sound engineer and stand in guitarist Jamie from Year 13.

I look forward to seeing what delights they have in store for us next year.

Mrs Moorhouse

Oliver

During the first half term staff and students came together to produce a musical in just 6 weeks.

Over 60 students (including over 10 new Year 7s) started the new term by dedicating each lunchtime and after school to rehearsals. And it was worth every second we spent working on this amazing production.

The company performed a matinee to The Willows and Navigation Primary Schools, and once the initial nerves had calmed down we knew we had a hit on our hands. Two sell-out performances later and 'Oliver' will go down in Wellington history as the best musical ever (and the 'Wizard of Oz took' some beating).

There were many amazing performances: Mr Bumble, Widow Corney, Nancy, Fagin and his gang, the Artful Dodger, the very scary Bill Sykes and of course Oliver.

A huge thank you as well goes to all the Sixth Formers who helped backstage, with costumes and make-up. The Pit Band also did an amazing job – ably assisted by Miss Carter and Mrs Chard.

A special mention must also go to the technical team. The sound and lighting team were made up of only students – and they showed the staff a thing or two about organising these! So a huge thanks to Tom, Conor & Jamie.

It was another amazing experience. Here's to the next one in October 2015!

Mrs Moorhouse & Mrs Rainford

The Band



Sounds and Light



Key Stage 3 REP

This academic year the department has commenced upon the exciting final stage of the departmental transformation of the subject.

At key stage three pupils now study a curriculum of Religion, Ethics and Philosophy, in contrast to the previous model of Religious Studies. This gradual process of change has been ongoing throughout the past two academic years and will be completed this year with the amendment of the Year 9 curriculum.

Lessons at KS3 now include examining ethical issues such as global suffering, humanity's responsibility to conserve the environment and inequalities within society. Pupils are also required to consider philosophical questions about life and existence such as 'do humans have a soul?' 'What makes me, me?' and 'Can you be a religious scientist?'

The P4C (Philosophy 4 Children) lessons that are now taught at least once a half term have proved to be a particularly successful element of the new curriculum. These lessons involve a 'circle type setting' where pupils use a stimulus to create and respond to a range of philosophical questions. Mr Harrison, Mrs Jones and I have been astounded by the pupils' fantastic thinking skills and ability to discuss high level questions in a mature and intelligent manner. The pupils have enjoyed the lessons too. Katy Chapman in Year 9 commented "Everyone enjoyed this lesson so much! Everyone was confident and contributed their honest opinion. I think it was the best way to express our ideas alongside 30 other students and an engaging way to learn about the world".

All the staff in the department are extremely excited about the future of this relevant and essential subject.

Key Stage Five

This subject continues to grow and expand at KS5 with a fantastic 54 students choosing to study Religion, Ethics and Philosophy in the Sixth Form.

The Year 12 students have made a committed start to their study of practical and theoretical ethics and their exploration of Buddhism and both Mrs Jones and I have enjoyed the lively debates that have taken place in lessons. The students are also keeping us busy with the amount of essays they are writing on a weekly basis. The department is currently planning a visit to the Buddhist centre in Manchester to take place during the course of this term where I am sure their understanding of this way of life will be deepened further.

Year 13 continue to impress both Mrs Jones and I with their commitment and enjoyment of the subject. The group gained fantastic Religious Studies results during their summer exams taken with all pupils gaining an A-D grade (60% at A and B grade). This was an outstanding and well deserved achievement.

As a reward for their excellent results Mrs Jones took the group on a planned walk and lunch in Castleton and provided the following report:

My wonderful Year 13 pupils and I had an eventful REP reward trip. The blustery winds in Castleton added to the drama of the day but the weather did not dampen spirits. Whilst the philosophical walk had to be cut short I was very impressed with the resilience and positivity demonstrated by the students. Mike Wolanski commented that "this was the best trip ever." Although the trip may not have been a complete success, it was a very memorable experience.

Mrs Stephens

Key Stage 4 REP

The new recruits to the Year 10 GCSE Religious Studies full course have made an impressive and committed start to the year.

The contributions and work produced when learning about issues connected to crime and punishment has been outstanding and pupils have not held back when discussing the crucial nature of the justice system and the pros and cons of the death penalty. The pupils are now preparing for their visit to the magistrates court this half term where they will have a tour of the court, have the opportunity to watch some trials and attend a question and answer session with a magistrate.



Mrs Jones has also been overseeing an American style debate competition. Pupils thoroughly researched their issues and produced insightful arguments on topics such as abortion, euthanasia and war. All teams worked hard to ensure that they were able to offer counter arguments in order to undermine their opponents. The head to head rounds were particularly entertaining as pupils passionately argued their case, it would appear that we have a few potential future Prime ministers amongst our REP full course class. Mrs Jones was impressed with the level of maturity demonstrated by all students and would like to thank them for their dedication, passion and enthusiasm.



Year 9 Netball

Congratulations to the Year 9 girls so far this year.

We have almost had two teams worth of girls training and frequently asking when the next session is on! From all our games, Rachel Farthing received the most votes as 'girl of the game' and never more deserved than against ACA; our toughest opponents yet we kept them down to just 10 goals.

Our next event is the Trafford tournament at the end of February, so I look forward to resuming training sessions.



Netball Trip

27 Girls from Years 8,9 and 10 travelled to Condover Hall in Shropshire during October for a weekend of Netball and adventurous activities.

