

# Wellington School

11-18 School



## Excellence in Everything

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Summer Term Newsletter  
May 2013

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## Welcome

**Welcome to the Summer Term Newsletter which acknowledges and celebrates some of the wonderful events and activities that have taken place at Wellington during the Spring Term of 2013.**



It may only have been a 10 week term but, my goodness, staff and students at Wellington crammed in a huge amount as one would expect. In many ways these opening lines are somewhat redundant now with the advent of my weekly bulletin on the School's website. I would encourage you to have a read each week as this is the most current account of life at School. So far, I have reported on topics such as school trips, examination preparation, sporting achievements, musical performances, developments in teaching, staffing and even life in the Beeley household. For the School to continue to develop and build on its success, the involvement of parents is a must, and this is one means by which we can improve that engagement.

I mentioned staffing earlier so a quick update. Congratulations to Mrs Moorhouse on the birth of Nel in February, Mrs Tasker has received some beautiful photos and by all accounts mother and baby are doing fine. Miss Wetherby has settled in well as her replacement. Mrs Johnson assumes control of the Music Department once again in the absence of Mrs Moorhouse. Mrs Cook has now begun her maternity leave and I am delighted to announce the safe arrival of her

baby daughter, Evelyn Anne. Congratulations to all. Miss Keighley, as Mrs Cook's replacement has also very quickly become 'Wellington'. Mr Davies, DT Technician, retired at Easter after 13 years service to the School (in addition to his time here as a student). He will doubtless return shortly to patrol the aisles as an exam invigilator but we trust he is enjoying a well-earned rest in his retirement. Mrs Doherty, Science Technician, also left us a few weeks ago to return to her previous career in engineering. Both colleagues will be replaced forthwith. Mr Pinkerton, Pastoral Manager for Year 10, will be settled in Cornwall and in a new job by the time this newsletter goes to print. Mr Pinkerton has been hugely popular with staff, students and parents alike and his contribution to the development of the Year Group has been considerable. No amount of cajoling or emotional blackmail could persuade him to stay. Not even my accusation that he was in effect abandoning his football team on the eve of two finals. I'm sure the Year 10 boys will go on to win those two games as a tribute to Mr Pinkerton. The introduction of the Pastoral Managers was one of the many impactful changes to the School in recent times. We receive regular 'commendations' for their work and there have been a number for Mr Pinkerton since news of his departure was announced and I am proud to say these are indicative of remarks that we often receive about staff. Mr Pinkerton will be replaced by Mr Manifold. This is the 'recruitment season' and I have to say I am delighted with our new appointments thus far, more on that in the Autumn Term newsletter.

Whilst on the subject of Awards Evening, I hope you will all endeavour to attend. We have tweaked the format this year with a slightly earlier start, more musical items and a wider selection of awards. I am also pleased to announce that Rachel Burden, presenter of Radio 5 Live's breakfast show will be our Guest Speaker at the Bridgewater Hall on 2nd July.

I pen these words at the beginning of what we know is going to be another hectic but fruitful and rewarding term; Sports Day, Open

Morning, New Pupil Day, meetings for the parents of new students, primary school visits, sports fixtures, Awards Evening, reward trips, internal exams, report writing, refurbishment of two Science Labs and work on the all-weather pitch etc. etc. I can guarantee that standards of teaching and care for students will be as high as ever amidst all this activity. Of course, I didn't mention the small matter of GCSEs and AS / A Levels. 'Education' encompasses all manner of things which we strive to instil in our youngsters but we cannot deny the importance of those bits of paper we hand out in August. These examinations are the building blocks, the foundations of our students' futures. It is a tough time for them, parents and teachers alike but if we all do 'our bit' then I have every confidence that these words from the letter of David Laws MP, Minister of State for Schools '... you are amongst the 100 top performing schools' and 'Your school is exceptionally effective in educating its students' will be repeated in 2013. Predictions are looking good and bar the unforeseen vagaries of examination board practice that blighted some schools' results last year, I have every reason to believe it will be another excellent year for Wellington. Good luck to all our students and their parents this summer.

As we enter the final term of the academic year and approach the end of my first year 'at the helm', I can honestly say my enthusiasm for the role of Headteacher, my pride in the staff and students of Wellington School and my relentless pursuit of excellence have not diminished in the slightest. Quite the opposite. The challenge of creating an even better environment for our students motivates me and becomes more enjoyable each day. I thank you all for your ongoing support in this.

Anyway, that's quite enough from me. Enjoy the Newsletter, keep up to date via the website, don't hesitate to contact the School to discuss any of the matters raised and, above all, have a great Summer Term and holiday when it comes around.

**S P Beeley, Headteacher**



This year's Sponsored Walk took place on Wednesday 13th March and, although a little chilly, thankfully it stayed dry for the day. This year's charity is the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital (the School's first-ever charity of choice back in 1995 when the Walks began). A huge thank you to Patrick Vieira, a genuinely nice bloke, for taking time out of his busy schedule to fire the starting pistol. I would also like to thank all our students, parents, families and friends who have contributed to another phenomenal total. At the time of writing, we have raised just under £30,000 but I am sure we can squeeze out a little more before we present the cheque at Awards Evening on Tuesday 2nd July.

## 7.1B 'Incy Books'

To celebrate World Book day, 7.1B created some 'Incy Books' made from matchboxes.

Students were asked to create a story to accompany a well know famous painting. Such works included Van Gogh's 'Potato Eaters,' L.S Lowry's 'On the Promenade' and Edward Hopper's 'Chop Suey.' As well as this, Miss Grey painted some amazing portraits of the art department staff in the style of Julian Opie to show off our favourite books.



We loved World Book day!!



## Oh Mag Got!

8.0 have been producing some detailed studies of creepy crawlies.



They have also been studying the work of Eric Carle and the Hungry Caterpillar and are now working to simplify their insects and make them look friendlier.

Students spent two lessons producing a range of surface textures on paper ready to use for their Eric Carle inspired bugs.



## Banksy

Well done to the dedicated Banksy club crew!

Finally the graffiti wall is complete and doesn't it look "siiiiick?" (Apparently this means good)

Well done to all who gave up their lunch times to attend!

Mrs Kearney



## Printing has been popular

Year 9 have worked hard to produce 3 colour lino prints this term.

9.4 explored sealife and then created seagull illustrations which have now flown their way over to the LRC where they are on display for all to see!

9.7 have created Charles Rennie Mackintosh designs that show insect forms, colours and shapes.

Well done and you kept your fingers intact!!

Miss Grey and Mrs Kearney



## African Masks

8.3B have been studying African Culture this term.

The students worked together in pairs throughout the whole design stage and planned exactly how their mask would look.

The masks were made using cardboard and mod roc before finally being decorated in fantastic bright African patterns.

They definitely brighten up Room 14!

Mrs Kearney



## Betty Pepper Club

Year 10 GCSE students have been creating new art from old books that Mrs Moorhouse was throwing out.

Each page has been cut out or cut up, ripped, torn or folded but I hope you agree the results are well worth it.

Well done girls, these really are masterpieces!

Mrs Kearney



## Great GCSE



Wow! Take a look at the work by Year 11 for their GCSE coursework.

It really is a treat and I'm really proud of the way they have created their masterpieces looking at a range of artists and trying lots of different techniques.



I can't wait to see how they get on in the art exam, good luck!

Miss Grey



## Koinobori

Mrs Kearney's 9.2/9.3 & 9.9 groups learned about the Japanese festival 'Tango no Sekku' which is a traditional event to celebrate Children's day.

Across Japan, landscapes are decorated with Koinobori (carp streamers) hoping that their children will grow up healthy and strong.

Year 9 students created these carp streamers taking inspiration from Vincent Scarpace and exploring colour mixing and complementary colours.



## 10B's Dazzling Drawings

Year 10s have made a fantastic start on their second GCSE project.

These are their initial drawing sheets and I am delighted with the range of images, materials and techniques shown.



The class are currently working on designing their final pieces so keep a look out for the outcomes in the next newsletter.

Well done 10B.

Mrs Kearney



## 8.4B go Totem-tastic!

8.4B have worked really hard this year creating beautiful work inspired by the Native American Indians.

As a group they created parts which when joined together created these tremendous towering totems.

The group also made their own artefacts and they were displayed in a . . . tepee of course!

The highlight of the project was having a work-sharing event where the students spoke to invited staff, tutors and SLT about their work and showed off their exhibited work ... there was also a cake and biscuit or two consumed!

Well done for a wonderful project 8.4B.

Pocahontas Grey



## 11B External Exam

11B have made a super start on their external exam.

Each student has responded to the set themes in their own unique way and they have been busy attending Easter School and extra sessions to complete work.



Keep up the good work 11B.

Mrs Kearney



## Year 12

From the results below, it is clear to see just how much Year 12 artists have been experimenting with materials, artists and concepts whilst honing their drawing and painting skills.

Subject matter is of course varied and the outcomes are further testament to the creative talent that we have in Year 12.

Keep up the good work everyone!

Miss Grey & Mrs Kearney

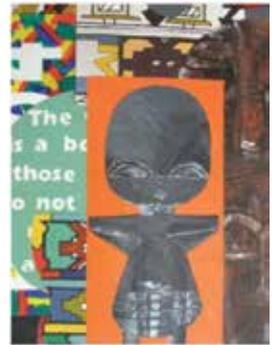


## Year 13

Well it's nearly the end of the road for the Year 13 Art students, so whilst they are finishing their examination work, take a look at the beautiful course work they have produced.