The girls performed exceptionally well all weekend, facing tough competition. The Year 8 girls won 5 out of their 6 group games, which placed them second in the group, and comfortably through to the semi finals. Stockport Grammar's second team seemed to field a much stronger team than they did in the group stages which left our semi final on a 6-6 draw, the match went to 2 minutes extra time, where both teams scored once again, and finally to a Golden Goal scenario. Fortunately Madison Daniels scored first, making us the winners! We then faced Stockport Grammar's first team in the final (who we lost 17-4 to in the group stages).



The Wellington girls really showed a fighting spirit, and showed how far they had come over the weekend by losing 10-8, which was a huge improvement on the day before. The Year 9 girls unfortunately didn't make it out of their group stages, as the competition was very tough in their category. They secured some wins and draws in their group games which was all super practice for their games in the Trafford league for the rest of this year. The Year 10 girls won all of their games on day 1, which left them top of their group and over the course of day 2 had another win, and a loss. Equal on points with Cardinal Langley School, the final decision went down to goal difference, where the girls came runners up by only 2 goals.

When not playing Netball the girls were taking part in a range of activities offered at the centre such as abseiling, tunnelling, rock climbing, laser quest, silent and loud discos, high ropes and a bonfire night with Miss Hodges, Mrs Haley, Mrs Thomson and Miss Richards joining in some of the activities. The girls behaved incredibly well, and their instructor, James, commented on how much 'character' the girls had! We can't wait to go back next year.

Miss Hodges

Under 16 Netball

November saw our toughest competition to date.

We entered the Under 16's National Schools Tournament at Wright Robinson. Shocking weather was forecast but the girls' spirits were bright. As this was an Under 16 event we were able to use students from other year groups, so joining the usual Year 10 squad was Louise Scotson from Year 11 and Hannah Smith from Year 8. A tremendous day with some fabulous results against some really strong opponents; the girls of the tournament were Louise and Hannah. Well done to all who were involved.

We face our hardest half term after Christmas so hopefully the hard work put in so far will help us on our way. The Trafford League is complete and now we must play the remaining Greater Manchester games. Wish us luck!

Congratulations must go to Chloe Addis who has also been selected to play for U.19 Thunder Netball Team, a fantastic achievement at such a young age. Well done Chloe!

Miss Richards



Year 7 and 8 Netball

We have had another successful Netball season with both Year 7 and 8 teams.

There has been good attendance at practices from both teams, which has led to improvements in our results and an extended fixture list. We have been able to play A and B team fixtures for both Year 7 and 8, which has allowed us to engage even more girls into playing competitive sport, this is something we are going from strength to strength in!

Having played North Cestrian, Sale Grammar, Sale High, Ashton on Mersey and BTH, the Year 7s narrowly missed out on the semi finals after finishing 3rd in their group. The Year 8s have made it through to their semi final and will play Urmston Grammar very soon. Fingers crossed we make it through to the final again this year, and secure the win!

We have had the support of more staff this term with Mrs Warburton, Mrs Thompson, Mrs Haley, Miss English and Miss Tan all stepping in to help at practices and fixtures, this has a huge impact on the girls, and the additional expertise has definitely allowed the girls to progress further, as well as providing additional opportunities for more teams to play, and therefore more girls involved with competitive sport!

Miss Hodges





Physical Education - Outdoor pursuits GCSE PE assessment 24th-26th November 2014

Mr Morgan together with Mr Gubbins, Miss Richards and 35 GCSE PE students travelled to the 'High Adventure Centre' to be assessed in either Climbing or Mountain Biking over three gruelling days.

The Year 11's applied themselves superbly in challenging conditions, working long hours to improve their overall GCSE practical mark, the centre staff were delighted with the ambition of the students, who were clearly on a mission to gain the best possible grade. Special mention should go to Cameron Kemp, Hannah Sultan and Daniel Walker who were given special awards by the centre staff for attitude and teamwork.

When the marks were given to students on the final morning, Wellington staff and students were delighted that the hard work had definitely paid off, with all students achieving a mark that will improve their overall GCSE grade. It is testament to the efforts of the students that 16 of them scored 10/10 for their activity, something that the centre staff agreed was no mean achievement.

Students left 'High Adventure' with a feeling of satisfaction, an appreciation of the beautiful North Yorkshire scenery, and a kit bag full of muddy clothes to remind parents of the hard miles they had either cycled or climbed.

Mr Morgan



Year 10 Football

Following last season's improvement we returned to training invigorated by what the season may hold.

We got to a cup quarter final and the league semi final, this now has to be our benchmark. The new season brought new players in new positions with different formations. We started with a tricky game away at Sale High and we attacked the game with great enthusiasm, energy and professionalism. In a game that could easily have been more we won 5-0, it's hard to decide what is more pleasing - the performance, the win, the goals or the clean sheet. I would have to say what impressed me most was the teamwork and camaraderie between the players - encouraging each other when things didn't go quite right was great to witness. Louis Welch was outstanding at right back - Goalscorers were Luke McKendry, Luke Noble, Cameron Morgan, Ricky Pereira and Josh Wilkinson.

Next came BTH and our record hasn't been good. Two years ago when the team played BTH they were defeated 8-1, last season we drew 2-2 so we were looking to improve on our recent performances. It was an important game for us because BTH beat us on goal difference last year to the league title. We started very sloppy, wasteful with possession and losing discipline in our team structure. At half time it was 0-0 thanks to Jake Howarth's one on one save. Taking everything on board at half timethe team performed very well second half, our team play was better with more fluidity

in our passing. The front three all got on the scoresheet (Cameron Morgan, Josh Wilkinson and Luke Noble) but down to great work from Ricky Periera, Scott Milner and Kieron Ruddick. The final score was 3-1.

We went marching on to ACA We were very sloppy again in the first half and selfish in our play. We came in at half time 1-0 up and made a couple of changes to the tactics and held a honest conversation with each other. We came out second half a completely different team and dominated proceedings - hunting the ball together and ended up scoring a further three goals to finish the game 4-0. Josh Wilkinson and Cameron Morgan scored two each to continue their good run of goals. Luke Drummond, Scott Milner and Cameron Morgan dragged the team through that poor first half and were excellent throughout.

With Sale Grammar postponed, our final game was against Broadoak. Our team talk and tactics centred around our faults in the previous game and not being selfish in possession. Our team structure was great first half and contributed to us taking a 2-0 half time lead through Cameron Morgan and Luke Noble. Our final decision making was poor and felt we should have had a more commanding lead. Second half we played some lovely football, quick passing combined with running off the ball resulted in many chances and further two goals from Luke Noble and Luke McKendry. Ricky Pereira was brilliant in centre midfield breaking up their attacks and triggering quick counter attacks.

Mr Tomlinson



Cheerleading

Having started rehearsing for this event at the very start of September, there were 25 girls coming every week.

We had a great song, plus the girls own moves which created a fantastic piece that they performed at the Trafford Dance and Cheerleading Festival in front of a crowd of more than 100 people. As this was a festival, there was no winner but it finished with a Christmas party/dance off with all the other schools. We now look forward to the real competition in March, with new ideas, a new song and renewed gusto!

Miss Richards



Rugby at Wellington

The 5 year plan is progressing nicely and we have come a long way since September 2012.

I am delighted to report that 19 fixtures spread across 5 teams were played in the Autumn Term against opponents such as Stretford Grammar, Sale Grammar, Lymm High, St Ambrose and Congleton High School.

We have also participated in a number of Greater Manchester Schools tournaments with some success. Of course, along with the advent of hockey thanks to our all-weather surface, the introduction of rugby has allowed for a significant increase in the number of boys and girls playing competitive sport at Wellington.

The new Year 7s, with many giving rugby a go for the first time, have taken to the game with real vigour and it has been a pleasure to work with them.

Of the 19 games played, we were victorious in 9, came second in 9 and honours were even in 1.

Interform

Interform sport season kicked off with the highly popular Dodgeball competition.

It really was a thrilling competition for the pupils to be part of and the buzz of excitement could be heard all over the school site. The Year 8 results to date are: 1st Great Britain (8KJS), 2nd Hungary (8MRN) and 3rd Italy (8CSR). The Year 7 results are: 1st Korea (7DMY), 2nd Germany (7SPR) and 3rd China (7NTN) and finally the Year 9 results are: 1st France (9PMI), 2nd Russia (9SSY), 3rd Great Britain (9LSS). Stay tuned for the upcoming competitions will be football, netball, hockey, badminton and maybe even more!

Miss MacGlinchey

Year 8 continues to be our most successful team with just one defeat. The enthusiasm, commitment and development of all the boys should be commended and I am extremely grateful for the support from Mr Tomlinson, Mr O'Rourke, who has left now of course but who returns intermittently to assist with coaching and on match days, and latterly Mr Gerschler. Mr Manifold and Mr Travis have also proven to be more than adequate chauffeurs / caretaker managers on several occasions. If we are to fulfil our rugby playing potential then squads need to be provided with regular training opportunities with a consistent and readily available member of staff; it's on my 'to do' list.

It has been pleasing to pick up new recruits as the term progressed in all age groups and new-starters are always welcome.

There are games scheduled for this term, including some 'return' fixtures, and we are also in discussion with local clubs with a view to helping to establish girls' rugby at Wellington. Watch this space!

Mr Beeley



Year 10/11 Rugby

Our first game of the season saw us play Stretford Grammar and due to early Year 11 commitments we had to play without any training.

The Year team played with great energy and enthusiasm throughout the game. We started really well, dominating the breakdowns and progressing forward with pace. We raced to a 10-0 lead with Rory MacKenzie scoring twice off the back of great work from the forwards. We were cutting them open down the flanks with Callum Wardle and Oli Spratt with Tom Cox and Peter Mitrev getting to the rucks quickly. We picked up some injuries in key positions and lost our way half way through the first half. Stretford got back in the game and it was 10-10 going into the later stages of the half. Rory MacKenzie scored again to complete his hat-trick from a quick tap penalty but Stretford scored quickly in response and half time the score was 17-15 to Stretford. The game finished 32-22 to Stretford and considering we had no prior training I was pleased with the performance, with some attacking and defending shape in training we should be good to go in future games

The second game of the season saw us take on the mighty Sale Grammar. Sale are historically a very strong rugby team and it would take a monumental effort to overcome them. We were extremely ravaged by injuries to many regular starters including our leader Rory MacKenzie. For many of the team it was their first ever game of rugby for the school team. Although we were defeated 44-12, I enjoyed this just as much, if not more, than previous games. The determination the team showed was outstanding, yes we were inexperienced but more than made up for that with fight, considering we lost Callum Burns to injury early on. Liam Raftery lead the way with a big tackle early on. We talked a lot in the breaks about respecting possession and getting to the breakdown quick - which the lads did really well and for 10-15mins we had Sale under pressure as we got within 4 points thanks to Dan Walker and Jack Wright. Sale's experience told in the end and they ran away with the game in the second half. Dan Walker was man of the match with an outstanding display on the wing.