A wonderful selection of skills and talent, well done to everyone in the group and a special well done to Ellie Jones for gaining her place to study Graphic design at Degree level.

Miss Grey



## Year 12 Final Pieces

Wow! What fantastic final outcomes the Year 12 students have produced.

These projects began with handmade sketchbooks and throughout the year students have explored a range of experimentation techniques while studying a range of contemporary artists.

I'm really impressed with how imaginative and creative all their final pieces are. Well done Year 12.

Mrs Kearney



## Tag Teachers

What do you get if all the staff of Wellington choose their favourite art and design? ... A truly terrific display that's what!!!

Staff have selected architecture from the Art Deco Hoover building to ultra sleek and modern Burj Al Arab in Dubai.

Painting choices include Picasso, Impressionists, Hopper and Renaissance masters. Whilst a yacht, lemon squeezer and radio are seen as design 'must sees' for some staff.

So where can you see this work exhibited? ... On an Art corridor near you!

Thanks to all the staff who took part.

Miss Grey



## Holocaust work

The History department organised a very special and interesting speaker for Year 9 from the Holocaust Educational Trust.



The Art department used this experience to encourage students to create collage works that reflected the stories they had heard, the emotions evoked and to tell the world why it shouldn't happen again.

The pieces created were beautiful and creative with the students selecting powerful imagery and text to depict their responses. Mrs Kearney's Year 9s created a concertina book of their responses and this is now displayed in the LRC.

Well done Year 9. Miss Grey and Mrs Kearney



## People's Paintings

Recently all works of art across the nation's public buildings have become available to view on line on [yourpaintings.com](http://yourpaintings.com). So from Altrincham to Yarmouth all the art can be seen and enjoyed!



Students in the Lower School have been selecting their favourites and drawing them, here are two to enjoy, but Mr Beeley will be selecting his favourites for a small prize.

Well done everyone for sharing your favourites with the department.



Miss Grey

## Superb Sculptures

Let me show you our lovely sculptures!

Year 11 have been trying to show lots of different styles of work and themes in these particular pieces - I do like the apple sculpture. It reminds me of Claes Oldenburg's work, but this has cleverly been sculpted in paper. And the budda does bring a touch of Zen to the department!

Miss Grey

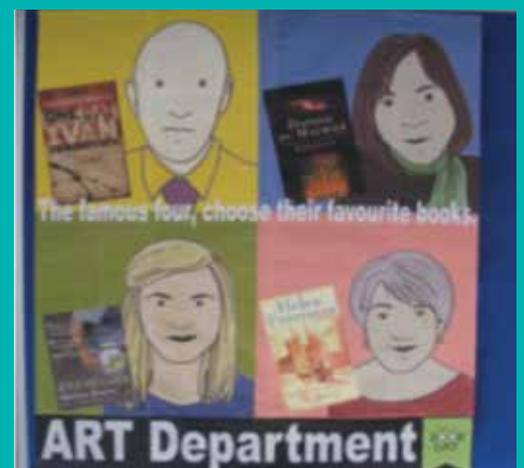


## The Famous Four

Always keen to support school events, the Art department staff kindly modelled to have themselves epitomised in the style of artist Julian Opie in a poster for the English Department's World Book Day Extravaganza.

We can be seen on the corridor brandishing our favourite reads!

Miss Grey



## A Level

### Food

Students studying AS Level Food have been working hard to produce an array of tantalising dishes. They have used a variety of design briefs the most popular being to produce a snack/meal to help prevent obesity in teenagers.

Students have produced detailed research looking at existing products as well as conducting interviews and questionnaires. They then produced some initial ideas before conducting a number of experiments to develop their chosen product.

All students have worked well this year and should be pleased with their achievements.

Well done Year 12.

Miss Ryan



### Product Design

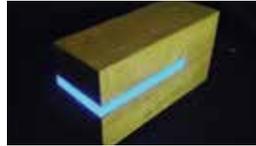
AS Level students in Product Design have been working on a brief to design a contemporary lighting system for a youthful target market.

Using the design movement 'Bauhaus' as their influence, they have created some modern and unique designs. The designs shown have been skilfully manufactured in the workshops by Alex Ashton and George Marshall. As you can see some exceptional designs created as part of their Unit 2 Controlled Assessments.

Meanwhile Year 13 students have been busy on a variety of different projects as part of their Unit 4 Controlled Assessment. Designs based on storage for children, seating systems to aid the elderly, stop animation kits, and a clock inspired by the Lamborghini Reventon.

Well done; a fantastic year's work from both groups of students, and good luck to all the Year 13s next year.

Mr Fletcher and Mr Travis



### Textiles

Year 12 students have been demonstrating their creativity and flair by creating unique garments for an identified client; these have ranged from high street stores to 'pop' icons.

The final outcomes are testament to their talent, hard work and efforts.

Some inspired and distinctive work from the Year 12 fashionistas. Well done!

Mrs Booth & Miss Hudson



## GCSE Product Design



Year 11 students have been working hard creating some modern and unique bird house designs. Students were given the task to use the design movement 'Bauhaus' as influence for their own concepts.

Developing their designs using 3D computer modelling the students have also spent many hours bringing their designs to life in the workshops and I'm sure you will agree it has definitely paid off.

Mr Fletcher

Year 11 students have also studied the Memphis design movement to create a new range of original interior products for conscious consumers.

The students identified their client and target market and developed products to meet their needs. All work has been presented in a professional design portfolio.

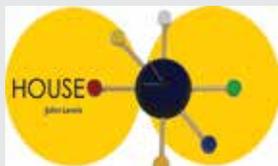
The final outcomes have included storage units, clocks and lighting.

The work is very impressive and made to a professional and commercial standard, I'm sure you will agree!

Overall, some inspired and distinctive

design work from Year 11. Well done!

Mrs Booth



## Graphics

The Year 11 GCSE Graphic Products students have recently completed their controlled assessment work. Well done to all students who have produced some excellent solutions.

The examples here show designs for a new confectionery line of products including the confectionery item itself and point of sale displays to hold and promote the product. All work including the graphics and construction of the final nets have been done from scratch – no copy and pasting from the internet here!

Mr Travis



## Textiles

### Year 10 show their creativity & teamwork



Year 10 students have worked in groups of four to produce an innovative shirt meeting a specific brief.

The briefs to choose from were Children's TV presenter, Vintage & High Fashion.

The students identified their client and target market and developed a shirt design to reflect their needs and their research. Students have evidenced their group work and creativity in an on-going PowerPoint, which will be presented to the Senior Leadership Team who will act as Buyers.



The shirts have been created using a number of decorative techniques such as resist print, appliqué & fabric manipulation techniques.

The project is still on-going but their teamwork is very impressive and the outcomes are very original. Excellent work Year 10, well done!

Miss Hudson

### Year 9 Go Ski Crazy

Year 9 students have created a range of 'novelty' ski hat designs aimed at young people aged 11- 18 years old.

Students chose their own themes such as Winnie the Pooh, SpongeBob, Homer Simpson and many more...

The hats have been created using a number of decorative techniques such as hand and machine embroidery and appliqué.

I'm sure you will agree the 'hats' are extremely original and would not be out of place on any ski slope.

Well done to all those students involved.

Mrs. Booth



## Food

Recently in Food Technology we have been studying different types of Special Dietary needs.



This could be anything from eating a low fat diet or being diabetic. During the course of this project we researched different diets in order to get a better understanding. We then chose what diet we wanted to study for the course of the project. We completed a practice piece of coursework, which would provide us with the skills for the course work in Year 11.

However, it wasn't just written work, we also researched, designed and made products which would be suitable for the diet we had decided to study. Finally, after cooking our final design for the second time we invited teachers to come and see and taste what we had been doing over the course of the project. They tried the food and asked us questions about why we had chosen to cook this product and how it was suitable for the diet we had chosen.

Overall it was a very enjoyable project and everybody enjoyed the food tasting session.

Ellie Leahy- Year 10 Food Technology



## GCSE Textile technology



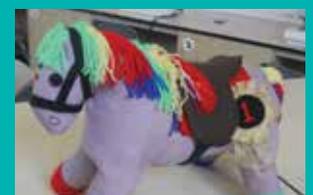
Year 11 students have produced textile products that reflect a specific brief and that have a particular function.

The briefs were 'The Swinging Sixties', 'The age of Punk' & 'Educational Children's Toy'. The students have identified a target audience & client so all textile products have been developed to meet their needs.

The final outcomes include a toy horse, Sixties and Punk themed studded and beaded bags, animal play cubes & 3-dimensional play books.

The students have shown real dedication resulting in fabulous work, which has been completed to a very high commercial standard.

Miss Hudson



## 'Inspire an Author' Competition!

Just a quick update for you...

You'll remember in the last newsletter that Year 7 and 8 had entered a competition to design a front cover and blurb for a new book by their favourite authors, including Anthony Horowitz and David Walliams. At the time we were waiting to see what they thought but worrying that they would be a little too busy to reply. However, our fears were unfounded and we received some phenomenal feedback as you can see pictured here. David Walliams wrote to all of the students that entered and Anthony Horowitz acknowledged the efforts of individual students including Jack Povah for 'Jungle Nightmare'; Morgan Rogerson for 'The Great Escape' and Ben Redman for 'Hunter's Blood'.

Both writers also highlighted the importance of reading – a message that really hit home with the students!

Well done to all involved!

Miss Hitchens



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

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

Miss Hitchens

## Revision Workshop



On Friday 19th April, the English department organised a revision event in the Vale Hall.

Ninety students took part in six different activities. All the tasks focused on improving exam answers and perfecting independent revision techniques.

The students left the morning with lots of resources to help them to tackle their revision and the English exam in June.

Miss Dascombe



## Aspiring to Success! A\* English GCSE Event

Miss Hitchens, Mrs Rainford and Miss Dascombe took 46 Y11 students aiming for an A\* in GCSE English Language to The University of Manchester to hone their skills.

Students focused on creating perceptive and analytical responses to the reading questions in the exam throughout the morning. As a reward for all of their hard work, we went for lunch at TGI Fridays – hopefully the food gave the students the energy they needed for more revision that evening!

Good luck in your GCSEs Y11.

Miss Hitchens

## World Book Day 2013

On Thursday 7th March, Wellington celebrated World Book Day with a number of events.

Firstly, Mrs Roe-Bennett organised her famous character hunt where Year 7 students had to find staff wearing name badges then research which novel the character appeared in. Thankfully, the English department gave Year 7 a helping-hand by dressing-up in costume! Congratulations to Samuel Pavey and Lola Charvin who were the winners and won chocolate and a Waterstones goodie-bag!



At lunch time, Mrs Ware hosted the World Book Day Quiz where students had to guess which books belonged to which teacher. Well done to



Luke Brennan and James Memory who got the most answers right! Meanwhile, the English department were selling £1 World Book Day books amongst other popular fiction books to the students. A massive 'Thank You' to Waterstones for the stock and for allowing students to use the World Book Day vouchers towards all the books available.

In tutor time, students listened to audio books and designed a variety of bookmarks. Each tutor group had a winner and their bookmark was reproduced for ten of their friends!

In lessons, the English department asked Year 10 and Year 12 to design 'Reading Recommendation' posters to go around the School promoting reading with some fantastic results. Furthermore, all KS3 classes produced mini-books which included alternative plots and ideas for some current fiction titles. You can see 7.5A's marvellous efforts being shown-off here!



Notable mention goes to the Art department too: they produced a fantastic departmental poster which recommended their favourite books while many classes produced beautifully decorated tiny stories!

Miss Hitchens

## Accelerated Reader Hits Fifth Gear!

We now have nine 'Millionaires' in Year 7 thanks to Accelerated Reader!

To become a 'Millionaire', you must read a million or more words and answer an Accelerated Reader quiz on each book with at least 85% accuracy for those words to count!

A massive 'Well Done' to Caitlyn Byrne, Sam Pavey, Shane O'Connor, Ben Hayes, Aaron Mellish, Jess Chappell, Beth Clapham, Mason Hughes and Charlotte Pilcher!

Miss Hitchens



## Circus

In English, Miss Eggleton's class 7.3A have been reading Darren Shan's *Cirque Du Freak*.

As part of their independent homework project 7.3A each designed and made their own circus.

As you can see their work is magnificent! Several teachers popped in to our lesson to admire the outstanding work, which was a real celebration of what you can achieve with a little bit of resilience and resourcefulness. Well done Year 7!

Miss Eggleton





## Globetrotters – Flat Stanley News!

Globetrotters recently received a large envelope, with exotic and unusual stamps, addressed to the Geography Department at Wellington School. We were very curious to open the envelope and find out what it contained.

Inside were 6 ‘Flat Stanleys’ from, quite literally, the other side of the world! Marian Catholic High School in Hamilton, North Island, New Zealand, had sent us some fantastic ‘Flat Stanleys’ modelled on themselves and characters from books; we even had a Kiwi Hermione Granger!!

The students at Marion Catholic High School had also made leaflets about themselves, their families, favourite hobbies, likes and dislikes; they had even sent recipes for their favourite foods.... Kiwi style of course!

Maybe we should send some recipes with ours (‘Flat Stanleys’) of Manchester tart and Chorley cakes? What do you think?

If you would like to take part come along Monday lunchtime to room 51!

Mrs Milligan



## Year 7 Geography Trip to Blue Planet Aquarium

The Geography department took approx 90 students on a day out to Blue Planet Aquarium.

The purpose of the visit was to find out how different types of marine life adapt to their environments and was directly related to the module on ecosystems that they were studying in class.

The students had the opportunity to touch and stroke the sting rays, watch them being fed and also got to be within inches of a shark as they walked through the aqua tunnel. They also watched a diver climb into the tank with the sharks and fish and then feed them.

Later on the classroom session consolidated the information they had learnt as they walked around the aquarium. They got to learn how certain fish camouflage themselves to avoid being eaten by other animals and how some fish are very thin to avoid being seen as they approach their prey.

The students really enjoyed the trip and luckily no one was eaten by the sharks!!!!

Mrs Harte



## Year 12 Blencathra Fieldwork March 2013

In March Mr Whitaker and Mrs Harte took 17 Year 12 students to FSC Blencathra in Cumbria.

The aim of the visit was to study rivers and glaciation as part of their AS Level course. The weather was fantastic with 4 days of blue skies and warm(ish) temperatures. Blencathra is a fully equipped field studies centre near Keswick in the heart of the Lake District National Park, and during the evening students analysed the data they had collected in the day to reach conclusions which could then be applied to their studies.

Most memorable part was the weather and the food!!

Mr Whitaker



## 8.5A has the X Factor!

In Geography this term we have been learning about migration from Mexico to the USA.

We learnt about how people used to disguise themselves as chairs to get through the border and also how some people just walked under the wall. Our favourite part was when we watched a video and got to sing a song about Mexicans crossing the border.

The boys formed a group (rumour has it they even rehearsed at break time), Connor made friends with a silver glittery microphone, Gestin practised his robot dance and Etienne and Matt re-adjusted their hair...

At the end of the lesson the group performed their version of the song to Miss English, Mrs Long, the rest of the class and a special guest Mr Webb. We only wish you could all see it....

Daisy McDowell and Will Johnson

8.5A

Miss English challenged 8.1B to the same Karaoke test... Who will Simon Cowell sign first?



## Biome in a box...

Miss English asked us to do a homework this term which was quite fun, we had to chose an example of a biome we had studied (Antarctica, Tropical Rainforest, the Desert or the Coral Reef) and create a project around a box.

A lot of us chose Antarctica because of all the animals that live there, we enjoyed the topic so much that most of us stayed up to watch the BBC documentary about penguins at home.

Some of the projects were so good that Mr Beeley put some of us on his scroll of honour.

We really enjoyed learning about different ecosystems such as Antarctica, the Amazon and the Sahara because a lot of us have never been to these places and this project allowed us to do some of our own research and find interesting facts.

Did you know Antarctica is sometimes as cold as -89? We think we would need to buy lots more jumpers to go there.

Megan Browne and Amelia Liston 7.3B



## Tree of Progress

**Emma Roberts Year 9** - good assessment and tries really hard

**Jordan Burrows Year 7** - fantastic communication skills during class discussions

**Phoebe Barlow Year 8** - meeting and exceeding her end of year target

**Isaac Farell Year 9** - fantastic effort and outstanding assessment

**Melissa Chapman Year 11** - wonderful Geography coursework

**Danielle Fowles & Hannah Sultan Year 9** - exceeded their end of year target

**Luke Kelly Year 7** - fantastic progress in his assessment

**Annabelle Dickinson Year 7** - outstanding project work

**Lauren Roberts Year 8** - extraordinary achievement on her end of unit assessment

**Lauren Flett Year 8** - extraordinary achievement on her end of unit assessment

**Lydia Ward Year 9** - fantastic effort and achievement

**Jordan Niknejad Year 11** - wonderful Geography Controlled Assessment

Mrs Young



## Geographer of the Month

January - Hannah Curbishley Year 8 - Always fantastic effort during lessons and 2 sub-levels of progress made by January

February - James Moore Year 10 - produced an excellent revision tool for Unit 1. Consistently working to a high standard.

March - Marius Robinson Year 7 - Outstanding effort with project work. Wonderful creativity in presenting his Ecosystem



Marius Robinson with his award winning project!

April - Chris Gillett Year 11 - Fantastic effort during lessons and revision sessions

## Shropshire 2013

It was a sunny morning in February when the Year 10 Geographers set off to Shropshire. Our mission was to investigate how rivers change from source to mouth.



When we arrived at Wilderthorp YHA, it is safe to say everyone was impressed by the spiral staircases and grand dining room, even more impressive was the huge hill that Mr Whitaker had everybody climb before cases had even been unpacked.

That evening while we were taking part in Miss English's 'BIG QUIZ', it began to snow and it did not stop all night! By the time we all woke up in the morning the snow was inches thick! This did not stop us from carrying out our investigation, and Mrs Young and Mr Pinkerton were very impressed with the students getting into the chilly water in the name of Geography! But after the data was collected and Alex Bellingham had been chased by a sheep, returning to the warmth of Wilderthorp YHA was welcome indeed.

In the evenings, everyone made the most of the 'Giant' games on offer and the snow covered fields outside. Some of the boys were at 'onesie' with nature in their array of PJ's!

All students agreed that they had had an amazing time.

Mrs Young





## Year 11 Maths Revision Day



On Wednesday 6th February 2013, Year 11 took part in a special Maths Revision Day event hosted by our very own Mathematics teachers.

Students took some time out of lessons to focus on developing their functional mathematical

abilities. They participated in a variety of activities, many based on examination papers and materials, with a competitive edge. The morning culminated in a Mathematics Team Relay Race, in which teams used strategies to see which of them could tackle the most mathematical problems accurately, yet in the shortest time. Lots of prizes were awarded to the winning teams.