An outstanding performance from Year 11 rugby team resulted in a 35-20 victory against ACA in our third game. The team were a little fearful in the changing rooms before the game about some of the opposition players and went 5-0 behind. The team responded well with fantastic energy, enthusiasm and determination to win the game. The teamwork and camaraderie were uplifting and the game was played in a fantastic spirit. Special mention to Luke Dolan, Lochlan Hall, Sam Ford and Dan Glennon who were on debut. Luke Dolan, Rory MacKenzie (32pts in three games), Liam Raftery, Joe McGuinness and Jack Wright scored the tries - all converted by Rory and Callum Burns. Joe McGuinness was immense at fullback and deserved his MoM award.

Unfortunately due to cancellations that completed our Rugby games for the Autumn year but we are hopeful of getting some games in post-February half term.

Mr Tomlinson

National Biology Week 13-17th October

This year's National Biology Week fell on the 13th-17th October.

The week was a true science festival that celebrated the life sciences and engaged our Key Stage 3 pupils with an array of biological topics, through a range of hands on activities in lessons.

Our pupils swabbed for microbes found in their Science labs and learned how Spiderman is a genetically modified organism. The Science Club had their biggest turn-out yet, with more than 60 pupils dissecting pig's eyes to find their lens and use them to magnify a piece of text; thoroughly enjoyed by all!

Miss Tan and Miss Tyrer



The Year 7 Science Curriculum

The new Year 7 intake started a brand new Science curriculum in September 2014.

They completed a Bridging the Gap unit which ensured all pupils were at the same starting point coming in from our feeder Primary schools. This also involved an introduction to Science at Secondary school where they had to complete a training lesson on how to use a Bunsen burner. Successful pupils received their very own Bunsen burner licence!

They have also been learning a new specification filled with engaging practical activities and links to real life Science. For example in Biology they find out what we are all made of, in Chemistry they have been investigating methods of getting clean water and in Physics they have been solving the energy crisis problem.

When asked, pupils commented on how fun the lessons are, how much practical work they get to do and how interesting Science is.

They are looking forward to the Year 8 course already!

Mrs Brown

Mars Balloon Project

Following the success of World Space week, this autumn term also saw Wellington's Science department go into actual Space! (Well, sort of).

Craig Ford (9JEH) and Oliver Donnelly (8MRN) took part in The MARS Balloon project, a project run by young space engineers from Thales Alenia Space Agency. The aim was to plan an experiment that would test anything that humans or robots will be doing in Mars in the future. The boys decided to investigate the effects of growing plants in conditions similar to that found on Mars. They planted one piece of garlic into their capsule to send into Space and kept 2 controls down here on Earth for comparison later on.

On Sunday 26th October 2014, the capsule along with 99 other capsules from other schools was sent into Space via The Elysium balloon. Soon after the flight, the capsule was returned where we found that our plant had indeed grown. However, the results were not conclusive as one of the controls had grown a lot and one hadn't grown at all! So, try not to rely on the fact that we can grow garlic to the same degree in Space as we can on Earth just yet!

Further pictures and videos of the launch can be found on the website www.marsballoon.com

The view of the capsules at 31.24km above the Earth – look out for the Wellington merit sticker.

Miss Lee



S.A.S : Serious About Science!

Science club has been a resounding success this term, with many budding scientists attending weekly, to challenge and inspire their curiosity.

The engineers of the future made themselves known to the Science Department with some impressive spaghetti towers and applied their expertise building the marshmallow catapults. Earlier this year, during

Space Week we performed some tricky tasks to find out what it might be like to be an astronaut!

All were charged up by the Van der Graff generator with every club member receiving a sudden charge of static electricity, a truly hair raising activity!

Finally getting into the Christmas swing, members made their own



crackers with some awesome jokes then finishing of the term with munchies and prizes all round in the annual science club Christmas quiz.

We're looking forward to an even better 2015, keep up the good work science team and science club members. A final thank you to all of our 6th form helpers this year who have been great. We could not have done it without you!

Miss Vickers, Dr Lane, Mrs Casey and Mrs Cook



National Space week



October saw Years 7, 8 and 9 celebrating World Space week by becoming Aerospace engineers.

They designed, built and tested paper rockets and shock absorbing systems to land their rockets on Mars. Science club also got involved by getting the students to take part in a Space training programme, where they had to perform simple tasks that would be more difficult in Space. Overall, the Science department had some fantastic feedback from the students – lots of whom asked if we could do this every day! They all really enjoyed themselves which was evident from the countdowns and cheers echoing around the Science corridors. To infinity and beyond!

Miss Lee

Exams looming? No need to panic, just get to Science in Tutor Time!

On the week before the Christmas Mocks Mrs Hoogenberg and her team were extremely busy during tutor time. A key group of pupils were selected and focussed revision sessions were run during tutor time. The sessions focussed on specific key areas of the GCSE Additional Science Curriculum, pupils were struggling with. Feedback from the pupils was extremely positive, with some Year 11's requesting to have it every morning!

Some Key Tips to Science Success are:

Start Early and Remind yourself over and over

Mix It up .. use a range of activities

Work out "what could they ask me about this?"

Work out "what could they ask me about this?"

Be clear about what you are expected to know

Identify your strong and weak areas

A Huge Thank you to Miss Lee, Mr. Stanley, Mrs Brown and Mr. Williams for helping with the coordination of this little project!

Mrs Hoogenberg

Year 11 Finance event Thursday 18th December 2014

Oh what can we say, the atmosphere in Wellington is absolutely buzzing!