The Mathematics department were particularly impressed by the way in which students participated in the event and were delighted to hear of the positive feedback around School in the following few days. Let us hope that, together with all the other opportunities they have to prepare for their GCSEs, the event has helped Year 11 gain the best ever results in August 2013. We would like to wish them all the best of luck on June 11th and 14th!

Mrs Heaton



## World Pi Day

Just before two o'clock, on 14 March, is an important moment in Mathematics – a fact which becomes clearer on writing it as 3:14 1:59 (a short step away from 3.14159..., the decimal representing Pi, probably the most important number in Mathematics).

As well as marking this event with the photograph of Year 9 students and the number Pi, we held a memory-based competition. The winner was Emma Whitehead (9JHS), who won a pork pie (from Mr Poole's favourite butcher) by memorising Pi to 32 decimal places.

Mr Poole

## Institute of Mathematics Lecture Trip

In March, Mr Poole accompanied a small but select group of A Level students on a trip to listen to Dr James Grime, a mathematician who works for the Millennium Mathematics Project at the University of Cambridge.

The subject of his lecture was Alan Turing and the Enigma Machine. Alan Turing was one of our great 20th century mathematicians, and a pioneer of computer science. However, he may best be remembered as one of the leading code breakers of Bletchley Park during World War II. It was Turing's brilliant insights and mathematical mind that helped to break Enigma, the apparently unbreakable code used by the German military. Dr Grime presented a fascinating history of both Alan Turing and the Enigma Machine, leading up to a full demonstration of an original WWII Enigma Machine (only a handful of which survive). One of the students on the trip visited Bletchley Park with the Mathematics department when he was in Year 10 – although there was an Enigma Machine there, this was the first time he had seen one working for real.

Mr Poole



## A metre cubed



We're always telling students to remember to "put the units on their answer" – but how many of them know what those units really mean? Well a group of Year 10 students had a chance to find out about a metre cubed

when, recently, they made one from a surprisingly large amount of paper!



## World Maths Day

At the beginning of March the school marked World Maths Day.

A wide range of lessons started with a numeracy based activity, prepared for them by Mr Poole. In MFL, for example, students counted in a range of languages and compared the different words for "one", "two", "three", etc, in French, German, Spanish, Italian and even Welsh. In Technology, calculations were used to modify recipes while in History, numbers were matched to historical events. In tutor groups, at the start of the day, students tried to solve a selection of mathematical puzzles, set for them by Ms Isaac.

Thanks are due to all the teachers in a wide range of departments that delivered these activities – and well done to the students who solved the puzzles!

Mr Poole

The Path in Bhuddism, multiplied by the Pillars of Islam, equals the number of days in Lent.

The so-called Hundred Years War actually lasted for 116 years.

Four is the only word in English which has the same number of letters as the number which it represents; this is also true in German, the word for four being vier.

A cat is at the bottom of a 20 metre deep well. Each day, he climbs up 5 metres...and each night, he slides down 4 metres. How many days will it take him to reach the top of the well?

## History Department News

### Holocaust Projects and The Holocaust Educational Trust

Recently, Year 9 students have been studying the Holocaust in their History lessons. As part of their studies, 9.2 and 9.5 completed an independent project homework where they had to create a diary as if they were a Jewish person alive in the 1930's and 1940's.

Both classes produced some exceptional pieces of work. Their diary entries showed an ability to empathise with the feelings of Jewish people involved in the Holocaust, whilst also being historically accurate. Well done to all students involved, I was incredibly impressed with your creativity and maturity.

Mr Gerschler



In January before Holocaust Memorial Day Year 9 had a session with the Holocaust Educational Trust. To start off the session, we were in groups and had to look at pictures of German people and write down words about them. After this the visitor from the HET revealed to us what the pictures were about and we looked at what happened to specific people during the holocaust. We really enjoyed learning about this and thought it was really interesting as we looked at how the Holocaust can still affect people to this day.

At end of the day, we were very lucky to have Ruth Barnett, a holocaust survivor, in to talk to the whole of Year 9. She explained about her life and what she went through coming on the Kindertransport to England. She told us about how she found it hard moving away from her home in Germany as she was only very young. We then learned about her life now and how successful she is and she showed us pictures of her family. We found the talk extremely interesting and amazing to hear from someone who survived such a tragic event. We will remember this visit forever and thank Ruth for taking time to come and talk to our year group.

By Georgia Hughes and Maddie Freeman.

### Thackeray Medical Museum

February in the History department and that can only mean one thing; Thackeray Medical Museum time! Part of the GCSE course in Year



11 focuses upon Medicine Through Time, therefore students have the opportunity to visit the history of medicine museum in Leeds. The trip provides another useful layer of support ready for the summer's exam and the kinaesthetic activities were as popular as ever, with students dressing up in the pregnancy suit and playing doctor! Well done Year 11 you were super on the trip and best of luck for your exams in a few weeks time.

Mr Ashworth



## Music News

### Year 9 Film Music

Year 9 are currently 'in role' as Film Music composers and are using the computers to create their own tracks for a short film.

We look forward to the completed film clips later this term!

Mrs Johnson



### Exam Results

Big Congratulations to Emma Drainey 9LDN, Amy Ashmore 9CSN, Chloe Addis 8SHG and Ella Taylor 8SHG for passing their recent Music Exams.

Emma achieved Grade 3 Oboe, Amy and Chloe achieved Grade 3 Flute and Ella achieved Grade 2 Flute. Well done!

Mrs Johnson



Chloe Addis 8SHG and Amy Ashmore 9CSN

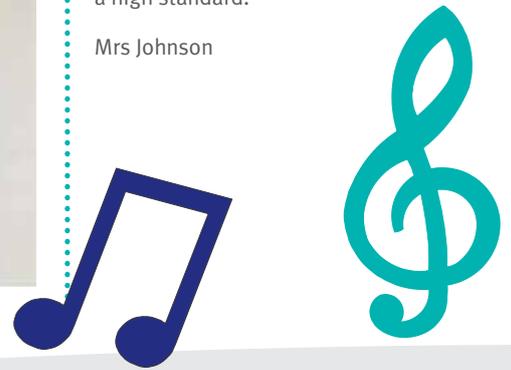
### Holocaust Memorial Day

Holocaust Memorial Day was marked in Music Lessons with performances of the newly commissioned 'A Bridge of Voice'.



Students really took on board the meaning of the song and performed it to a high standard.

Mrs Johnson



### Extra Curricular

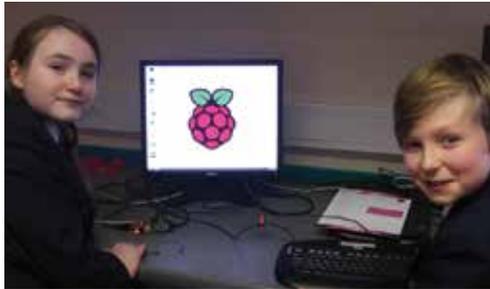
It may still seem some time away, but rehearsals are already underway for Awards Evening at the Bridgewater Hall in July.

We're aiming for an even more musical evening than before which will reflect the hard work of our students throughout this year! Here you can see photos of some of our instrumentalists and vocalists in rehearsals – and Ruby James 9 ERD accompanying Sing for one of their numbers!

Mrs Johnson



## A Byte of Pi



One of the ICT Department's extra-curricular clubs has seen students programming a Raspberry Pi – a small, cheap computer the size of a credit card.

Students have been using the Python language to write games and control an LED. Sam Blackburn (8ZHS) says: "The language is difficult but it's cool. I have enjoyed learning the Python language." Jacque Jones (8DHN) also enjoyed it: "It's brilliant! I enjoy the sense of achievement when I write a program."

Mr Little

## Year 9 ICT Reward Trip to Think Tank Birmingham



As part of a reward trip, Year 9 students were invited on a trip to Think Tank in Birmingham. They took part in two interactive workshops: animation and Lego Mindstorms.

The animation workshop enabled our students to use their imagination by using Lego and other small objects to create a short film. Their creativity shone through when they were able to add sound effects to their work. The Lego Mindstorm workshop also proved a challenge with our students as they had to programme a Lego robot to perform a figure of eight movement. Think Tank staff were amazed when most of our students were able to think the process through and come up with the correct program with very little help from them!



After the workshops the students had the chance to visit the new Science Garden at Think Tank. This proved to be a great hit with them in particular the ride on the wagon with square wheels. All students on the trip really enjoyed themselves as well as gaining new skills.

Danesh Jalali: "Great day out - loads of fun"

## STEM News

### STEM Club Casino

Members of STEM Club have had a busy start to 2013. Lots of STEM dollars were won and lost at the STEM Casino back in January, where students showcased their working casino games.



Within teams, students first worked out games based on probability. Then the teams set to creating some fantastic fun casino games to be tested and used at STEM Casino. Members of staff joined in the grand opening of the STEM casino, with Mr Tomlinson excelling at the physical 'Shoot the Robot' game and Mr Fenwick placing some shrewd bets at the 'Lucky Balls' table. Sadly, Miss Rengifo didn't have quite the same luck at the 'Crazy Cards' game, eventually losing all her STEM dollars! Better luck next time!

STEM club also celebrated 'International Pi Day' in style taking part in a 'pi quiz' with the winning team getting the opportunity to custard 'pi' their favourite teacher in the face. Unfortunately for the popular Mr Harpham the winning team chose him.

A productive 2013 so far for the Wellington STEM club I'm sure you'll agree. The STEM Team would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all the Sixth Form Helpers.

Mr Wynne, Mr Fletcher and Mr Harpham  
STEM Team



## Year 13 Forensic Psychology trip to Thorn Cross Prison

The A2 students have been studying Forensic Psychology which has encompassed exploring the reasons people turn to crime and the effects of various sentencing.

We were privileged to be given the opportunity to gain a real life insight into Prison life. On Monday 22nd April, myself and Mr O'Rourke accompanied 18 Year 13 students to Thorncross Prison in Warrington. From the moment we arrived, the students felt the impact of the alien environment (it's one thing reading about it in textbooks and watching various TV programmes, it's quite a different story actually being there).

On arrival students had to show identification and put all personal belonging into a locker (yes even their phones-drama). The afternoon started with a meet and greet with one of the Senior Officers, Glenn and the Forensic Psychologist ,Gail, they introduced the students to two inmates who are now peer mentors to the other inmates.

The inmates were so open and frank about their experiences, the various educational and Psychological treatment programmes they have benefited from and their lives leading up to and after their crimes. Students were given the opportunity to ask any questions they wished, and indeed they did. We were then taken on a tour of the prison by the two peer mentors. This was extremely insightful as we were able to see the various learning environments where lessons were actually taking place. Inmates openly shared with us the 'pros and cons' of the various programmes. The Students managed to see inside an inmate's room, the canteen and other various parts of the prison. Once we had finished the tour we then had an enthralling talk from another inmate who had been involved with drugs.

The inmate along with the Drugs worker, shared with us their experiences of various drug programmes, which they thought were effective and why. The day rounded off with a Senior Officer sharing his vast experience of a variety of prisons to help the students to understand the variation not only of institutions

but also prisoners. The students then had the opportunity to ask whatever questions they wished to the Senior Officer and the Psychologist.

This was a truly enriching experience and one I know the students and myself will not forget in a hurry. We were so lucky to see all we have studied in a real life context and are busy writing our letters of thanks.

Mrs Taylor-Crooke

## Year 10 Magistrate/ Mock Trial lessons

Year 10 have been busy working through a scheme of work aimed to educate students about the justice system and the different people involved.

During lessons the students busily prepared for a mock trial. The fictional case was that of assault and the defendant was being accused of 'joint enterprise', a term many students were unaware of.

The students were so enthusiastic and adapted to their various roles respectively with many students aspiring to play the parts of the legal team, Judge, Prosecution and Defence. After various preparation lessons, the students got to act out the case and argue their corner in a simulated court environment in the classroom. It was especially interesting listening to the jury's decisions as different classes came to different conclusions. The module of work finished with students being given the invaluable opportunity to talk to a team of magistrates about their work.

Mrs Taylor-Crooke

Some quotes from the students:

"It was interesting to speak to the Prisoners and question them about their actions"

(Victoria Roylance)

"I Obtained a good insight into prison life, very useful for application to psychological studies"

(Hannah Ralston)

"Taught me not to make judgements and that people deserve a second chance"

(Penny Silverwood)

"I found it interesting and it gave me an insight into the life of the prisoners and the staff that work there"

(Emma Jones)

"I was petrified from start to end! Apart from that, it was a great insight to life inside prison. It also made me value my life a little more"

(Elliott Reynolds)

"Interesting trip for seeing the insides of a prison and seeing how prisoners live. Also, makes you realise the consequences of your actions"

(Jack Lenihan-Smith)

## Skills North West Careers Event

40 Year 10 students, Mrs. Mackay, Mrs. Taylor-Crooke and Mr. Pinkerton attended the region's biggest skills and careers event for 14-19 year olds at Event City, Manchester on Wednesday 6th March.

This event, which is held annually, is an interactive careers event designed to inspire, motivate and inform students about the various career pathways available to them. The students were given the opportunity to access over 70 different organisations from every major section imaginable. With fantastic "hands-on" features, the students could find out all about careers and skills in the best way – by trying them out!

Just a few of the organisations included were:

- Universities and Colleges, where students could find out about all the courses on offer from animal care / veterinary to wind turbines and fuel cells! Science opportunities included PH testing, crystal growing, health and fitness and sports studies to name just some.
- Apprenticeship training and advice providers including Higher Apprenticeships.
- Manufacturing, where students were able to get involved in many different activities, including a 'Make It' stand, showing various types of manufacturing offering exciting and rewarding career opportunities.

Other organisations represented included the Armed Forces, Kaplan, Reaseheath College, GMPTE, Airbus operations Ltd, The Co-operative Group and United Utilities - this is just a small selection.

The students returned to school exhausted, but better informed on some of the career routes available to them. Hopefully they feel inspired for their futures. All agreed that it had been a very worthwhile event.

Mrs Mackay



## School Council News

### School Council

It has been a busy term for everyone involved in the School Council.

Members of the Executive Committee have met weekly to discuss ideas and then set the agenda for whole council meetings. Tutor Reps have continued to attend meetings in great numbers and feedback the outcomes of meetings to their tutor group. This has been especially important following meetings which have featured guest speakers.

Earlier last term we were lucky to hear from Mrs Lavin, a School Governor, who explained the role of the School's Governing body. We learned about how a school is run from the finances to the appointment of new staff! More recently Mr Holt informed us of the results of the Kirkland Rowell survey which was completed earlier this year by many of our parents.



One of the real benefits of working within the School Council is having the opportunity to work with students from other year groups that would not usually get to spend time together. At our January meeting, students from all years including the Sixth Form came together to identify areas of the school site which sometimes have problems such as overcrowding at lunchtimes. We produced a map showing 'hotspots' which has been shared with the staff.

At our most recent meeting we worked together to consider the school dining room. We compiled a list of its strengths as well as areas we think could be improved and we are looking forward to sharing our findings with the catering staff!

Jack Tait, Year 10

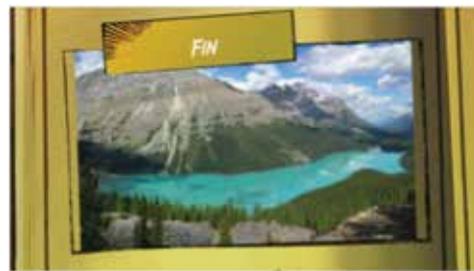


## Wellington has the X Factor!

Well done to Yasmin Jalali and Jasmine Spinks in Year 7 and Gianni Bandiera-Leigh, Alfie Bryce-Clegg, Mackenzie Bryce-Clegg, Ben Redman and Matthew Lloyd in Years 7 and 8 who wrote their own raps in a foreign language and also produced their own superb music videos!

They have been entered into a nationwide competition and we look forward to finding out the results in June! Good luck!

Miss Warburton

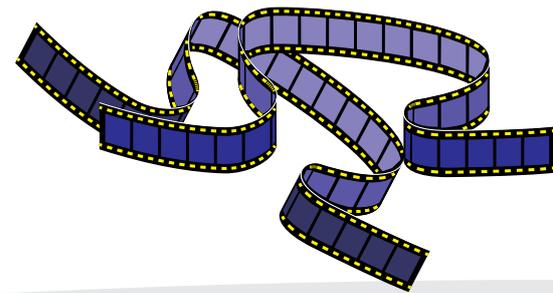


## Cineclub

We think that Cineclub is really interesting.

So far this year, amongst others we have watched 'Hop' in Arabic, 'Little Rascals' in German, 'The Polar Express' in Icelandic, and 'Johnny English' in Hindi! It is in room 5 with Miss Warburton and it is a lovely club as it is fun and relaxing. It is on every Thursday and Thursday is my favourite day because of Cineclub! Come and enjoy the fun! Everyone is welcome!

By Thomas Winwood-Rooney and Matthew Leonard Year 7



## Links with Rwanda A Global project

Students in 8.1B and 8.0 have been learning about Rwanda in a cross-curricular project.

The project will be spanning four departments. In Geography, students have been learning background information about the area, in REP they will be writing letters of hope, in Technology, they will be working on textiles and in French, students will be sending letters of introduction about themselves. The project is one of many current initiatives and forms part of our International Schools Award.

Miss Weeks

## German Club

We go to German club once a week.

It's really fun and it's great learning a new language! It is better and easier to learn languages in a smaller group. We learn lots of new and interesting facts about German culture each week. Our favourite activity so far was being able to listen to German music which was very interesting and fun! Sometimes we play on Linguascope and other times discuss things we have learned so far. Also, we have been on a trip to a German restaurant. This trip was fabulous!

Olivia Samuels 7NHN and Beth Clapham 7AGR



## German Restaurant Trip

A group of us from Year 7, 10 and 12 went on a trip to a German restaurant in Chorlton.

We all got a coach to the restaurant and when we arrived the restaurant was nicely decorated and small (but was nice and cosy). The staff were really nice and friendly by telling jokes to us. There was a little place where they cooked and you could see what and how they were cooking our meals.

The German restaurant was really fun. The food was delicious and tasty. It was different which was good. We'd love to go again because we had never tasted German food before.

Leah Moghimi 7NHN and Krystal Chiteza 7AGR

## iHablamos en español! : FLA assistant

GCSE & A- Level students have been lucky enough to perfect their speaking skills with Omaira, a Foreign Language Assistant from the Canary Islands.

Students are allocated timetables sessions in which they are able to chat about topic areas from their respective syllabus. The Year 13 students have particularly benefited from the opportunity to interact with a native speaker and experience discussing contemporary issues and points of view from Omaira's home country.