Despite Year 11 having had such a busy term (and will continue in the future), they have wholeheartedly embraced the Finance challenge set for them today. The day commenced with the pupils being bombarded with financial lingo in the hall, an eye opener for all to say the least. They then worked in tutor groups tackling a budgeting scenario (these included single parent, unemployed, university student, young professional and young family) which culminated with the groups presenting their budgeting ideas to the year group. Financial



education is at the forefront of many new government initiatives and we pride ourselves at Wellington on providing our pupils with the best. Christmas will be a well-earned break for Year 11 and hopefully they will return in January raring to go regarding the build up to their GCSE's (remember guys better qualifications equals better job opportunities equals easier financial situation in the future).

A huge thank you to the Year 11 tutor team who have been equally as fantastic helping run today's event. Here are a few quotes from the pupils about the event...

"I'm never having a kid. I didn't realise just how expensive they are"

"It's so hard being an adult"

"Oh my god, it's so hard being a single parent, I'm skint"

Merry Christmas from Mrs Taylor-Crooke and Mrs Mackay.



SIXTH FORM News

Sixth Form News

Well we can say one thing with certainty; it's never quiet in the Sixth Form! Here is an update of all the things we have been up to since September.

We welcomed our lovely shiny new Year 12s in September and soon whisked them off with the Year 13s to York University for the residential. There were activities in finance, studying and writing personal statements as well as experiencing campus life, speaking to students and teambuilding. We had a lovely meal together and then it was time to dance! The students had a great time and learnt a lot from the experience.

As always our Sixth Form are involved in supporting students lower down the school. We have a team who help after school in the LRC doing homework support and many more are undertaking mentoring with Year 7 and 9. It's a great experience for the younger pupils and the Sixth Formers really enjoy giving this support and sharing their tips on how to manage work and life in School. Well done to everyone who is involved.

Year 13 spent much of the Autumn Term in the throes of university applications and worked extremely hard to meet the deadline and impress. We're very proud that many of our students have already had offers of a place on a variety of degree courses and, in the last two weeks of term, we had students heading off for interviews at The University of Cambridge, The University of Glasgow's School of Medicine and The University of Manchester's School of Medicine. Another Year 13 student found himself in the privileged position of flying out to the USA during the Christmas holiday to visit 5 universities who have all offered him a Lacrosse Scholarship to pursue a degree in Forensic Psychology/Criminology. We were absolutely thrilled for him and we hope he had a wonderful time choosing his favourite! Year 12 students have also begun to think about their choices post-A Level. A series of 'Discover Days' were hosted by the University of Manchester in November and several of our Year 12s took the opportunity to spend a day at the university attending workshops and meeting with academic staff and current undergraduates. The Criminology and Engineering days were a definite favourite amongst Wellington's Year 12s. A huge thank you to all the tutors for writing the references and Mr Cropper for his endless checking and support in sending the applications off.





Not everyone applies to university, many of our Sixth Form apply for apprenticeships and have signed up for engineering, finance and media based courses. There are events to support students and get 'networking,' it really is a great way to earn and learn. Year 12 have been planning their Professional Work Placements, where they endeavour to get the experience many courses and employers demand in their chosen field, it is vital that this is completed so that they stand out in very competitive fields.

In October, we launched a 6 week Deaf Awareness and British Sign Language (BSL) Course involving 18 Sixth Formers and 12 staff. Our tutor from D.E.A.F (Deaf Education Advocacy Fellowship) and his interpreter did a wonderful job and everyone looked forward to their weekly lesson (hot drinks and chocolate biscuits a bonus!) By the end of the course we were all able to sign the alphabet, numbers to 20, greetings, where we live, how we travel to school, the languages we speak and we could hold basic conversations in pairs. Staff and students worked really well together. Our Year 12 and 13 students clearly enjoyed the experience of seeing their teachers as learners and sharing the learning journey with them. In the last lesson we received our certificates to rapturous applause (signed of course!) A huge 'well done' to everyone who took part.

Northumbria university visited us and ran a workshop for Year 12 to help with the transition from GCSE to AS. Independent study and self-directed study skills were discussed and tips on how to manage the workload and expectation given. It is a big step studying A-Levels and the information and varied solutions offered will help support the Year 12 students and be a point of reference as they progress through the year.

I hope everyone got a chance to see Oliver, our school production, in October. It was an excellent production. Our very own Renee Leech played Nancy beautifully, hardly a dry eye in the house when she sang 'As long as he needs me'; wonderful contribution Renee, well done or 'encore!'. But backstage it was all about the Sixth Form; it was fantastic to see the help and support offered by our students (painting sets, creating props, ticket sales, make-up, stage hands, lighting and sound). The production wouldn't have been possible without your help and support, well done!

On Monday, 10th November all Year 12 attended the Greater Manchester 'Safe Drive Stay Alive' event at The Middleton Arena. This project was launched by the emergency services in an effort to reduce the number of young people killed and seriously injured on our roads. Their aim was to raise road



safety awareness among young people and give them a hard-hitting insight into the dangers of driving. The performance lasted 90 minutes during which time the students watched a film which traced the events leading up to a crash and then followed the actions of the emergency services dealing with the incident. At appropriate moments the film stopped while police, ambulance, fire and rescue and accident and emergency staff spoke of their real life experiences at the scene of a collision. Volunteer members of the public also took to the stage to recount personal stories about how their lives had been affected by a fatal or serious collision. A sombre and thought provoking morning but extremely worthwhile and important for all young drivers. Year 12 were unanimous in their praise for the event.