Mrs Williams



## REP Department News

### “Licking the ice-cream of Buddhism”

On Friday 26th April, the Year 12 A Level Religious Studies class went to the Northern Quarter of Manchester to further enrich our understanding of Buddhism by visiting the magnificent Buddhist centre.

The first part of the visit involved tasting the vegan fruits of the Earth cafe that is connected to the centre itself. We sampled food and drink that Buddhists would eat; veggie burgers, mung-bean chilli, vegan chocolate cake, organic drinks and fruit smoothies.



Then as a troupe of un-enlightened students we met Richard a practising Buddhist with a very calming approach and demeanour. Richard took us into a Buddhist shrine room and went over the fundamental principles of Buddhist theory. We then proceeded to fire several questions at a thankfully cool, calm and collected Richard. Such questions included “Can the Dalai Lama catch a cold or is he exempt from suffering as he has achieved enlightenment?”, “What do you believe will happen when the world ends?” and “What is the purpose of getting married for Buddhists when you teach that everything is impermanent?”

Our Buddhist tour guide answered our queries with sophistication, depth and clarity, before offering us “a taste of the ice-cream”- our very own personal Buddhist experience in the form of a relaxing meditation session. We were taught during this session about the initially contradictory skill of being extremely relaxed and yet alert in order to train a focused mind.

In conclusion, the class enjoyed the day immensely and feel with Richard's guidance, we can overcome worldly distractions and focus upon exam success and perhaps even, ultimately, enlightenment.

Jack Owens 12TWR

## Football Frenzy

**Year 7** - Since the Christmas break the 7s have been likened to Wigan Athletic; their league performance is up and down yet they demonstrate total focus in the cup competition. Year 7 have made it through to the Semi-Final of the Trafford Schools cup, drawing a tough tie against either Sale Grammar or Stretford Grammar. This game is in part due to the potential 'goal of the season' by Callum Mackenzie who scored an acrobatic overhead kick from 15 yards out in their 5-3 victory over Sale High. The squad will need to show continued determination and collective spirit if they are to overcome such strong teams and reach the Final at Carrington. Mr Gubbins is known as 'The Tinkerman' as he modifies formations, tactics and captains to find the best formulae for success. Long may the cup run continue and work is already being done for next year's league title campaign.

**Year 8** - It has been a quiet time for Year 8; after the Christmas break they have had no league or cup fixtures to date. This said, Mr Harpham continually praises his squad for the effort and commitment they show during training sessions. Effort and commitment that is to be put to the test against their first round cup tie away at Stretford Grammar. In previous years, Wellington may be entering this tie as underdogs but due to the continuous dedication and training demonstrated by both players and manager alike, the cup game has the makings of a true classic. We wish all the players the best of luck and hope for a favourable outcome.

**Year 9** - Like Cardiff City, Mr Morgan has chosen to concentrate on the league title over the cup competition after being knocked out at the first round by BTH. The 9s however showed great bounce-back ability after the upset with a highly contested victory against Ashton-on-Mersey 1-0. Ashton came into the game on the back of a very convincing league triumph but came up against a very resolute defence. Elliot Bent scored the only goal of the game and Wellington managed to hold out from a barrage of pressure to take the spoils. Dan Mullings, Sam Lloyd, Sam Owens and Adam Firth marshalling the troops at the back with Tom Swindell pulling off two superb saves to push the team into the final at Carrington.

**Year 10** - Breaking news just coming in...Mr Pinkerton is to step down as Year 10 manager with effect from 3rd May as he seeks a new challenge down South. In the press conference, Mr Pinkerton made it clear that the decision was not an easy one but one that had to be made. He was quick to squash the speculation of a big money transfer and insisted the reason was purely due to personal circumstances. The team have rallied together under their uncertain future and have displayed the kind of performances Manchester City would be proud of in both the league and the cup competitions. The Captain was quoted as saying "Our performances are dedicated to Sir, he will be greatly missed!" Year 10s next two ties are semi-final matches against Wellacre and Urmston Grammar, in the league and cup respectively. Both ties will be highly competitive affairs but complete focus is the order of the day in the Year 10 camp and both players and manager alike are ready to bring the double back to Wellington.

**Year 11** - As Mr Tomlinson's reign comes to an end for this current squad of men, fans have not been disappointed. Year 11 are still performing strongly game after game with a cup and league double in their grasps. Having defeated Broadoak in the final league game the Year 11 football team now face Ashton-On-Mersey in the league play-off in order to get to the final at Carrington.



In the Trafford cup the team have made it

through to another semi final, defeating Sale Grammar in the opening round with James porter scoring two goals in 10 minutes to seal victory. The team then defeated Stretford High 5-3 with Ross Elliot, Sam Heathcote, Jake Foy and James Ogiliev scoring the goals with Jake Foy and George Edmundson playing extremely well. We now play either Altrincham Boys Grammar or Ashton in the semi final. The team have set a new Wellington school record by being the first team to reach both the league and cup semi finals every year from Year 7 to Year 11.

## Ski Trip Saint Lary 2013

**On Saturday 16th of February 2013, a number of Wellington School students arrived at Manchester Airport in anticipation of what they hoped to be a fantastic ski trip in Saint Lary, a French ski resort. It's safe to say that they were not disappointed!**

After a long trip from Manchester to London, and then onwards to Toulouse, we arrived in the town of Saint Lary. What stood out immediately was the amount of snow everywhere; it certainly wasn't like back home! We arrived at the hotel tired and hungry, but the hotel owners were welcoming and soon serving up nice hot meals.

The next day we awoke early in order to go and be measured for our ski equipment and then it was off to the slopes. The ski resort itself was stunning; huge snow-capped mountains surrounded us and we were all very eager to start! We were split up into groups of ski ability and introduced to our ski instructors. They were all very nice, fun and did a wonderful job teaching us to ski.

All of the ski groups split up and went their separate ways.

In order to reach the top of the slopes we obviously had to take the ski lifts. These were good opportunities to enjoy the scenery and relax while we were carried up the mountains. When we first started skiing it was a difficult thing to grasp, there was a lot of slipping and sliding going on in the beginner groups! However, it wasn't long before we all were used to it and by day three we were all able to do it to a very good standard. The ski instructors were always very encouraging if you fell and it didn't take long to get back up and keep going!



Of course we were skiing everyday of the week and once everyone had grasped the basics we were able to do other things, such as skiing through canyons, jumps (which were hard!) and racing our friends. We all had a fantastic time out on the slopes.

In the evenings when we all came in tired, there was plenty to do in the hotel with a games room, DVD room and lots of music and disco nights. We also got the cable car down the mountain and explored the town and had a delicious pizza night. The ski trip was an amazing experience and

I highly recommend it to anyone who hasn't tried it yet!

Written by Tom Oliver  
10 DMY

## Sports Hall athletics takes off!

Back in November 2012, eight eager young athletes took part in a Trafford indoor athletics event known as Sports Hall Athletics. They were talented enough to win this event and were asked to represent Trafford in the Greater Manchester event in March of this year. Both days had a variety of events including the 'speed bounce', indoor shot putt, an obstacle race, the vertical jump and broad jump and varying distances of sprints. The girls were once again fantastic and came second, meaning they were asked to represent Greater Manchester and race against other North West schools!



Teams from south Cheshire up to Cumbria came to Leigh Sports Village to compete and it was a great day of competition! We were able to cheer on our other Greater Manchester teams and they did they same for us. We had an amazing day and came sixth overall; we even got free T-shirts!

Well done to Chloe Hadfield, Amia Hall, Sarah English, Chayce Smith (c), Sophie Carolan, Leah Robinson, Niamh Molloy and Olivia Crompton. Thanks also to Niamh and Leah's family for their support!

Miss Richards



## Netball Years 7-10

The Year 7 girls have shown great enthusiasm and commitment to netball throughout the year.

They have played with great determination and team spirit against all their opponents. Both A and B teams enjoyed participating in the Trafford Schools Tournament at Broadoak and with wins over both Sale schools, they better watch out for next year! Well done to all who have continued to train and we look forward to seeing you again in Year 8. New players are always welcome. Thanks to Miss MacGlinchey for all your hard work.

Year 8 have won the Trafford Schools Netball League beating Ashton-on-Mersey in the final, having remained undefeated from January. In the final the girls put in an outstanding team performance against a strong Ashton-on-Mersey side, dominating the game and coming out worthy winners 33-6. Following on from this success they went onto win the Trafford Schools Netball Tournament beating Sale Grammar in the final 11-1, to achieve the Trafford League and Cup 'double'. Year 8 were also entered into the South Manchester County Netball League where they came second to Withington; we're looking for revenge next year!

The Year 8's most outstanding achievement came in the U13 Greater Manchester County Netball Tournament winning through to the final by beating Crompton House 7-1, Hulme 7-3, St. Bedes 8-3, Cheadle Hulme 10-8, Bolton 9-5, Altrincham Grammar 7-2 and St. Matthews 12-1 before beating St. Gabriels 7-4 in the semi-final losing only to Withington Girls School 2-11 in the final. The team captained by Chloe Addis has drawn compliments throughout the season for the standard of their performance. Well done Year 8, a fantastic season.

The Year 9 team have played with spirit and enthusiasm this year. Managed by Miss Richards, and with new players arriving frequently, the girls played their hearts out at the Trafford Schools Tournament showing an excellent attitude and thoroughly enjoying the experience. Well done to all who joined us this year and also to those who have maintained their commitment to training. A special well done must go to Rhea James who jumped in at the last minute to play as goal keeper in the Trafford tournament and received Girl of the Tournament from her fellow players!