Throughout last term there were lots of primary schools coming into Wellington and competing in 'Apprentice style' challenges. Lots of the Sixth Form helped run these and supported the pupils with their activities. Volunteering, supporting others and giving of their time freely has been a recurring theme within the Sixth Form this term and it really makes us proud that we have such a caring and sharing group of young adults setting a great example. Our Sixth Form ran the raffle at the school Christmas Fair and were key players in the running of the Year 7 Christmas disco, from decorations, games and being in charge of the music and some decorated the school Christmas tree. Amazing contributions, thank you and well done!

We have rewarded our lovely students, treating quite a few to breakfast for their contributions, effort and hard work, I have never seen a plate of bacon butties disappear so quickly! Staff across school are issuing reward points which we regularly tally up and see who our movers and shakers are! And of course we forward achievements on our twitter account @wellington6th, which is full of interesting information and advice, so get following!

On the last day of term we finished on a high with our 'Sixth Form Christmas Jumper Day'. Students and staff looked positively resplendent in their very fetching, festive woollens! Collection buckets were at the ready in tutor bases and we managed to raise a whopping £285 for 'Save The Children'. And, as an added incentive, this amount will be doubled by the Department for International Development (DFID) to £570. A brilliant effort by everyone and we thank all the students and their families for their generosity in supporting such a worthy charity. A big well done too to those of you who went the extra mile to wear some wacky and wonderful creations!

Is that everything? I'm bound to have left something out, but keep up the hard work Sixth Form.

Mr Cropper, Miss Grey and Mrs Wilson



Year 7 Christmas Disco

With the theme of fancy dress or wear a crazy Christmas jumper, Year 7's threw themselves in to a great night of crazy dancing, games and treats.

The 6th form helpers worked every lunchtime before the disco to produce some beautiful 'Christmassy' works of art to decorate the hall and designed some interesting side stall games to entertain too. Even Mr Travis and Mrs Haley took part and came dressed as Wellington pupils alongside Miss Weeks & Miss McShane in their penguin outfits! There were prizes for best fancy dress outfit & Christmas jumper and they went to Abigail Coleman who wore a fantastic elf outfit and Ethan Coffin for a home-made jumper with lights!

A fun night was had by all!

Following the disco, it was decided by Year 7 pupils that the money raised at the games and tuck shop which was a fantastic £112, went to a Children's Cancer & Leukaemia Charity. A huge thank you to all!

Mrs Haley



Year 7 Bonding Day - September

Our shiny, brand new Year 7's had a fabulous day with the Challenge 4 Change team.

As part of the Year 7 bonding day students (and staff!) participated in a range of team building challenges. Part of the day included a visit to a purpose built "inward" bound centre in Trafford Park that housed an indoor ground and aerial assault course. Armed with harnesses, helmets and guide ropes the students tackled a variety of exciting (and extremely high) physical and mental challenges. The remainder of the day included further activities back at Wellington inside the Watson Hall and on the new AstroTurf.

We think it's fair to say that the Year 7 students had a memorable experience and it was a delight to see that 100% of students acknowledged that they had met and spoken to a new person within the Year Group. A great day and a really positive start for Year 7.

Mr Travis and Mrs Haley

Christmas Fair Project

During the Autumn Term all Year 7 students were involved in a Christmas Fair project.

The aim of the project was to plan and run a profitable stall at the school's Christmas Fair. Tutor groups were split into teams of four or five and students were given time to work on a 'pitch' to win their tutor groups nomination. In addition they were given lessons on how to work together as a team, how to cost the project and how to present their 'pitch'. The winning team from each tutor group presented to a Dragon's Den style panel, consisting of governors, local business people and Mr Beeley. The panel were 'blown away' by the standard of work and had a hard time in selecting the winners. Eventually they chose 7LML and 7ZSE. A couple of days before the Christmas Fair the teams, with the help of Mrs Ryan, produced their products ready for sale. On the day they worked incredibly hard to sell the products, both stalls sold out and made a profit. The profit of £170 was donated to Cancer Research.

Mr Fenwick

Year 8 News

Year 8's motto for this academic year is 'Don't Count the Days, Make the Days Count'.

Therefore the ever-enthusiastic pupils have taken on a range of responsibilities across the School site; from helping to give out mobile phones at the end of the school day and cleaning up litter, to selling car air fresheners for 'Faye's Wish'. Year 8s efforts have been duly noted by a range of staff, in particular Mrs Ware in the LRC, who described some members of CCE as a 'delight'!

The 'Five R' Challenges are going as strong as ever; last half term, tutor groups had to design quizzes for each other with Mr Manifold, our Year Group's new Pastoral Manager, selecting the winner. After much deliberation, Mr Manifold selected ETR. For last Autumn half term's Five R Challenge, each tutor group was asked to design a Christmas Card for Mr Beeley. I was fortunate enough to have a sneaky peak at the designs and we have some very talented and creative artists in the year group! Mr Beeley's choice of the winning design was KJS, so congratulations to Mrs Jones' tutor group!

Finally a massive well done to any pupil who was nominated for 'tutee of the week' this term. On a fortnightly basis each Year 8 tutor selects a tutee that has stood out to them for whatever reason. Each pupil receives a praise postcard home and gets entered into the 'What's in the Box?' prize draw. The selected pupil can choose from one of three boxes to receive a prize. Prizes have ranged from vouchers to a tin of beans!!

Well done Year 8 for the hard work that you have put into this term!