Year 10 girls have shown a high level of commitment to netball and conduct themselves in an admirable manner at all times. They really are exceptional role models. They show enthusiasm in all that they do and have made commendable progress this year. With wins over North Cestrian

and ACA, they look set to make a big impact at the start of next season and we look forward to seeing them grow even more as a team in the tournament at the start of Year 11! Many thanks to Mrs Lawson for her help.

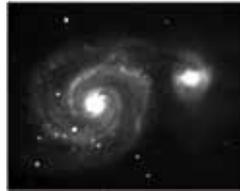
All the girls have represented the school with credit.



## Astronomy Coursework

Wellington's GCSE Astronomers have been completing their GCSE observation coursework over the last term.

Students are required to conduct two series of observations. Firstly our astronomers completed one set of unaided (naked eye) observations in which they drew sketches of the moon. Secondly, our astronomers have been completing observations of a variety of objects using equipment including telescopes, binoculars, cameras and robotic telescopes. Although all students have produced excellent observations two of particular note are exhibited with this article: Katie Firth's excellent photographs of the Orion Nebula and Pinwheel Galaxy taken in School using the Bradford Robotic Telescope and Khabeer Pazeer's stunning sketches of the Moon.



Mr Wynne

## Chester Zoo

On Wednesday 20th March, 186 Year 7 students enjoyed their Science reward trip to Chester Zoo.



The trip intended to enhance the study of the 'Life' and 'Cells' modules in Science and teach students about the Earth's incredible wildlife.

A big thank you from the 10 staff who accompanied the group and Chester Zoo themselves for the perfect behaviour displayed by the Year Group. It was a very enjoyable day!



Miss Rengifo



## Year 13 Biology field trip

On Monday 8th April Miss Withers and Mr Williams took 15 A2 biology students to the Drapers' Field Centre in North Wales.

During the week students undertook a range of exciting activities and gained hands on experience relating to their ecology module. Some of the tasks covered during the week included sampling fresh water organisms, identifying plant communities in ancient woodland and conducting an individual investigation. A particular favourite was the day spent in and around Harlech beach where students investigated primary succession of plant communities across a developing dune system. Students were then able to see how conservation of habitats involves management of succession. All students behaved superbly during the week and relished the fantastic opportunity to bring the curriculum to life.

Miss Withers



## Cracking Club

On Monday 4th February there was a very special delivery to Wellington School.

9 fertilised chicken eggs. To join the club Miss Rengifo asked students to write a letter, over 100 letters were received – from staff as well as students!

After two days the eggs all hatched into healthy chicks. The members of the lunchtime club fed and watered the chicks, monitored their growth daily, attempted to sex the chicks and cleaned their Brooder when needed. The perks of the job were that they got



to love and stroke the chicks everyday – they often fell asleep in their hands.

At the end of the two weeks we had to say goodbye to the chicks who went back to their farm to live happy healthy lives. They said a big thank you for looking after them so well.

Miss Rengifo



## Medical Physics Evening

In April, Wellington's A-Level Physicists boarded the School mini bus and visited the open evening at The Christie Hospital.

Our students were greeted by the team of medical physicists and radiographers who work in the famous hospital and were taken on a guided tour through its departments. As well as seeing how treatments such as Brachytherapy are administered up close, we also visited the hospital's Patient Planning department where we learnt how CT scans are used to decide on the most effective and safe use of radiation in radiotherapy. Students were also treated to a talk on the history and future of x-rays in medical physics. The evening links directly to the Y13 Summer Physics Exam and all students both enjoyed and found the evening very rewarding. Miss Workman, Mr Hayes and Mr Wynne would like to wish all our A-Level Physicists the best of luck in their summer exams, in particular the Y13 students who we will be sad to see leave in the summer.

Mr Wynne



## Science Club

The New Year started with a 'bubble', and saw Wellington students making their own Lava Lamps.

With Mother's day fast approaching the students made homemade bath bombs, wrapped them and wrote a card to give to the special lady in their lives (although I'm sure some were made for themselves!)



More recently, the students have been set the challenge of growing the tallest sunflower having made an origami paper pot and planting their own seed. Science club staff have also taken up the challenge, it is getting very competitive! Watch this space!



Sadly we say goodbye to Mrs Doherty (our science technician) who as you know has been a huge part of Science Club this year, we all wish her the best for the future!

Miss Rengifo



## National Science and Engineering Week

During March, Wellington Science Department held its annual celebration of National Science and Engineering Week.

This year's theme was "Invention and Discovery" and our School's Key Stage 3 Scientists embarked on a week full of science lessons devoted to mankind's scientific innovations. During the week students made their own plastic, investigated methods of globally engineering a cooler climate and launched balloon rockets on a simulated mission to the moon.

Mr Wynne



### Year 7

As part of the Year 7 tutor programme, tutor groups face the 5R Challenges. The tasks aim to build upon the 5R attributes that students develop in their L2L lessons.

The challenges allow tutor groups to build points towards the tutor competition. The Spring Term's challenge was to produce a marble run one metre high using 'Resourcefulness' and 'Reasoning'. Easy I hear you cry, but here is the twist; tutor groups had to produce a run that caused the marble to descend slowly. The slowest marble run would be the victor. After designing, voting and building, the Year Group came together in assembly to try out their designs. Some tutor groups experienced slightly more success than others, but RHS emerged the victors with their giraffe inspired design! Well done RHS. More 5R Challenges are due to follow in the summer term.

Miss Tidbury  
Director of Year



### Year 8

The summer term is due to be extremely busy for Year 8. At the moment, we are in the middle of the exam period, where students will be working their hardest to get the best levels possible for the start of Year 9. On top of this, Year 8 students will need to pick a language for Year 9 in preparation for the start of GCSEs – it's all starting to get more serious!!

We are also starting a Year 8 Council this term, where volunteers from the tutor groups will meet with me every fortnight to discuss any issues they have come across this year and suggest sensible ideas for Year 9. Chips in the dining hall will not be on the agenda! We will be discussing activities that can be offered at lunchtime, advice that could be offered about careers and GCSE courses and anything else that may be useful in Year 9.

On top of this, Year 8 are demonstrating their excellent talents in sports, with the girls' netball team being a shining light in Trafford! Hopefully the Year Group continue their success in the summer sports that will be taking place this term.

I'm sure Year 8 can continue the brilliant progress made going into Year 9!

Mr Williams, Director of Year

### Year 9 MVP's (Most Valuable Pupil)

In Year 9 we always endeavour to celebrate success. We have trialled and now fully integrated the MVP award into Year 9 life.

This award is given monthly to students who have been the most valuable pupils within their tutor groups. Each individual tutor will choose a student based on their monthly performance either related to progress, behaviour, improvement, attitude or service to the school and tutor group. We have had two months of awards and are due to choose our third round of MVP's. Each student gets a copy of their MVP award, a copy is displayed on the tutor notice board and also displayed on our Year 9 MVP board around school.

Here are our MVP's so far:

Callum Duffy, Tom Broadfoot, Beth Taylor, Tom Cox, Sophie Ashraf, Grace Ball, Hannah Taylor, Molly Lomas, Mani Nazeri, Alicia Irving, Jack Wright, Abbie-Lea Geraghty, Sam Murray, Daniel Walker, Lucy Turnbull, Caide Harvey, Daniel Mullings, Asha Piatkiewicz, Paul Thorpe, Nadine Ruchat, Lydia Ward.

Well done everyone.

Mr Tomlinson, Director of Year

## Year 10 Update

Firstly a big 'congratulations' to Matilda Bennett and Laura McDonagh for raising £175 for Myeloma Uk. Both students recently received a letter of acknowledgement from Myeloma Uk expressing their gratitude. The girls and their friends from Year 10 baked and then sold a huge number of delicious cakes one lunchtime to students throughout the school.

In addition to this, the Year 10 boys football team, under the watchful of eye of Mr 'Jose' Pinkerton have reached the final of the Trafford Schools league competition and the semi finals of the Trafford Cup competition where they play Urmston grammar. Welcome to Harry Saunders, a new Year 10 student who on his first day played for the Y10 football team in the semi final victory over Wellacre Academy. We wish the boys football team well in their final/s.

Decklan Davenport makes his way to Russia at the end of the month with his kick boxing club to take part in the championships being held there. Good luck to Decklan.

This term the Year 12 students have begun mentoring a number of Year 10's. This takes place every other Friday and the feedback has been very positive with the Year 12 students passing on their knowledge and experiences from their time in Year 10.

Congratulations to all students, tutors and parents for their efforts in ensuring that Year 10's attendance remains the best in school. As a result a number of reward breakfasts have taken place and there is a cash draw for those students with 100% attendance. On the subject of reward breakfasts, well done to tutor groups CPE and ZSE for being the first to return all of their sponsored walk money. Both are due in the dining room shortly for their feast! (Healthy food only of course!)

On a sad note, Mr Pinkerton leaves us shortly for Cornwall and a life of sea, surfing and pasties (not necessarily in that order if we know him!!!). I would like to thank Mr Pinkerton for the wonderful job he has done in supporting, encouraging, guiding and caring for the students in Year 10. It has been a pleasure to work alongside him. We will all miss him and wish him well. See you at the Year 11 prom!