Miss Tidbury



Year 9 News

Year 9 have had a fantastic term. The Year Group have settled well into the final year of Key Stage 3 and are working hard to prepare for the start of their GCSEs. We have had a big focus on celebrating successes, of which there have been many!

Students who meet all of Wellington's high expectations are awarded 'Superhero' awards each half term. In order to reach the status of 'Superhero' students must have 100% attendance, zero lates, no negative referrals and points on the new Behaviour watch system. Over 70 students have achieved these awards over the past 2 half terms, with an elite 12 pupils who have been Superheroes over both half terms, which is exceptional, and shows it can be done!

We have also been celebrating through 'stars of the week' as nominated by each form tutor; advent calendar treats for our well behaved students throughout December; reward breakfasts for our highest attending forms; Trafford Centre vouchers for attendance, punctuality and good behaviour; Reward assemblies; Christmas film day for the majority of the well behaved students in the Year Group; and a reward party for LSS who won 'form of the term'!

We have started our Year Group interform competitions, with the interform Christmas quiz which was won by JEH. This term the tutor groups will be competing in the spelling bee and poetry competition.

There have been numerous opportunities for our pupils to get involved in additional activities such as trips out to an Enterprise Masterclass; a trip out to a 'Let's Talk' conference; the start of our Mock trial team; Duke of Edinburgh award and students have entered a national cookery competition plus a whole host of other department based initiatives!

To further support academic progress within the Year Group we have been working closely with the Sixth Form team to set up our 'Aspiration Programme'. 40 pupils have been working with Sixth Form mentors during tutor time to further develop their writing skills, careers knowledge and attendance. This has been so successful this term we will be continuing it into next term and setting up additional sessions for pupils after school.

Looking forward, we have another busy term ahead, with options choices looming! To support pupils in making their options they are listening to talks from all of the Heads of Departments over the next weeks and we also have two university visits out and guest speakers coming into School to deliver talks to the Year Group around options.

We look forward to another fantastic term, well done Year 9!

Miss Hodges



Year 10 News

Year 10 have made a fantastic start to their GCSE courses this term.

Following conversations with teaching staff, I was delighted to hear the many

positive comments about the progress students have been making. Attendance for School has been brilliant across the board, which shows how committed many of our Year 10 pupils are in making the most of their time at Wellington.

All of Year 10 have been spending some of their time during tutor time to revise, particularly for Core Science and PE, which they will be examined on in May. This revision paid off for many pupils when mock exams were completed in December. I have had reports that many pupils did fantastically well and this bodes very well for the future.

On top of all the hard work, some pupils have also started to have meetings with the school Connexions advisor to discuss their options for life after Year 11 in 2016.

I have no doubt that Year 10 will work as hard as ever in the Spring term and meet the high expectations we have of them. I'm extremely proud of all of them!

Mr Williams

Director of Year 10



Year 11 News

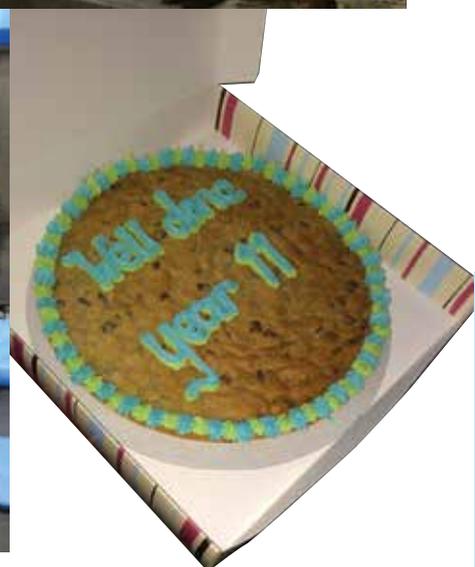
The maturity of my Year Group always makes me smile.

They have been serious about making improvements in their grades all the way throughout this year. The pace of this year is now reaching “fever pitch” and the energy and enthusiasm they continue to show is inspirational. We have been through a lot already this year - mock exams, subject support mornings, subject support evenings, study skills support, mentor meetings, science mornings, revision advice, subject support meetings, progress meetings - the list is endless. But through it all Year 11 have kept calm and continued to show they care.

We finished before Christmas with a trip to Jump Nation for the top 50 students according to the progress they had made towards their target grades and a reward assembly to finish the term on. We have also had a group of students that visited Oxford University to explore certain pathways into studying there.

May I thank our teachers and parents for the unfaltering support they will give our students in the build up to the Summer examinations.

Mr Tomlinson



SCHOOL COUNCIL News

School Council

A busy year for School Council has started with the appointment of this year's Executive Committee. Liaison Officers for all Year Groups have been appointed under the guardianship of School Council President Sam Blackburn, Chairperson Georgia Jackson and Secretary Jordan Guy - all from Year 10.

Setting priorities for this year has been a key topic of meetings so far. Tutor reps have brought ideas to the meetings on how aspects of school life may be improved and already this year our School Council has had a positive impact on the wider community.

In November, eight students from Years 7 & 8 took part in the Children's Commissioner's Take-Over Day at the offices of Trafford Housing Trust. Against stiff competition from other schools in Trafford, our students were successful in designing a project which would help vulnerable people in the borough. They pitched the idea of a soup-kitchen and were awarded a grant of £150 for producing the best plan. The Council representatives who organised the bid will be working with THT again in the new year.

The School Council has been pivotal in the organisation of our new reward system and at their suggestion over 80 students were lucky enough to receive a Domino's pizza delivery back in October. More recently, almost all students in years 7-11 took part in a year group Christmas celebration. Everyone

who took part has the School Council to thank for their ideas which included rewards for progress as varied as vouchers for the Trafford Centre and boxes of Christmas crackers!

Finally, perhaps the most pleasing aspect of School Council this year has been the large attendances at meetings. All members of the Wellington community are entitled to attend meetings and with over 50 students contributing to the last meeting, we may have to find a bigger venue!

Mr Holt
Assistant Headteacher



Key 103 Media Bus/ Apprenticeships

Wednesday 5th November 2014

Recent changes in government legislation means that school leavers now have to be in “some form of education” until they are 17. This can be school, college or an apprenticeship.

In 2013 to help with the raising of participation age, Careers Solutions launched the early application and offer process for young people aged 16-24.

We were very fortunate, once again, to be able to arrange for the Key 103 media bus to visit Wellington to guide interested students through this process.

Students from Years 11, 12 and 13 were given the opportunity to receive information and guidance on this system and they were able to complete application forms, so that their details could be submitted to employers with a view to being offered an apprenticeship.

The Key 103 providers were able to draw on their own experiences of employing apprentices and the students found this extremely interesting. They also dealt with the myth of how apprenticeships were historically only aimed at less academic students compared to now, where they require good standard qualifications. The numerous apprenticeship courses were identified and students were surprised that areas such as accountancy, law, engineering plus many others are available to study.

The students who attended found the event extremely useful and some plus staff even took part in a video interview arranged by key 103. This can be viewed on “twitter.com/frompaul.

Mrs Mackay

Spring/ Summer Term 2015

Careers events in the spring/summer term:

Wednesday 4th March Skills North West Careers Event.
Years 10 and 12 students.
Event City Manchester.

Monday 8th June – Friday 12th June Year 12 Professional Work Placements.

Thursday 18th June Year 10 Practice Interviews.

Thursday 9th July Year 8 “Dragon’s Den”.

Monday 13th July Year 10 Enterprise Challenge.

Wednesday 15th July Year 10 Armed Forces Event.

Connexions adviser John Plaiter will continue to interview years 10,11, 12 and 13 students. (3 Days per week).

Year 11 Careers Fair and Workshops

Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th October 2014

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

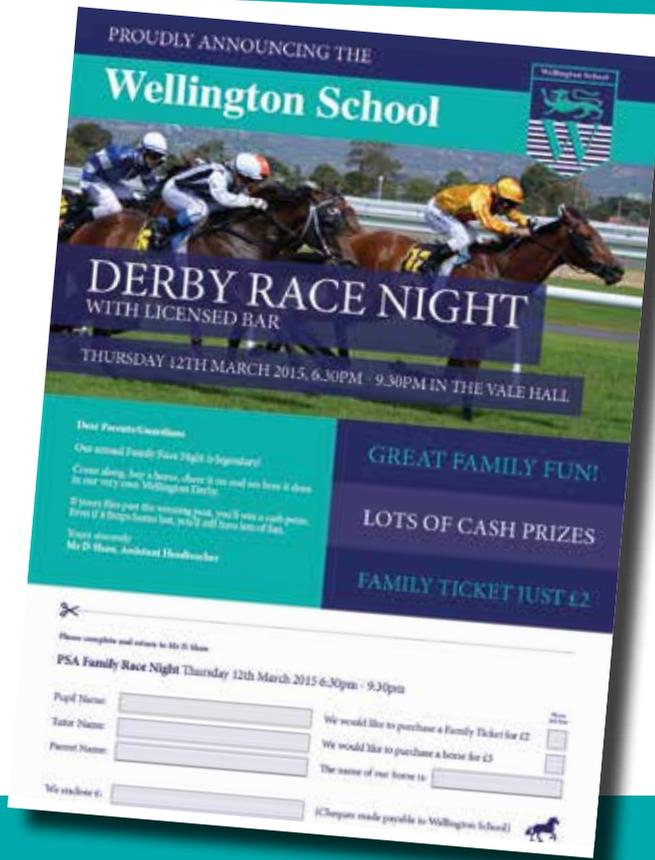


Parent Staff Association

The PSA raise money to buy items, not covered by the official School Budget, that will enhance the education of our pupils. Over the last few years, the PSA have donated money to purchase sports' kits, minibuses and fixed seating around the School site.

This academic year, the PSA have raised over £2,500 and we are aiming to boost this amount at our Race Night on 12th March – watch out for details coming home soon!

The next meeting of the PSA will be held in the LRC on Monday 2nd March at 7.00pm and all parents are invited to attend.



Dates for your diary for the Spring Term:

Thursday 29th January
Year 10 Parents Evening

Tuesday 3rd February
Year 9 Parents Evening

Tuesday 10th February
Year 8 Parents Evening

Friday 13th February
School closes for half term

Monday 23rd February
School re-opens

Thursday 26th February
Year 7 Parents Evening

Friday 27th February
Sponsored Walk

Thursday 12th March
PSA Race Night

Thursday 2nd April
Year 11 GCSE Preparation
Evening and School closes for
Easter

Monday 20th April
School re-opens for Summer
Term. This will be Week B.

PRIMARY News

Primary School Quiz

In the closest finish ever, Stamford Park pipped Willows by 2 points to take the Wellington School Primary School quiz for a record fourth time.

Last year's winners, Park Road, were unable to hold off the challenge with Stamford Park achieving 100% scores in the first four rounds.

Navigation and Heyes Lane finished equal third, 4 points behind the victorious Stamford Park team.

Mr Shaw



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