Finally, Mr Pinkerton is the only member of staff I know who has been referred to by so many different names! (parents, staff and students alike!) Here are some of the favourites...ring any bells? Mr Pinkington, Mr Plinkerton, Mr Pilkington, Mr Pickerton, Mr Pinkerson!

Enjoy the summer.

Mr Travis, Mr Pinkerton and the Year 10 Team.

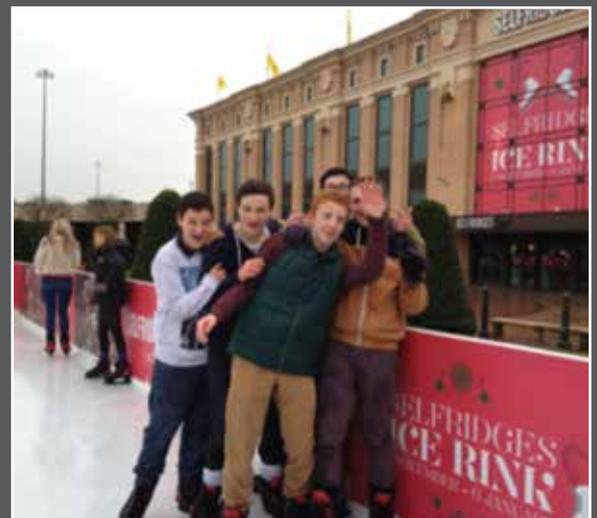
## Year 11 Progress Trip

Year 11 has been a very busy and challenging year so far for many of our students and in the next few weeks they will take their final GCSE exams. They have had to balance many different aspects of their life, for example, hobbies, friends, family whilst also trying to ensure that they achieve the best they can academically.



Wellington has been very keen to try and ensure that students feel rewarded for making progress in their subject areas so we launched a termly progress trip. Approximately 150 Year 11 students who had made the most progress against their target grades were invited to go ice skating and then have lunch at the Trafford Centre at the end of the Autumn term. It was a cold day but a lot of fun was had by all the students who went and thankfully we all came back in one piece! Another progress trip was organised for the end of the spring term to Alton Towers but due to the weather conditions this had to be cancelled. Hopefully, this will be rearranged for after the exam period has finished in the summer.

Mrs Harte



## Drive to Live

The day-long event held last term, explored the different ways a car accident can impact on all the people involved. This was a strong but important message for Year 12 - safe driving and alcohol awareness.



It started with a play, setting the scene for young drivers and alcohol. It showed the peer pressure and the need to 'impress' and 'fit in' that many teenagers can feel. The play ends with a drunk teenager driving a car.

Next step was the crash scene, a real crashed car had been brought onto the school site. The actors took their places

now as victims of the crash and real emergency services were on hand to show how they deal with accidents. It was shocking to see what happens, seeing it unfold in front of you had real impact.

Later there were talks from a number of different agencies who are involved in dealing with a car accident. The ambulance service talked about what they have to deal with and the police discussed what they have to do and how they have to go and see families and inform them of the tragic consequences of drink driving. A drink drive victim talked about how it has affected her (and her life) both physically and mentally.



There was also advice on avoiding distractions whilst driving, alcohol unit awareness and a chance to complete a driving skills challenge.

Whilst it was a difficult day at times, it was an important message that our students needed to experience. Many thanks to Mrs Taylor-Crooke for organising it.

Mr Cropper & Miss Grey

## Sponsored Walk

We never think it can get any better or costumes more wacky to encourage people to part with their cash ... but each year it does and seems better than the last!

The sixth form students surpassed themselves with their array of amazing costumes. This year we had everything from the Three Little Pigs (& the Big Bad Wolf!), Batman, Zippy, Superman, Sumo Wrestlers, The Beatles, 118 Boys, The Spice Girls, Teletubbies, The Incredible Hulk, Gladiator, Pirates - I could go on!



Fantastic effort as always, and they raised £1000 from their bucket collection.

Another show stopper from the Sixth Form - well done.

Mr Cropper & Miss Grey



## Attendance

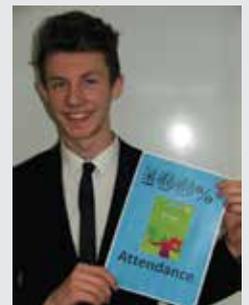
The impact of attendance on attainment is irrefutable ... and who wants to miss all those exciting lessons, activities and extra sessions being run to help the sixth form students achieve their potential?

Staff really are pulling out all the stops to ensure that students can access the work, can review topics and are up to speed with exam requirements, so miss them and you could miss out on your grades.

Last half term we ran the 100% attendance challenge, those eligible were entered in a prize draw. Well, the majority of Sixth Form were in the running, but the very nice prize of iTunes vouchers went to Sam Brahney 13AWS and Dylan Evans 12JCK

Keep up that attendance everyone, it is crucial to exam success.

Miss Grey



### 6th Form News & Events

Once again it's been a busy term in the Sixth Form, here are a few of the events and activities that Year 12 & 13 have been involved in so far . . .

**Prefects** – Sixth Form prefects have now been appointed, the response was excellent and lots of our students are keen to help with school events and day to day life. Great to put on any application or CV and a means of really enhancing life at School. Well done everyone!

**Manchester Access Programme** – Run by the University of Manchester, the programme includes offering academic support and mentoring by University staff. Students are also given support on the application and admission process to University and on completion of the programme are eligible to receive a reduced offer of one grade at A level if they choose to apply to the University. The programme was heavily oversubscribed and we were successful in having four students accepted onto the programme. Hasni Pazeer 12 DWS, Melissa Dando 12 DWS, Abbey Barry 12 DWS and Louise Elliott 12 NME.

**Law Talk** – Mr Williams from the Year 12 tutor team kindly organised a talk on Law from a practising lawyer, it's always a career of interest to many so a number of our Year 12 students went away having gained a lot of invaluable information .

**Mentoring** – Our Sixth Form students are a helpful bunch. Once again they are involved in a mentoring programme. This time it's Year 10 who are reaping the benefit of their wisdom and advice. Mr Travis was really pleased with the numbers who stepped up to the challenge and are helping Year 10 meet the expectations and demands of GCSEs.

**Independent Study** – A major contributory factor to success at A-level is undertaking rigorous independent study for each of one's subjects. All departments have created a 'how to' list and guide as to what to do & where to find it. All students have access of this information as it has been made into booklets and is displayed in Private Study. So make sure you reference this invaluable information, Sixth Formers!

**UCAS convention** – Year 12 took a trip into Manchester to attend the UCAS convention. This allows them to speak to universities from all over the country, sign up for course and subject alerts, get prospectuses and also information for potential careers.

**Year 13 update** – Well, the university applications have been & gone, interviews undertaken and now we have been seeing the offers flying in! Most students have heard from their selected universities and are now in the process of confirming first and insurance places. Many have already begun to complete finance arrangements and select accommodation for next year!

**Revision Guides** – The depth and breadth of knowledge needed at A-level is a huge step up from GCSE so we have been recommending that different ways of learning and refreshing revision techniques is a sound way to not get bored and absorb the content. A revision guide was issued to all of the sixth form with lots of suggestions to help in this process.

**University Praise** – The prestigious Sheffield University recently wrote to say what a pleasure one of our students, Abbie Leggott, had been to interview for their Chemistry course. They commented on her sound subject knowledge and wanted to pass on their thanks to staff that had been responsible for her academic and pastoral development and that they hoped to have the pleasure of meeting students from Wellington again!

**Another great term! Next stop ... exams.** Good luck everyone! There is still a huge amount that can be achieved in the remaining weeks.

Mr Cropper & Miss Grey

### Year 13 Skills Day



Learning-centred, activity-packed and fun too! Another successful Skills Day has been completed.

Perhaps the most fun part of the day was the cooking challenge. Honestly, I was just waiting for Greg Wallace & John Torrode to pop up! With an Executive Chef from Chartwells, the school's caterers coming along to help with the judging, let the 'Bolognese battle' begin!

I was very pleased that what was produced was all edible. Alex Pugh clearly likes a chilli after sampling his very spicy number and Jonathan Spencer wore his 'professional' Waitrose apron to channel his inner Heston Blumenthal. But I am pleased to say they will not starve at Uni!

Other activities on the day included talks about finance from the NatWest, planning meals on a budget, university preparation activities, apprenticeship support and General Studies game-making activities.

Mr Cropper & Miss Grey



## Primary Girls' Football

Well Green girls' football team beat Park Road Academy 2-0 in a thrilling final to take the Wellington Primary School Girls' Football Competition.

The triumphant team are pictured receiving their trophy from Mr Beeley.

Mr Shaw



## Working with our local primary schools

### Young Enterprise Challenge

Students from Altrincham Church of England Primary School are pictured taking part in the 'Apprentice Challenge' organised by Mr Shaw and Mrs Mackay.

The aim is for a team of 6 students to work together making different items which are then 'sold' at a profit. The winning team is the team who accrue the largest profit.



### Diary dates:

Friday 24th May - School Closes for half term

Monday 3rd June - School Opens

Saturday 22nd June - Open Morning

Tuesday 2nd July - Awards Evening

Thursday 11th July - Talent Show

Friday 19th July - School Closes - end of term

## Primary Boys' Football

Heyes Lane narrowly beat Well Green 1-0 to win the Primary School 6-a-side tournament. The teams had reached the final by defeating Altrincham C. of E. and Bowdon C. of E. in the semi-finals.

The victorious team and manager Mr Cox are pictured after receiving the shield. Congratulations Heyes Lane!

Mr Shaw



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INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE

