

Wellington School

Annual Newsletter

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Sports Day



Rock Band



Cash for Kids



Virtual Carol Service



Sponsored Walk

Honesty

Community

Excellence

Fairness

Endeavour

Welcome to our latest Wellington School Newsletter



Twelve months ago, I began the introduction to our Annual Newsletter with this comment, "This is a

very different introduction to a Newsletter, unlike any I have written previously. After all, we are living in 'unprecedented' times." Never for one second, I would suggest, did any of us believe we would still be enduring the challenges of Covid-19 as we approach the end of 2020-21 school year.

Invariably, in these opening remarks, I speak of my undiluted pride whenever I proof read the contents of this Newsletter prior to it going to print; pride, which, of course, continues throughout the year. There may, inevitably, have been less going on this year in terms of extra-curricular activity, trips etc. but so much has happened, so much to be proud of. I have been more in awe and full of admiration than ever for what the students and my colleagues have achieved once again over the past 12 months. It is quite staggering and I cannot thank them enough for what they have contributed to our community. We really have witnessed the Wellington character and spirit come to the fore, and I hope these things are reflected in this publication.

Of course, there will be a degree of sadness and regret at what has been missed over the last 15 months or so, both in and outside School but, I hope, this Newsletter also acts as a celebration. After all, there has been so much 'fab stuff' despite the disruption!

It would be remiss of me not to pay tribute to all our students, particularly those in Year 11 and Year 13, who have handled the challenges of school closure and the cancellation of their exams with such good grace and spirit and have shown typical Wellington resilience. My colleagues must also be thanked and congratulated for how they have responded to the demands of the past year and, particularly, how they have handled the GCSE and A level gradings process with such professionalism. It has been a most surreal year (a much over-used word but appropriate, I feel, in this context) but, like last year, the messages of support from parents, the photos and videos of our students' work and 'extra-curricular' antics at home during the spring term closure, the way reward badges have continued to be earned and gleefully received by our young people, the camaraderie that has developed amongst the School community and the mutual

support for one another demonstrated, as always, by the Wellington staff have all served to keep us going.

We are now gradually returning to a greater degree of 'normality' (although we had to remind ourselves what that looked like), significantly and thankfully so following our return to School after the half-term break on 7th June. I use the term 'normality' but we have learned a lot about ourselves since March 2020, reflected at length and, consequently, how we 'build back' may lead to both some minor tweaks but also some significant changes. Perhaps most notably, will be our enhanced work around wellbeing, anti-racism and gender equality but there are numerous exciting projects in the pipeline. This Newsletter, in parts, hints at the positivity and optimism of a post-Covid era.



School closure in the spring term once again impacted our sponsored walk for Cash for Kids. Charity fundraising is now more important than ever and I fear will be in even greater need when we come out of this crisis.



Mrs Copeland organised a virtual sponsored walk, where students were asked to undertake an activity and raise funds in the process. Inevitably, staff and students rose to the challenge and you can read more about that later in the Newsletter. We were delighted to receive a silver and gold disc from Jess Rigby at Cash for Kids / Hits FM, acknowledging the nearly £50,000 donated by Wellington over the last two years. Given the circumstances, this has been a magnificent achievement by our community and the source of much pride. Let's see what we can achieve in February 2022 when we have a 'proper' sponsored walk together.



The last year has seen several additions to the Wellington 'family': congratulations to Mrs Collinge, Mrs Heaton-Brooks, Mrs Shelley, Mrs Rostron and Miss Weeks on the births of Lily, Christian, Theo, Heidi and Arabella respectively. We look forward to welcoming them back from their maternity leave this term and next year.

At this point, I always like to acknowledge our outgoing and incoming colleagues. Last summer we said goodbye to Dr Chard (promoted to Deputy Head), Miss Gilbert (moved area), Mrs Byiers (Estates Manager – change of career), and Miss Waight (Art & Textiles Technician - moved area) and during the course of this year Miss Smith (Science Technician – change of career), Mrs Brown (Teaching Assistant – retirement) and Mrs Hartley. We hope they are all well and continuing to do great things in their new roles.

At the end of this year, we will say farewell to Mrs Roe (long-serving TA), Catie Curtin (former student and currently Art & Textiles Technician, who has been accepted onto a PGCE course) and IT Technician, Robin Legg, who begins a graduate scholarship at Emory University (Atlanta, Georgia) in the US. We thank them for their support of the School and its students and wish them all the very best. Please do keep in touch.

Mr Legg and Miss Curtin joined us earlier this year and we also had the pleasure of welcoming Mr Cawley (Estates Manager), Mr French (IT Technician), Mr Burgess (Behavioural / Pastoral Support), Mrs Warren (TA), Miss Tomlinson (TA), Mrs O'Neil (Estates team) and Miss Flett (Science Technician). By the time this Newsletter is published, Jonathan Lloyd will also have joined us in the role of Teacher Support Assistant. From September, Mr Walker, Miss Purdy (both MFL) and Miss Hollis (History) will be joining the teaching staff.

We hope they will all have happy and successful careers here at Wellington, however long they may be with us for.

Ordinarily, I would end this introduction with a lovely message from a departing student or a grateful parent, and my goodness we've had so many this year, but I have decided to keep those up my sleeve for future occasions (Open Morning in September, Awards Evening etc). Always good to keep one's powder dry! I do hope, however, that the contents of this Newsletter provide a real flavour as to what a truly amazing place this is to work / study and how, it could be argued, it has become that little bit more special during these challenging times.

Enjoy the Newsletter and have a great summer.

Stay safe.

S P Beeley, Headteacher

Year 7

Font of All Knowledge

Year 7 developed these alphabet-tastic paintings way back in the first term.

As well as exploring the types of font style, we explored different collage techniques and creation of compositions.

These beautiful paintings show wonderful control and accuracy! Great START Y7!

Miss Grey



Polka Dot Patterns

Year 7 have been learning about the Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama, affectionately known as the 'Princess of Polka Dots'!

Pupils have learnt about shape, tone, composition, and pattern by creating their own colourful, Kusama inspired mushroom compositions.

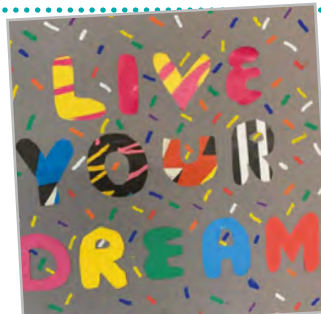
Ms Lysaght



Year 7 I Gotta a Text!

7T, 7N and 7A students were introduced to text as art by studying typography. They looked at different font styles and the principles of typography.

The students discussed the variety of unique colloquialisms and regional expressions from all over the UK and chose an expression of their choice to illustrate. They studied typography illustrators and used this to help inform their decisions on their own design.



The vibrance and creativity was very apparent in this work and I loved having it on display in my classroom, well done everyone.

Mrs Marneras

Onomatopoeia

7R created these wonderful pop art style pieces of onomatopoeic words. The pieces are really strong, showing super reference to the word and accurate painting.

Well done you lot, I know how hard you worked on these!

Mrs Kearney



Year 7

'Tag'amama Ramen

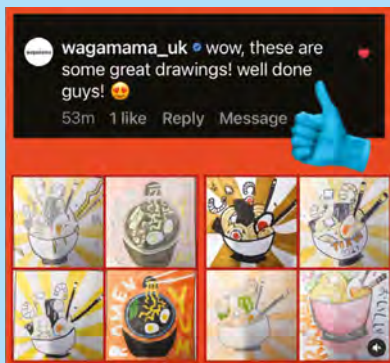
Hmmm, not sure if they're going to happen but in homage to all things Japanese in anticipation of the Tokyo Olympics, we have developed a KS3 homework booklet to explore Japanese culture, art and style.

One of the first tasks was to complete beautiful Ramen illustrations.

Being a big fan of a Wagamama and now the beautiful Ramen illustrations, I tagged in the Asian fast food chain and what do you know... they loved the illustrations as much as me and gave us a shout out!

Yoku yatta KS3!

Miss Grey



Year 7 Feathers

Our Year 7 pupils all made individual feathers which were later put together to create this huge group piece for our Year 7 Angels to pose with.

Even some teachers posed for a photo opportunity - who can you spot?

Well done Year 7 – you brightened up the Art corridor.

Mrs Kearney



Year 8

Pretty Fly for a Cacti!

Having explored colour theory, Year 8 created these beautiful studies of Cacti and succulents. The students blended colours and used layering techniques to show the colour qualities of the piece.

Inspired by the artist Wayne Thiebaud, there is a pastel element and the contrasting rich violet shadows give these pieces impact.

The students worked really hard on these – well done they are on point!

Miss Grey



Still Life

Year 8 continue to dazzle me with their colourful work. Creating their own compositions, they explored colour and pattern in the arrangement of the objects for their still life.

The results are these vibrant pieces. The students really pushed their use of complimentary shades and highlights to develop these pieces. Well done Year 8.

Miss Grey



Year 8

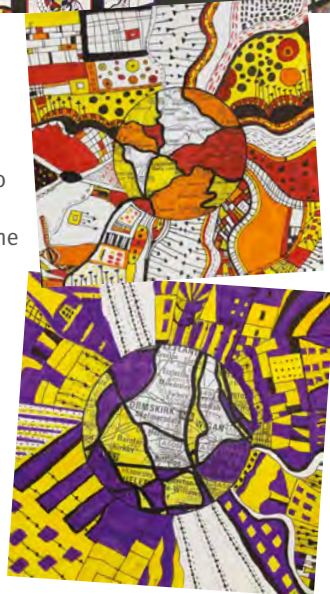
Year 8 All Around the World

8O, 8E and 8I were introduced to colour theory and applied it to their artwork using maps.

The students researched the work of artist Victoria Potrovitza, a contemporary abstract fibre artist who lives and works in California. After exploring her work and producing some wonderful research homework on her, they began to combine their colour theory knowledge and the techniques of her work to create their wonderful unique map artwork.

They worked extremely hard on this and their finished outcomes were outstanding and even caught the eye of Victoria Potrovitza on our Instagram page. The display in my classroom shows a huge amount of dedication and creativity from a wonderful set of students, I am sure they loved creating their map art as much as I did teaching it.

Mrs Marneras



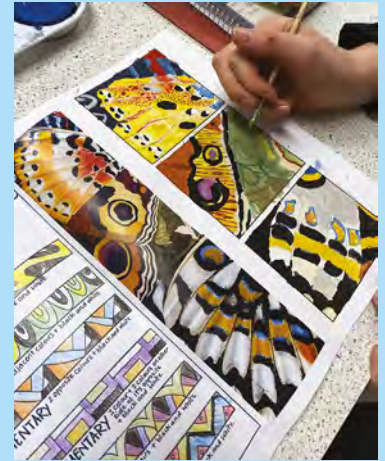
It's a Bugs Life

Year 8 have been using insects as an inspiration for their colour theory projects.

Using tertiary colours, complementary colours and triadic colours they produced these lovely detailed studies of butterfly wings and beetle paintings.

There's nothing scary about these creepy crawlies!

Mrs Kearney



Feathered Friends

We have been blown away with the drawing and painting skills demonstrated by Year 8.

These bird examples are first class. Well done Year 8!

Mrs Kearney



A Fabulous Flock

Year 8 worked really hard to create these beautiful birds inspired by illustrator Claire Youngs.

They created their own patterned and textured papers, selecting their own colour palette. Using templates, the birds were put together, with each section contrasting in colour, texture and pattern.

Well done!

Ms Lysaght



Year 8

If I were inside my painting I would see . . .

Year 8 pupils were asked to look at a 'Dream of a Sunday Afternoon in Alameda Park', a painting by Diego Rivera, and imagine they were in the painting.

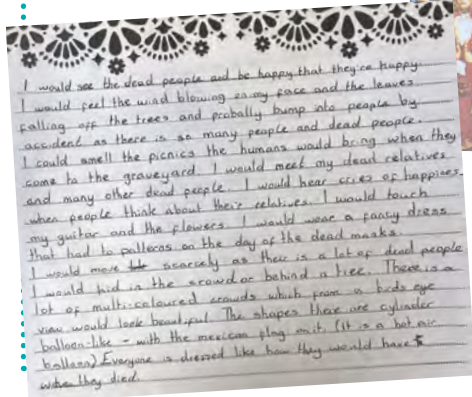
The responses were so imaginative! They described what they would see, what they might feel, what they could smell, what they would wear, what they would touch etc.



What a fantastic response Year 8!

Well done!

Mrs Kearney



Nifty Nicho's

Year 8 created some Nicho's whilst studying Mexican Art during lockdown.

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

Mrs Kearney



Year 9

If I had a Hammer

I'm delighted with these tool pieces by Year 9.

Of course, we all hit the DIY in lockdown and here the students have created studies that show the various equipment used. The surfaces and textures explored reflect the aged surfaces of the tools.



These pieces were created on a large scale, so the correct proportions and accuracy of the objects is really impressive – Year 9 you nailed it!

Miss Grey

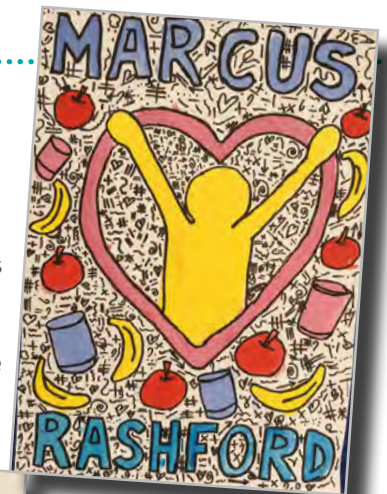
Haring Homage

Year 9 created these wonderful pieces inspired by lockdown thoughts and sentiments.

They reflected on the work done by Marcus Rashford, our daily walks and being home again.

The style reflects Keith Haring's street style art with its bright colours, tags and the infamous figures. Great messages and a sense of the time.

Miss Grey



Year 9

Year 9 As Free as a Bird

9X2, 9X3, 9Y2 and 9Y4 entered the world of 'birds'.

They made some beautiful observations which demonstrated their outstanding drawing skills. After studying the various aspects of a bird, the work of bird illustrators and artist Abby Diamond the students began to work in 3D. They manipulated cardboard in order to make wonderful 3D birds.

Well done Year 9. Mrs Marneras



Know it Owl!

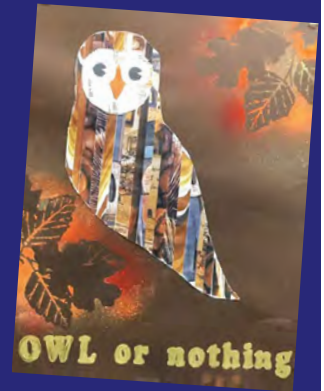
It was a hoot when Year 9 developed these stunning owl studies using mixed media.

The work incorporates collage with different papers and surfaces.

One group used text and a pun or two to develop the work and presentation. The other group used paint layers to enhance the surface textures and shapes.

Hootiful work Year 9!

Miss Grey



Mark Making Like Murphy

Year 9 began the year by exploring mixed media and mark making techniques.

They have created the most beautiful experimental pieces based on the Manchester artist Ian Murphy.

Students tried a range of new techniques and materials such as image transfer, tissue paper backgrounds, charcoal, biro and chalk and the results truly reflect their hard work. Well done Year 9.

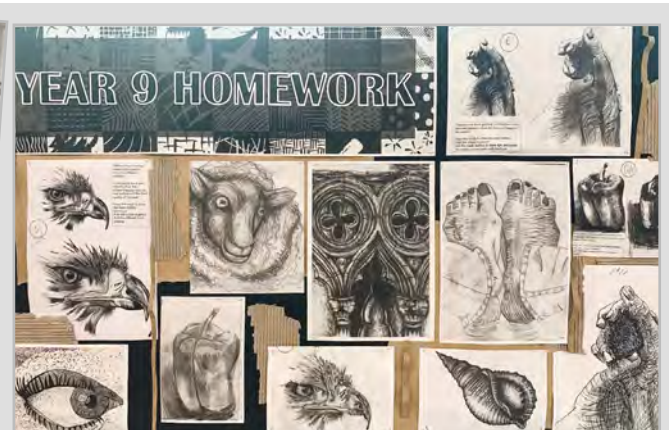
Mrs Kearney



Year 9 Homework

I was blown away with the quality of the homework that Year 9 made for the display in my classroom. Well done!

Mrs Marneras



Year 9

A Winning Victory at Wellington!

During remote learning, we launched our Season of Victory competition to design Nike trainers and we were pleased with the wonderful entries from Year 9.

The artist was so impressed when she saw our work on our Instagram account, that she offered to donate prizes to the students. The prizes consisted of an A2 poster, cards and holographic sticker packs. All of Year 9 worked hard and the winner was Zainab Ali, with the runner ups Edward Davies, Yumna Alshanti, Georgina Roberts, Hannah Simms, Katie Donnelly, Anvita Vijay Anand, Lawrence McNeela, and Isabella Till.

Always a 'Season of Victory' at Wellington Art department!

Mrs Marneras



Year 10

Buzz in The Art Room

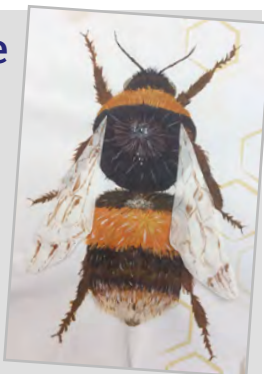
Year 10 continue their coursework with their usual aplomb.

As well as being focused on their tasks in lockdown they have made great work in the classroom on their return.

These paintings are a perfect example of their continued efforts. The detail and care taken with their brushwork and colour mixing shows wonderful observation and growing skill.

I think they are the bee's knees!

Miss Grey



Year 10 Intricate Insects

Year 10 rose to the challenge of starting a new topic during our remote learning and excelled.

When we returned to school I was so impressed to see the quality of the students' work. It was clear to me to see that they had been hard working and focused during this time, showing a huge amount of independence and determination. Well done Year 10, you have worked so hard this year and your work shows it.

Mrs Marneras



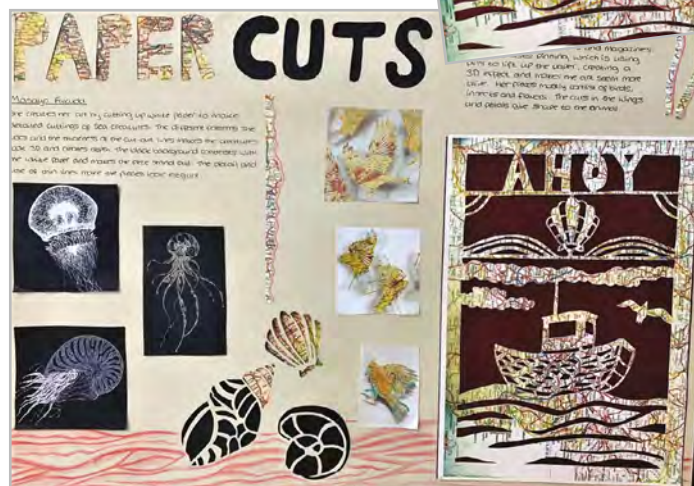
Year 10

Year 10 Sounds of the Sea

Year 10 have worked hard in developing their art skills through the theme of Sea Life and created some beautiful pieces of work, including some wonderful papercuts.

Year 10 showed great strength and resilience continuing this through remote learning. I was so pleased with every single one of my students who worked so hard through lockdown and produced super work.

Mrs Marneras



Perfect Prints

Year 10 students produced these A3 monoprints for their 'Fantastic Beasts' projects.

They are very carefully created showing texture and mark making. They also experimented with lino printing, creating some stamp like insects to decorate the edge.

I didn't love the mess – but I do really love the outcomes!

Well done Year 10!

Mrs Kearney



Year 10 Sea Life – Monoprints

Year 10 learnt a new skill of monoprinting and produced some wonderful outcomes, which they further developed using Photoshop and paint.

They clearly understood the principles of monoprinting and created mesmerising monoprinting sheets.

Excellent work Year 10.

Mrs Marneras



Excellent Entomology

Year 10 have been exploring insects via mixed media, creating wonderful studies as part of their coursework.

The care and detail they have shown in their work (much completed during online learning) has been a joy to see.

Despite a tricky year, this lot have shown resilience and growing skills, looking forward to seeing how your work develops.

Miss Grey



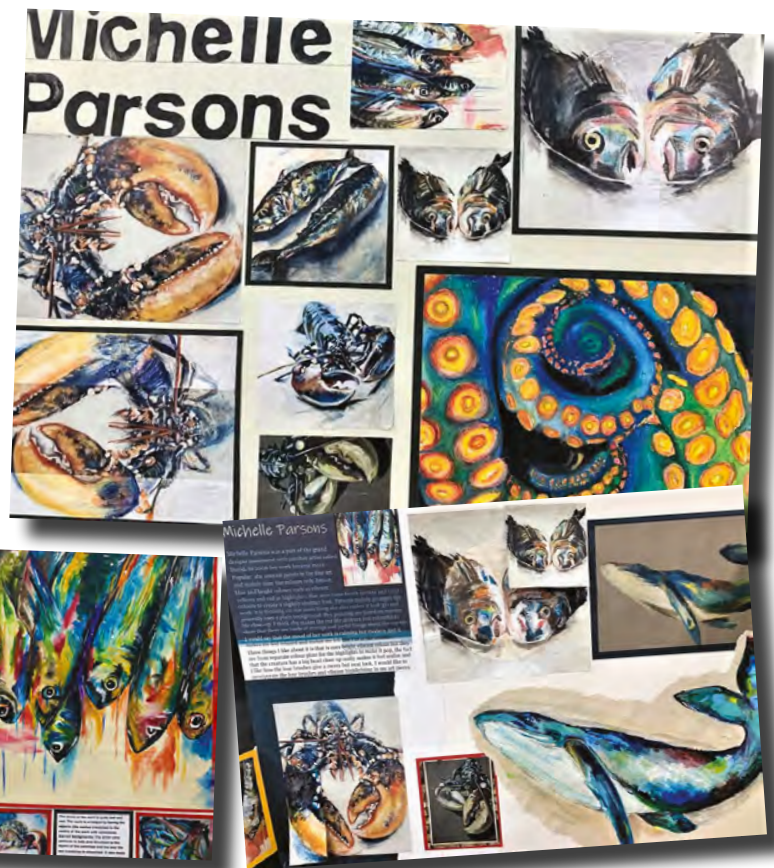
Year 10

Year 10 Artist Research - Something Fishy

Year 10 researched Michelle Parsons who is a practising fine artist specialising in oil paintings on canvas.

The students studied her sea life work, focusing on her painting techniques and styles, and created stunning research sheets on her. The presentation of their sheets was as equally beautifully composed as their painting work. Amazing work Year 10, well done.

Mrs Marneras



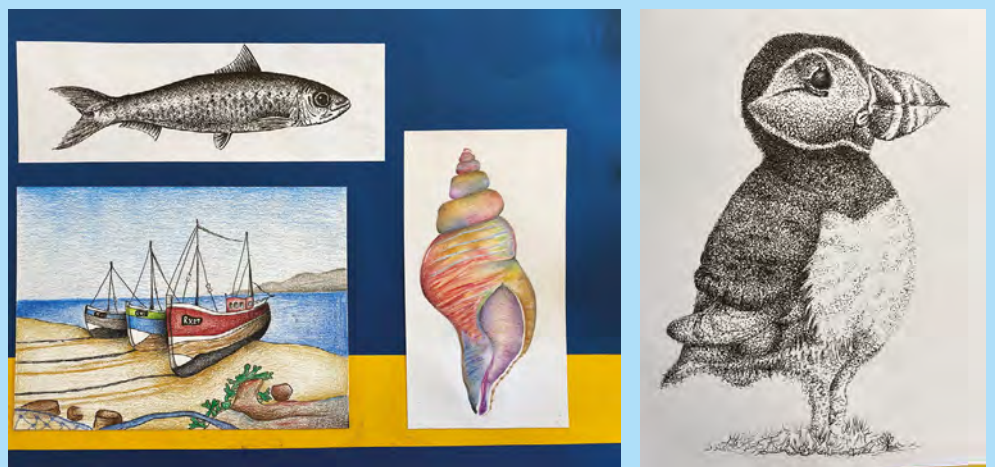
Wish You Were Here!

Year 10 do like to be beside the seaside – and it shows!

To start off their GCSE course, Year 10's produced some stunning observational drawings. I was impressed with the detail and skills that the students have included. What a fantastic start to Year 10.

Well done

Mrs Kearney



Year 10 Drawing Diary

Using a range of techniques and processes, Year 10 have been keeping a 'Formal Elements' drawing diary – learning all about Line, Shape, Form, Colour, Value, Texture, Space.

These are ongoing and we can't wait to see them finished in Year 11.

Fantastic work Year 10!

Mrs Kearney



Year 11

Going Full Circle

Throughout the year, Year 11 have completed individual paths of study.

These pieces show the very different visuals created on the same theme but following different paths of style and outcome.

The use of colour, brushwork and composition across each piece is very different, yet all are presented on the same beautiful circular format. I'm lucky enough to have these on my wall! Well done 11A.

Miss Grey



Dine Out on These!

More delicious fruit work from Year 11.

The mark making qualities of the artist Jim Dine are reflected in these pieces. The students have explored his expressive application of paint, use of stencils and the combinations of colour and monochrome works.

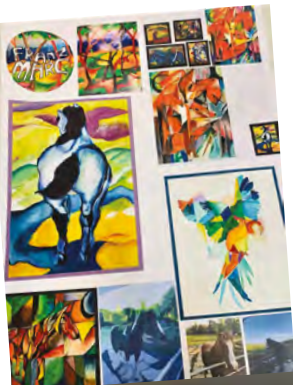
The variation created across the different pieces has delighted me, well done everyone!

Miss Grey



Year 11 Tooty Fruity

Year 11 have worked extremely well this year and shown great enthusiasm and commitment in completing their coursework.



I am amazed at the amount of work and dedication the students have shown through a difficult year.

Well done Year 11, I am so proud of you and good luck with your adventures next year.

Mrs Marneras



Franz Marc My Words!

Year 11 have studied a variety of artists whilst completing their GCSE, including the dynamic style of Franz Marc.

They applied his style to their Fruit Project, utilising his dissection of the canvas and shapes to juxtapose patterns, shapes and colour.

I was very impressed with their efforts and control with the techniques. The pieces are varied in outcome and form a stunning display in my room – super proud of you 11A!

Miss Grey



Year 11



Print Perfect

These beautiful lino prints were completed by Year 11, all based upon their fruit studies.

This explored pattern and the tricky 3 colour reduction technique. I think you will agree they have nailed it!

Miss Grey



This is a BONAS!

The design qualities of the independent British lifestyle store, Oliver Bonas, were to inspire graphics outcomes for Year 11.



Using their lino prints as backgrounds the students were able to create packaging ideas for bathing products.

I'm sure you will agree that these look fabulous

Miss Grey

GCSE Fruit Project

Year 11 did a great job completing their GCSE project based on Fruit.

Bearing in mind that a good chunk of this work was completed at home I am beyond proud of how well they have done!

I can't wait to get all your work up for display in Room 12 to show it off.

Mrs Kearney



Year 12

Year 12 Large Scale Studies

These pieces have been one of the highlights of my year! Bold statement, but I think the quality of the work backs it up.

The studies were completed as part of the students' coursework, all on different themes. The pieces were completed using different paper surfaces and then using hand made brushes and mark making tools. The tonal qualities are excellent and all created with bits of card, straws, mascara wands, sticks etc. Great observation and control have been shown.

The scale is evident, you can just see the artists peeping out from behind their work. Well done on this work, can't wait to see what comes next!

Miss Grey



Year 12

Charcoal Creations

Year 12 continue to create wonderful course work again following their own themes.

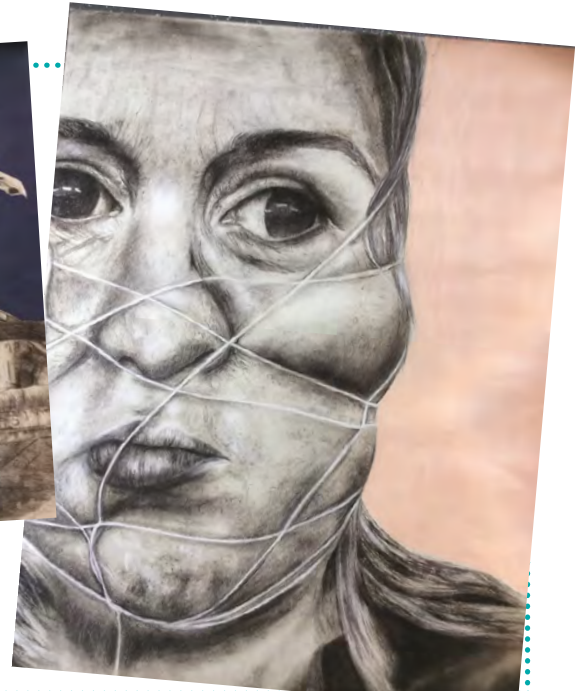


These pieces explore charcoal and focus on tonal qualities and surface detail.

The students constantly look to find details and show it in their studies and amped up the mark making.

The colour hit contrasts beautifully with the monochrome of the charcoal work.

Well done! Miss Grey



Year 13

Now that's how to display an essay!

Well done to Year 13 students for being incredibly creative when deciding how to display their personal investigations.

All are absolutely stunning and definitely our best yet!

Great work Year 13!

Mrs Kearney



Finale

After an amazing year working hard against the odds, lockdown and all the uncertainty, Year 13 managed to pull off a great set of coursework and developed them into these wonderful final outcomes.



So different in style and subject, yet all show amazing control, tenacity and creativity.

George's artwork reflects the urban architecture and pace of New York, with a striking colour palette and the linear composition.

Erica has created a beautiful softness with her pastel shades exploring the sea shore from her photography on the beach at Cleveleys.

Whilst Darcy conjures many elements of her Grandfather's life in her careful oil paint study with a collage and fine liner mixed media frame.

Well done Year 13, we are really proud of your work, good luck for next year.

Miss Grey & Mrs Kearney



5000 Posts

Throughout lockdown we have continued to showcase student work and celebrate their achievements in Art.

We also try and highlight artists, art news, galleries, competitions and events to highlight art is everywhere and we don't need to retrain in cyber!

Earlier in the year we hit 5000 posts and we are getting close to 2000 followers. Definitely worth a look! Make sure you follow us @wellingtonschool_artdepartment

#teamart



Sketchbook Circle

We have been very excited this year to set up our own 'Wellington Staff Sketchbook Circle'.

It's been a great opportunity to take some time out and do something that is good for our own wellbeing and mental health. We made 30 sketchbooks to give out - each book comes with a different theme or starting point. The books move round in a circle and we pass it on to the next person in the circle as near to the first of the month as possible.

When the books are completed we are hoping to celebrate with an exhibition. I would like to thank all the members of staff for taking part! The books are so varied and personal!

Mrs Kearney



Virtual Gallery

We have a virtual art gallery show casing the work of some of our students.

It enables you to get up close to many of our wonderful masterpieces. This is via a platform called Artsteps you will find us as:

Wellington School Art Dept

<https://www.artsteps.com/profile/5fb2dbfb6d311f0bc788fb4a>

Year of the Ox

Our KS3 pupils celebrated the Chinese New Year by producing the 'Year of the Ox' Poster during remote learning.



Pupils used some traditional Chinese patterns and Zentangle patterns before adding colour. Working from home, I even decorated my house for the day!

Well done everyone for your enthusiasm!

Mrs Kearney

Farewell!

I cannot express how proud I am of this bunch!

What a journey they have had on their GCSE course with various lockdowns and the restrictions, but throughout it they kept working and made the most of it.

Very sad to see them go, but delighted so many are coming back to 6th form.

Miss Grey



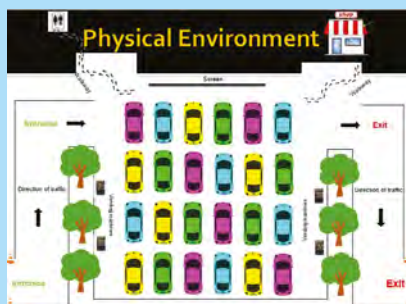
BUSINESS News

Year 12 Business Studies

Our very talented and entrepreneurial Year 12 class have made a fantastic start to the A level course.

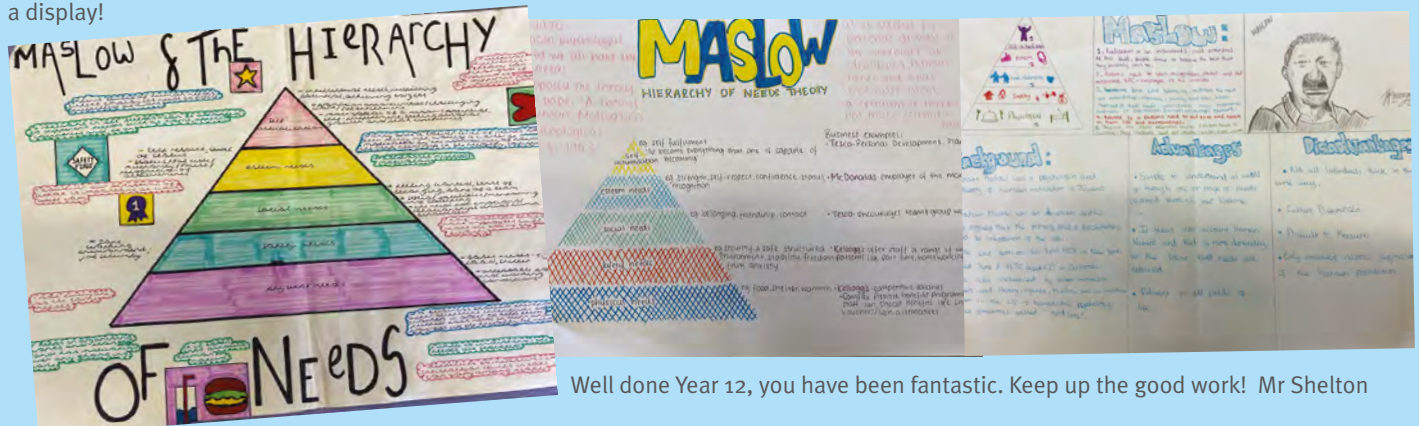
From the start of the year Mrs Clarke and I have been impressed by their enthusiasm and passion for Business, which is always reflected by their eagerness to discuss current business events and share their opinions on all things business related.

Despite the challenges of lockdown, the class remained positive and motivated.



During this time, they were set a challenge to create an entertainment event to launch in the local area. This included working (remotely) as part of a team to develop the marketing strategy for the event. They then pitched their idea to a potential investor when we returned to school. All of the class demonstrated excellent presentation skills and conveyed their ideas with confidence. There were so many good pitches that it was impossible to pick a winner!

We have recently been investigating how businesses can motivate their employees and studying the work of a number of motivational theorists. This was a great opportunity for the class to show their artistic skills and create a new display for the department. The students produced some fantastic work and showed a great understanding of a range of motivational theories, we now just need to put them into a display!



Well done Year 12, you have been fantastic. Keep up the good work! Mr Shelton

Year 10 Enterprise and Marketing

This year saw the introduction of a new vocational qualification in Business Studies. Our current Year 10 are working towards the OCR Cambridge National in Enterprise and Marketing and have made a fantastic start to the course.

During the year, they have studied a number of topics, including finance, marketing, product development and business ownership.

During lockdown, pupils were given the task of carrying out market research, analysing their findings and creating a consumer profile for a new product.

I have to say that we have a very entrepreneurial group of students. Product ideas included takeaways for the health conscious, make up and lightweight bags using sustainable/recycled materials.

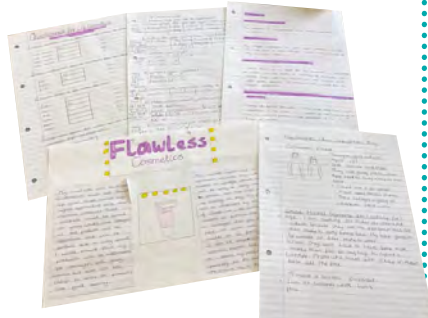
One question that they also considered was 'what type of legal structure should I set up as?'

To help answer this question pupils completed an investigation task and created posters to reflect their learning.

Despite the difficult year, they have adapted well and shown resilience in their studies and set themselves a great foundation on which to build on as they move into Year 11.

Well done and keep up the fantastic work!

Mr Shelton



Year 11 Business Studies

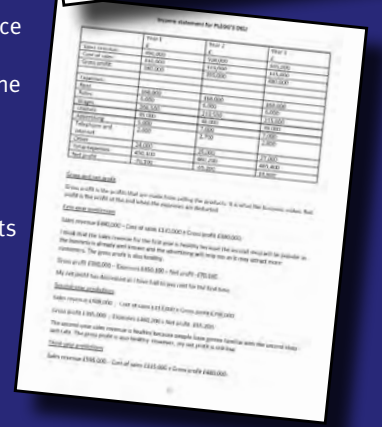
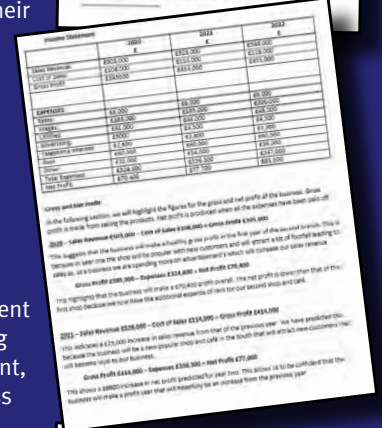
After a disrupted Year 10, Year 11 Business pupils returned to school with a real determination to succeed.

Taking the opportunity to attend the extra revision session, the cohort finally sat their Unit 1 exam in the November and their results were amazing. It was a testament to their positive attitude and understanding the importance of the assessment.

Their resilience was again tested, when in January we faced another lockdown. Yet again Year 11 impressed with their positivity and commitment to succeed. This time working on their controlled assessment, students produced a business plan for a bakery, including a detailed marketing and finance strategy. We were really impressed by the quality of the work they produced during this time. Upon our return, students continued to work with the same determination and motivation and the results were fantastic.

Well done on your achievements!

Mr Shelton



Year 13 Business Studies

And so, to Year 13. You have coped unbelievably well with all that has happened over the past 17 months.

You returned to school in June determined to succeed. You applied yourself well to your studies and continued with your enthusiasm for the subject. Even when the next lockdown was announced, you continued to show your willingness to succeed and adapted well to online lessons! We know that your A level studies have not been normal but hope that you enjoyed your business experience and take away some happy memories. All the best Year 13, good luck for the future.

Mrs Clarke and Mr Shelton



Remembrance Day 2020

Wednesday 11th November 2020 marked the 102nd anniversary of the Armistice, the end of World War One.



In Design & Technology students marked Remembrance Day by developing their design skills to create individual red poppies and personalised postcards to commemorate the courage and sacrifice of those who served their country and honour those who lost their lives to defend our democratic freedoms and way of life.

Mrs Booth



Tokyo 2021 Challenge Project

Key Stage 3 students were challenged with a project based on the Tokyo 2021 Olympics.

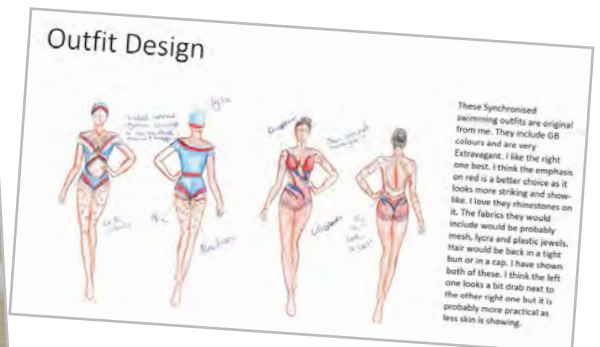
Students had to develop their investigative skills to research Olympic kit designs for the different sports that take place. From their investigations students designed three different outfits for three different sporting events for Team GB. These designs had to consider materials and the functions and features needed to allow the athlete to perform.

Following this, students had to consider the dietary requirements of athletes to optimise their performance in competition. Students investigated what kinds of foods athletes need to eat, which nutrients are important and they then used the information to plan a nutritious meal for an Olympian.

All KS3 students worked hard and the winners were Beth Field 7ASN, Lucy Gibson 8EDS, Aiza Iqbal 7ETS, George Lewis 7ETS, Freya Miller 8LMN, Oscar Newton 7JHY, Sarah Page 8PCL, Harrison Sykes 8LMN and Abigail Turl 8PCL

Amazing work!

Mrs Booth & Miss Ryan



My Balanced Meal includes various barbeque meats from the shop, a salad, the dip we made in food tech and bread bun. For pudding I just sliced strawberries and dolloped Greek yoghurt with honey on.



Year 7

Year 7 Cooking and Nutrition

Year 7 have impressed me this year with their commitment to learning and their enthusiasm for learning about the Eatwell Guide as well as developing the practical skills they will need for Years 8 and 9.

In lessons we have discussed Hygiene & Safety, Healthy Eating, Equipment and Sustainability. Pupils have demonstrated a fantastic prior knowledge of these areas and have built on this to develop a further understanding in all areas.

Practical sessions have been used to learn basic cutting styles such as julienne, dicing and chopping whilst using the bridge & claw techniques to ensure knives are used correctly and safely. We have also learnt how to use the hob and the oven and using kitchen technology such as a hand-held blender.



Lockdown didn't dampen the spirits of pupils and it was pleasing to see the number of pupils who responded to the challenge of making a fruit garnish or a "Happy Tea" (basically placing the food on the plate to make a design that would cheer you up).

Great effort Year 7.

Mrs Ryan

Automata Toy

This year the Design and Technology department have revamped an old project, the Automata Toy.

Students get to explore key D&T concepts such as mechanisms, types of movement, working to a design brief and developing computer aided design (CAD) skills. Students in Year 7 and 8 have produced some fantastic outcomes, well done!

Mr Brown



Year 7 Textiles

Year 7 students have been developing their hand sewing and embroidery skills to complete decorative appliqué as well as more

advanced hand sewing skills such as constructing seams with a blanket stitch to produce a cushion design in Textiles.



All the designs were inspired by animals and each one is personalised in an original way to ensure it is suitable for their chosen user.

Some amazing designs and creations Year 7, a roaring success!

Mrs Booth



Year 8

Year 8 Mediterranean Cuisine

Over the last term Year 8 studied all about the Mediterranean diet.

We first explored the Greek diet and made 'Gigantes' which are butter beans in a homemade tomato sauce with feta cheese, students were able to develop their knife skills during this practical and learnt how to use the hob and oven. We then discussed the Greek diet and students designed their own Meze menu. Students also looked at the different cultures within the Mediterranean and their similarities and differences. Next on the menu was an Italian water cake with fruit juice.

Finally, we explored how to make a bread dough and discussed the functions of ingredients such as yeast. Students made a pizza or bread rolls with their bread dough and were able to be creative with their shapes and toppings, producing some excellent results which even Gordon Ramsey would be impressed with!

Miss Metcalfe



Year 8 Textiles

Students in Year 8 Textiles have been learning that ONE MILLION tonnes of textiles are thrown away each year?

Any old clothes, curtains or bedding that are not recycled end up in landfill; so the students were tasked to turn old, unwanted textiles into something new.

Students have created unique sustainable monster toys for young children made from recycled clothing, bedding and reclaimed fabrics. This has involved experimenting with a range of decorative hand embroidery and appliqué techniques to enhance their fabrics to create very individual monster toy designs.

I am sure you will agree that these designs have their own individual characters and personalities.

Mrs Booth



Year 9

Year 9 Textiles

One of the biggest environmental issues this planet is facing is plastic pollution and the devastating impact it has on the planet.

To address this problem Year 9 students have designed and made environmentally friendly 'bag for life' designs made from organic cotton and other recycled materials and components.

The designs incorporate an image or slogan that highlight the issues and damage caused by single-use plastic products.

The 'bag for life' designs are custom-made for an intended user and have a specific function and include a variety of decorative techniques to enhance the design and promote that important environmental message.

Mrs Booth



Year 9 Food

Over the last term Year 9 have been learning how to cook on a budget and have been making 'cheap healthy family meals'.

Students were able to test their Maths skills when they worked in pairs to plan their weekly shop on a specified budget, this got students thinking about the difference between essential and luxury items.

Students were able to make a bolognaise sauce, sausage and bean casserole with bread, vegetable curry, macaroni cheese and pizzas, as well as their own choice dishes. Students learnt how to work independently, show creativity when designing their dishes and produced some really great results. We also discussed food science when making bread and looked at vegetarian cuisine.

All students should now be able to cook a healthy family meal at home independently. Well done Year 9!

Miss Metcalfe



Year 10

Engineering

Returning to school has been brilliant for Engineering at Wellington.

Students on the course have started to get back in the workshops by testing materials. We have started to explore and discuss material properties, linking which materials will be better for certain uses. Smaller practical projects are due to commence in the coming weeks giving our students opportunity to develop and build on their practical skills previous years. We can't wait to use our new lathe for practical projects!

Mr Brown



Year 10

Year 10 – GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

The dedication and commitment to learning shown by Year 10 Food Preparation and Nutrition pupils has been phenomenal.

All pupils have worked extremely hard to build and develop a wide range of practical skills as well as in-depth knowledge of the theory topics. We have been very impressed by work submitted over the lock down period as well as the work completed in the classroom.

Pupils are currently working on a food preparation task where they have been challenged to cook 2 dishes in 2 hours. This is based on a theme which the pupils chose from 3 options, with many selecting the theme of "Asian Cuisine".

So far, pupils have presented some very detailed research of their chosen topic and have demonstrated their technical skills by making a variety of dishes. The dishes have been exquisite and if these are anything to go by then the final dishes will be outstanding. We can't wait to see what they can produce.

Great work Year 10. Mrs Ryan & Miss Metcalfe



Year 10 Design & Technology (Textiles)

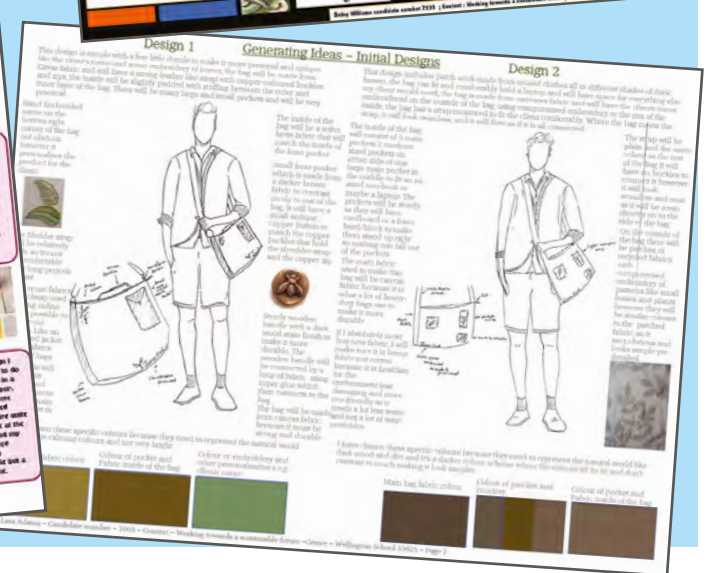
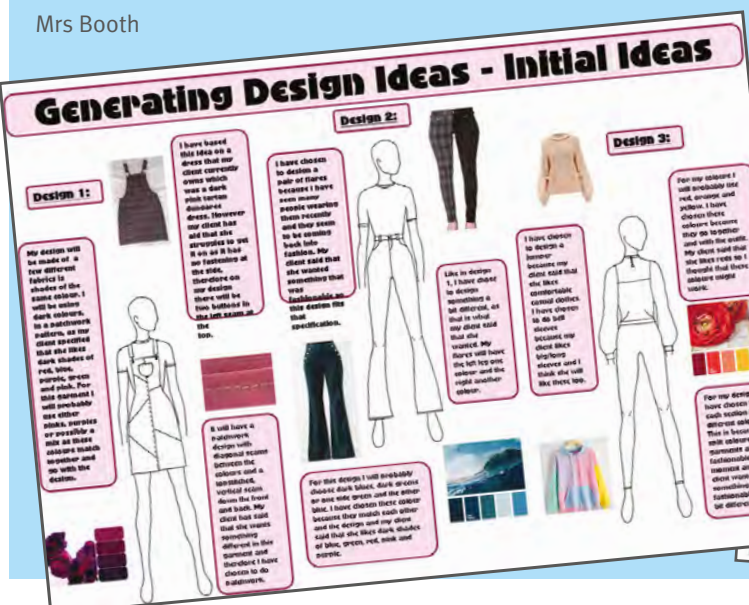
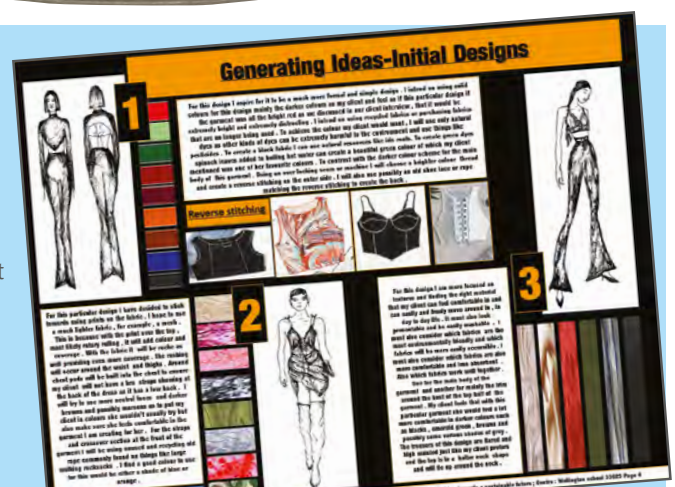
Year 10 Textile students have been developing their investigative, analytical, design and making skills to complete a practice Non-Examination Assessment project.

Students have had to investigate a context to design a range of sustainable fashion garments for the wants and needs of a specified target audience.

To support these skills students have been developing their sewing skills and studying the theoretical elements which are helping them prepare for Year 11.

A fantastic effort – keep up the hard work!

Mrs Booth



Year 11

Year 11 – GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition

I would like to say a massive well done to the Year 11 Food and Nutrition pupils, who despite not being able to complete as many practical sessions as we would have liked, have still managed to demonstrate a wide range of high-level and complex skills such as portioning a chicken, filleting a fish, producing a roux sauce and making enriched dough for pasta and bread.

Pupils have covered a range of topics in theory lessons including nutrition, food science, where our food comes from and factors that may influence our food choices. They have gained a great understanding of all areas and it has been impressive seeing how they have applied the knowledge to real life scenarios.

Over the two-year course some fantastic work has been submitted and it has been pleasing to see the amount of effort and hard work that has gone into each task. I have also seen excellent development of practical skills and am very proud of all the achievements in this area.

Fantastic work Year 11 – well done.

Mrs Ryan



Year 11 – GCSE Design & Technology

Following this challenging year, the department wanted to celebrate the dedication and commitment of the students studying GCSE Design & Technology.

For months, students have been working hard to complete their Non-Examination Assessment, where they investigated a contextual challenge and designed and manufactured prototypes for a specific need identified.

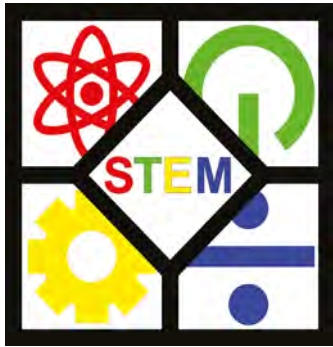
The portfolio outcomes demonstrate the knowledge and skills the students acquired to produce diverse designs and prototypes for a range of needs; these included products inspired by nature and multi-functional products. The creation included sustainable fashion products made from organic or recycled materials, children's toys, nature inspired wildlife homes and multi-purpose furniture for the home.

Thank you for all your efforts Year 11 and the best of luck for the future.

Mrs Booth, Mr Brown & Mr Travis

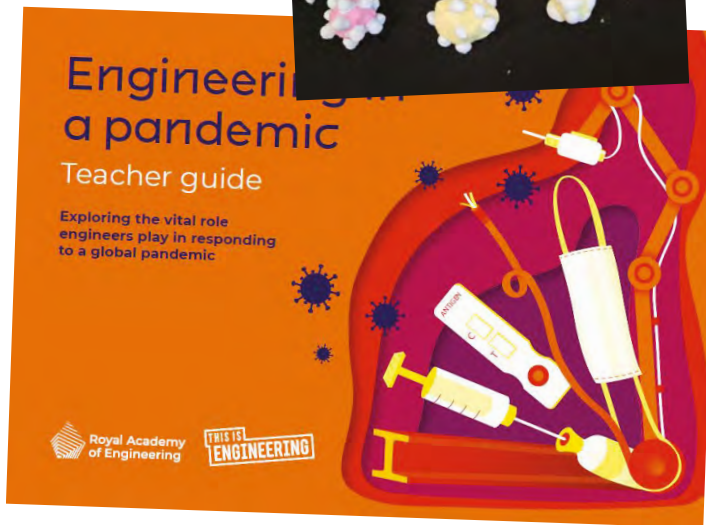


STEM



After returning to school from Lockdown, STEM club has started to explore a new set of resources called Engineering in a Pandemic.

Students have already designed innovative solutions to pandemic specific issues such as social distancing and keeping hands clean. We are now looking at bacteria and viruses. Students have been modelling their own viruses with a thermo plastic called Polymorph. In the coming weeks we will also be looking at how viruses spread throughout populations, why vaccines are so important, lateral flow assay testing and creating a bespoke respiratory device.

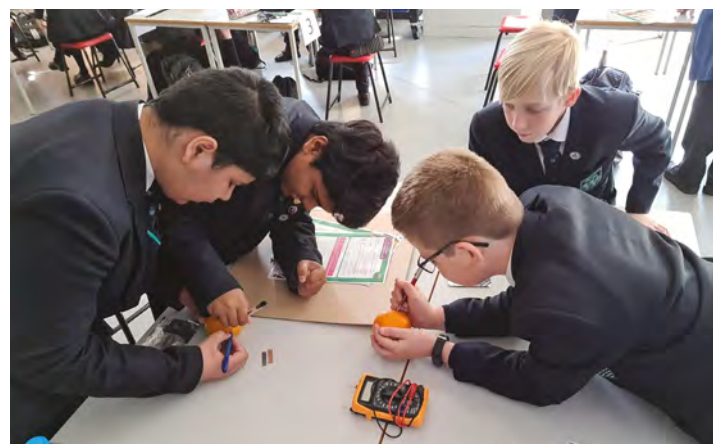


Students who attend STEM club will also take part in a remotely led activity morning called Energy Quest. Energy Quest is a curriculum-linked programme for schools which encourages young people to find out all about sustainable energy and learn about associated engineering careers. Energy Quest will help students to unlock their inner engineer as they explore sustainable energy sources. Linked to sustainable energy, students will cover key topics such as conductivity, energy changes and transfer, magnetism and chemical reactions. Students particularly enjoyed making a battery from oranges! Using electrolysis, groups were tasked with making a battery with limited equipment. Everyone achieved amazing results.



I continue to run the South Manchester STEM Hub (SMAsh) in collaboration with the Royal Academy of Engineering as a Teacher Coordinator. The main objectives of these events are to provide high quality CPD to teachers that already deliver or who would like to deliver STEM in their school. Further to this, every school that attended took away a free box of resources funded by the Royal Academy of Engineering. Attending teachers are also invited to collaborate and share good practice. The network of schools who attend training continues to grow with more local secondary and primary schools as well as other STEM based companies which contribute.

Mr Brown



Year 7

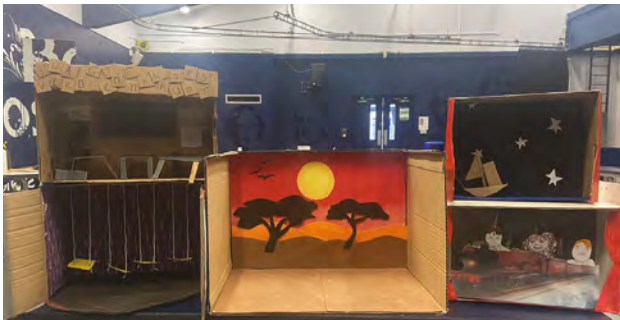
A fantastic year for our Year 7 students - some of the most resilient students we have ever met!

While the majority of students have had a taster of performing in primary school shows, this has been the first real insight into the world of Drama and Performing Arts.

The year started off exploring the wonderful world of Roald Dahl's, 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. With an introduction into voice, body language skills, using scripts and film clips, students leapt into the roles of Augustus Gloop (we had some very humorous attempts of a German accent), Verruca Salt, Violet Beauregarde and Mike Teevee.

With Christmas comes the traditional Pantomime, and this was next on our list. Students explored stereotypes, genre conventions and of course melodrama. Some students even broke into song and dance. We had a range of fantastic performances from Cinderella to Aladdin. Pink wigs seemed to be a popular choice this year!

The new year created another complication with the news that a second school closure would be happening. We didn't let this stop us though and neither did our amazing students. Virtual lessons were based on putting on a show. From exploring the many different roles within the performing arts industry (stage designers, costume designers, agents and casting directors) students were able to learn new skills.



A variety of shows were chosen for the students to adapt from 'Matilda' to 'A Play That Goes Wrong'. We had some fantastic final shoebox stage designs.

On our return to school, we welcomed students back and got right into developing our characterisation and genre skills. Exploring the script 'Gangsters', students have been able to adapt their comedy (Blunder and Slapstick) skills by using Mr Bean and Charlie Chaplain as their influences. Whilst looking at comedy skills, students were once again focused on how best to bring their characters to life, and make them entertaining, for our audience.

Overall, our studies this year, both in the Drama studio and at home, have been centred around characterisation and the Performing Arts Industry. For many, it was a hard-enough task to simply stand up in front of their peers and speak out loud at the start, but with resilience, hard work and a great amount of determination, students have really started to use their creativity and imagination in lessons. Hopefully they have also had some fun along the way!

Miss Pusey

Year 7 Drama Club

What an energetic bunch! Year 7 drama club have been focusing on creating a pantomime based on the story 'Cinderella'.

Their audition pieces really blew us away and the engagement we had really was fantastic to see. The rehearsals have been fun for both students and staff, they have kept us on our toes and made us laugh hysterically, particularly the double act Oscar Newton (Prince Charming) and Hashim Siddique (Dandini). The Ugly Sisters and their Father (Rueben Clarke, Molly Worthington and Tilly Fletcher) have also had us laughing, they have some very interesting dance moves. We are really excited to be able to perform this in the Adshead Hall accompanied by our new lighting and sound rig. Well done to all those hard-working Year 7s involved, for not only their performances but also for their dedication to the subject.

Miss Pusey



Year 8 Drama Club

Our wonderful Year 8 Drama Club - what an energetic and enthusiastic group of students! As part of the Year 8 Drama Club, students are exploring the world of Shakespeare.

They are merging three of the best (Romeo and Juliet, A Midsummer Night's Dream and Macbeth) into their own 'mash up' which will not only be given a modern twist but complemented with songs from musicals. The students have worked incredibly

hard so far and have been extremely dedicated to getting the best out of their rehearsals. We look forward to the final performance and thoroughly enjoy working with you. Keep it up.

Miss Pusey



Year 8

What a creative bunch of students our Year 8 students are.

They have continued to show real passion and creativity for the subject this year. They have also been extremely dedicated to our extra curricular groups, being excellent role models for not only the subject/department but for the younger students and students within their year group.

We started off the year looking at Blood Brothers. Enhancing their skills from Year 7, students explored the characters of Mickey and Edward, using voice levels (some very funny attempts at a Liverpudlian accent) and body language skills. The final performances created were outstanding pieces of work. This topic also gave students an insight into the types of plays/topics explored during GCSE Drama.

We then went back to the wonderful home learning! The first topic was all about soap operas. This allowed students to explore the stereotypical themes and story lines found in a soap opera. They then created their own. On top of this they also had the opportunity to adapt their characterisation skills by creating a character monologue. Dot Cotton was a very common character to re-create!

Our second home learning topic was based on live theatre and learning how we use our knowledge of performance skills to evaluate theatre. We watched The National Theatres version of Treasure Island discussing features such as staging design, costume design, lighting, acting and directing. Students engaged really well with this and even had the opportunity to create their own pirate like character.

On our return to school and return to the drama studio, we were back to performing, re-energised with our creative juices flowing. The new topic was all about exploring the play text 'The Terrible Fate of Humpty Dumpty'. Despite the familiar title, this is not about an egg that fell off a wall, but a boy who was bullied. Students were able to really relate to the text and demonstrate key characters whilst exploring the theme of bullying. Students were really mature during this topic and were really creative when it came to creating performances for an educational purpose.

Keep up the hard work Year 8, more interesting topics to come in Year 9.

Miss Pusey

Year 9

We have had a fantastic year with our Year 9 cohort.

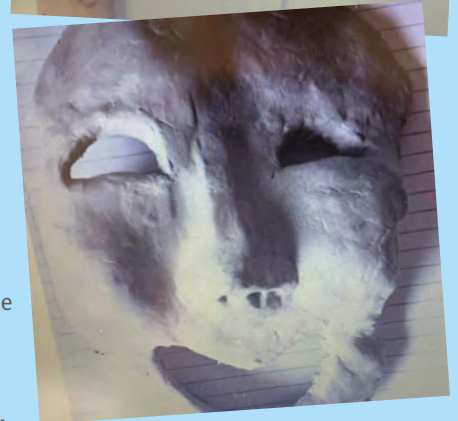
We have covered thought-provoking and challenging topics that have inspired brilliant performances. We try to push students out of their comfort zones by encouraging independence and creativity in each scheme of work. Topics include youth offenders, racism and mental health as well as looking into the history of Theatre.

In the first term, Year 9 focused on the scheme of work 'Borstal'. They delved into the life of a youth offender in a prison in the 1970's. Students developed in depth characters through teacher in role, improvisation and monologues. 9Y1 and 9X1 were two classes that really shone during the monologue assessment. The majority of the class were in the 90% range through showcasing excellent character development in controlled and rehearsed monologues on stage. Well done!

During the 'home learning' period, Year 9 developed their knowledge of theatre through history starting with Greek Theatre. We had some excellent creation of masks from students at home such as Daisy Boyer and Ella Green.

This term we are looking at tackling the issue of Racism through the script 'Noughts and Crosses'. Already we have had mature performances that challenge the audience's thoughts and excellent debates in the lesson.

Mrs Richardson



Year 9 Drama Club

Our Year 9 students have been able to unlock their creativity further this year through Year 9 Drama Club.

We started the year looking at how to present horror on stage and we did this by looking at extracts from the Crucible. We are now working on creating 'Show Reels'. Students have chosen a variety of monologues and duologues, they have been rehearsing and giving feedback to each other and they have really enjoyed being able to play around with different scripts they don't use within lessons. Another fantastic insight into GCSE.

When their pieces are 'performance ready' we look forwards to watching, filming and editing them to create the final product of a Show Reel. The students will be able to take these away and use them for future audition purposes and we can't wait to use them to advertise the department. Fantastic work so far, you lovely bunch!

Miss Pusey



Key Stage 4 Drama

Performing Arts – Year 11

It has been a whirlwind of a year in Performing Arts, completing all 3 units this year. The structure of the year was a little different but this didn't stop my talented Year 11 class. They chose, rehearsed and performed monologues at home. This has really shown their commitment and dedication to the subject and I am so proud of the work that they produced. I

was really impressed with Harry Whitehurst's monologue as he performed 'Widow Twankie' from the pantomime 'Aladdin'. During this performance, Harry dressed in a full outfit including a dress, big earrings and a head piece. This was one of the highlights of lockdown. The whole class really surprised me with their range of monologues from mentally unstable patients to angry teenage boys. I just want to say thank you so much for your hard work, I know the course hasn't been what is expected but you have overcome every obstacle. Well done 11C/PR!

Mrs Richardson

GCSE Drama – Year 10

My Year 10 have been a breath of fresh air this year. They are and always have been really talented, hardworking students, who have a flair for performance. They have tackled topics in performance such as mental health, the effects of the virus, social media and many more. They have been open to pick topics that interest them and their audience and want to make a political or social statement in their performance. Well done Year 10 GCSE Drama, I can't wait to see your final devised pieces.

Mrs Richardson

GCSE - Year 11

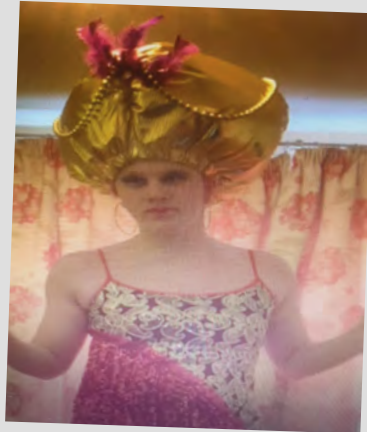
This year has been a very strange time for the GCSE Year 11 class however, the students have shown the utmost resilience. The students devised a range of performances for component 2 which centred around 'The year that never was'. The students showed their emotional maturity with their approach to the topic and themes and myself and Mrs Richardson were amazed at the level of talent displayed during that assessment.

More recently the students have completed their component 3 which comprised of a monologue or duologue. This is very challenging for even the most experienced actors to do. The students again rose to the challenge and chose a range of different monologues including comedy, tragedy and tragi-com to showcase their unbelievable talent.

Due to covid we didn't manage our yearly trip to the theatre, so we brought the theatre to the students, and we watched 2 theatre productions virtually. The first being 'Billy Elliot' and the second being 'A Christmas Carol', the students thoroughly enjoyed both performances.

The Year 11 GCSE cohort have been an absolute pleasure to teach and I wish them all the luck for the future.

Mrs Norbury



Year 12

My very talented Year 12 class have produced some excellent and professional work this year. We have been studying different practitioners that may influence their work such as Stanislavski, Brecht, Berkoff, Frantic Assembly and Paper Birds. The two girls focused on the practitioner Stanislavski, that focuses on the style of

Naturalism.

They performed the play 'Be my Baby' about young girls getting pregnant in the 1960's and being forced to

give them away for adoption. Alex Chappell and Esther Hoare were hilarious, emotive and thought-provoking in their performance and created genuine and believable characters on stage. Their hard work and dedication to the subjects shined through and their Year 10 audience thoroughly enjoyed it. The students are now working hard on the devised piece based around the practitioner 'Paper Birds' and creating a performance around Verbatim. The students are researching into a social issue of how terrorism affects society and their views, with a close link to the Manchester terrorist incident.

Mrs Richardson



Upcoming Events



As a department we always like to give our students as many different opportunities as we can and this year has been very difficult to organise theatre trips, however with lockdown easing we are able to organise workshops with some fantastic theatre companies.

On Monday 7th June 2021, our GCSE and A Level students will be experiencing an amazing Verbatim Workshop with 'The Paper Birds Theatre Company'. Students will be given the opportunity to use their creative and investigation skills to create performances based on multi-faceted subjects.

On Tuesday 29th June 2021, KS3 students will be working with Naomi Albans from Hope Mill Theatre School exploring the fundamentals of acting and a variety of skills will be used, there will also be opportunity for a Q and A session at the end of each workshop.

We are really looking forwards to these workshops and we can't wait to see what amazing pieces of drama students are able to create with such outstanding professionals.

Team Drama

Drama Ambassadors

This year saw the launch of our Drama Ambassador programme.

Year 7, 8 & 9 students were given the opportunity to become members of our department through this programme. All students were given the opportunity to apply for the position and they did this by writing a letter of application, it was amazing to see so many of our Wellington students eager to get involved.

We now have 47 Key Stage 3 students who help with the wider community of the drama department, they attend extra-curricular activities, they conduct research that will help to develop the curriculum and shows students want to see. Year 9 drama ambassadors also sat down with Mr Beeley to talk to him about the importance of the drama curriculum within the school, a resource we used to help us with recruitment into GCSE.

Whilst their duties have only been small this year due to home learning, we hope next year there will be bigger opportunities given to these amazing individuals to get the name of Wellington Drama Department out there.

Watch this space for new applicants in the next academic year.

Miss Pusey

ENGLISH News

Diversity in the Y7 Curriculum

My Year 7 classes have been delving into a new text for their class reader unit this year.

Students of 7T and 7N have been reading 'The Bone Sparrow' by the Australian author Zana Fraillon. The book is described as 'captivating and powerful' yet 'disturbing, necessary and important' as it enlightens pupils about the struggles of a Rohingya, Burmese refugee called Subhi, who was born in an Australian detention centre after his mother fled violence in her homeland. Physically, Subhi's world is confined by the fences of the detention centre in which he lives, but through stories, relationships and encounters, a wider but not always comfortable world emerges.

The Bone Sparrow is a timely novel that deals directly with questions about migration, human rights and our broader humanity. It is a highly relevant text and has provided a platform for dialogue around key world issues while building on literature and language studies.

The students have completed a range of tasks in relation to this text including diary entries, description writing, character studies, language analysis and exploring the context and empathy of the text.

I am delighted to have introduced this novel to Year 7 and we have had some really interesting discussions about the treatment and desperation of refugees around the world.

Mrs Simpson



7E 'Cirque Du freak'

7E have completed many creative pieces of homework during the 'Cirque Du freak' unit of work.

We watched videos of Oscar Newton and Henry Hatfield deliver their descriptive 'Ringmaster's Speech' introducing their talented acts. A special well done to Ruby Sims, Kritika Arumugam and Owen Hunt for their creative circuses.

Mrs Fletcher



Malala Yousafzai, Connected Creatives Shortlist

A number of Year 8 students were encouraged to submit their creative writing into the Connected Creatives Writing competition, organised by the Nobel Peace Prize winner, Malala Yousafzai.

We were very pleased to announce that Lucie Perkin, Elodie Jourdain and Poppy Jones were all shortlisted in this national competition.

Here are the girls with their Wellington competition certificates and badges; 'Well done!'

Miss Hitchens



Year 8 Homework Projects

Year 8 have produced some excellent homework projects this year!

Starting with travel guides to fictional places and creating their own islands, complete with holiday brochures in our travel writing unit, students then studied Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, producing stunning set designs and authentic looking diary entries. The work didn't stop during the January lockdown however, and students dove into the world of dystopian fiction designing and writing about a dystopian world. Most recently, 8A and 8E have been studying the poetry of the Romantic era, famous for William Blake's illustrations which students have been endeavouring to mimic as well as the written style in creating their own Romantic poems. Well done Year 8!

Miss F Spencer

Romanticism: Year 8

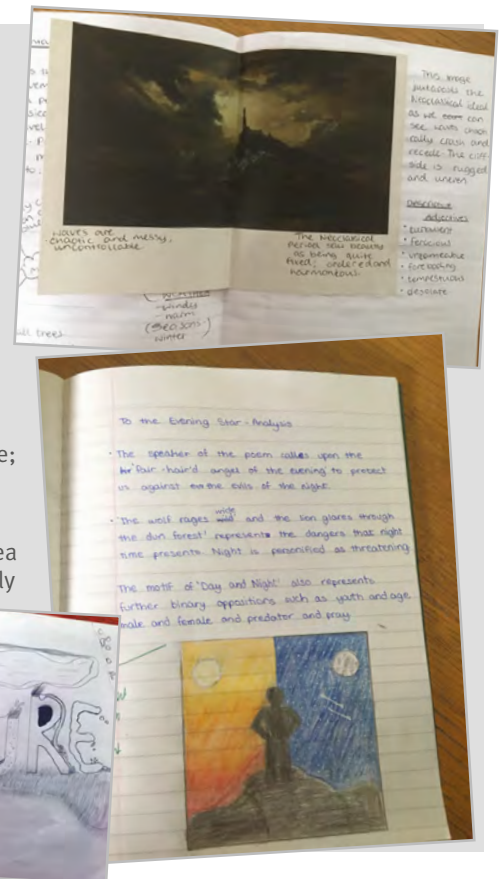
Year 8 (class 8N) have worked incredibly well this term as they have started a new and highly anticipated topic: Romanticism.

Pupils have learnt about the ideology behind the movement and have discussed our relationship with nature and how this can be impacted.

Using the concept of the sublime, pupils have either written poems about nature or illustrated something to convey the sublime; a mixture of both wonder and fear.

Pupils have engaged so well with this topic and seem to have enjoyed exploring the idea of 'freedom' too- during the early C19, but what it means today. An excellent effort from the entire class; well done 8N!

Miss Tedford



Year 8 and 9 Project Work

During lockdown and remote learning, KS3 took part in a 'Happy Half Term' project.

Students were given a range of project tasks to choose from: they could create a board game based on a book they had studied or enjoyed, create their own lockdown library, or create storyboards – just to name a few! Their efforts were incredible and I was blown away by the creativity and imagination that went in to their projects. Here are a few examples that came from students in 9X1, 9Y4 and 8I.

Miss McCann

LIZZIE PUGHE

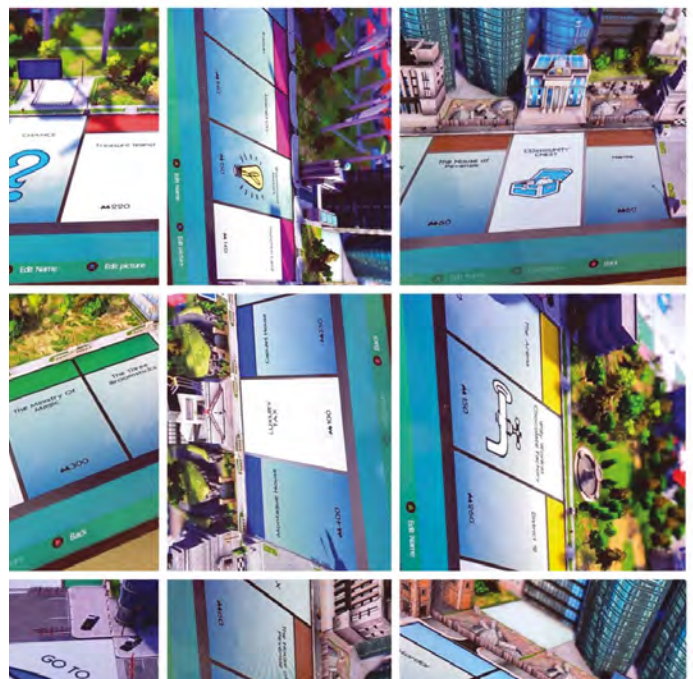


RUBY SQUIRE



KATIE DIXON

SAM HENSHALL

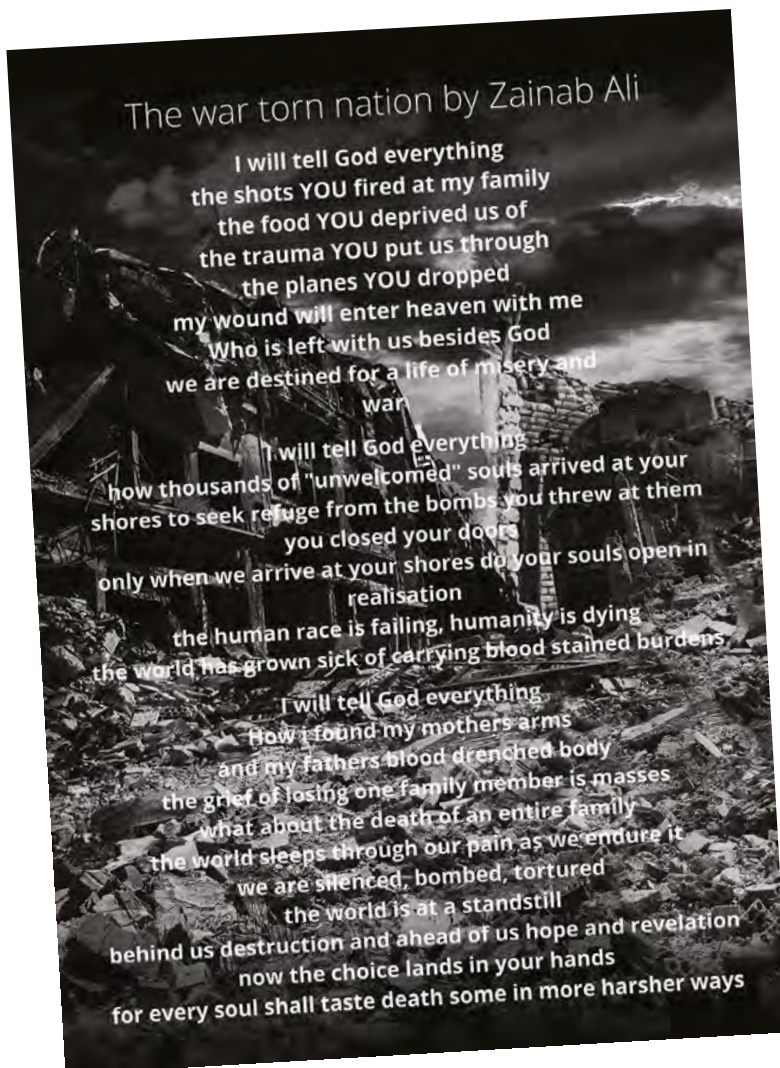


Our Society: 8R

As part of the 'Our Society' unit, 8R used description to empathise with important current events and used persuasive language to write about something in their society which they wanted to change.

8R are a caring class, with big hearts, so they worked wonders with these tasks!

Miss C Spencer



OLIVER BRAY, 8R

As I walked – briskly and proudly – down 5th Avenue I felt hopeful that there would be a change to our society.

All around me my peers were boisterously roaring their emotions as we marched down the streets.

Beside me there were banners and flags with slogans on, waving above my head.

Behind us I could hear the noise of advertisements being drowned out by our cries for Justice.

Above our heads the sun was dazzling down on the roaring crowd as we were pioneering for change.

9Y2 Poetry

For Miss Spencer's poetry competition, we looked at the inspirational Amanda Gorman's Inauguration Poem.

We discussed the concepts of 'unity' and 'democracy' and after watching her poem, she talked about her messages and beliefs of hope for the future. Using the poetry competition of 'The Times We Live In', pupils were set the task of creating their own poems and they were fantastic! Thoughtful, topical and emotive: the pupils displayed a mature and responsible attitude to quite a difficult theme and concept.

A special mention goes to Zainab Ali's poem, "The War-Torn Nation". Zainab explained that the inspiration for her poem came from the images she saw of child refugees and children in Syria. Zainab was really moved by their stories and wanted to shed light on their situation of being deprived of basic human needs. What a fantastic response, Zainab.

Well done!

Mrs Sheehan

10Y1 Viewpoint Writing: to tweet or not to tweet?

During the period of remote learning after the Christmas break, 10Y1 embarked upon the study of the topic of Viewpoint Writing.

In this unit, the class learned about how to construct and develop a successful argument and also how to make their

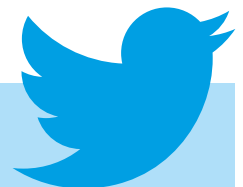
argument as persuasive and convincing as possible. Given the task of crafting an editorial piece on whether social media should be banned, the class practised and honed their skills in a series of drafts, which culminated in a final version that was assessed against GCSE grading criteria.

The final editorials were excellent, with many students producing thought-provoking, well-argued and passionate articles; it was clear that this was a topic that many of the class felt strongly about. Also impressive was the level of sophistication that they were able

to display in their arguments and in the rhetorical devices that they employed to enhance their argument.

Special mentions go to Miwa Bailey, Jonathan Butters, Ben Clapham, Ava Conyers, Robert Hardern, Jake Marsh-Patrick and Bronte Neary, who all achieved excellent standards in their final editorials. I think we have some budding journalists in our midst!

Mr D Williams



Macbeth Projects

After reading Macbeth, 10X2 were set the challenge of producing something creative based on the themes and narrative of the play.

10X2 blew me away! They are absolutely amazing - I never knew they were so talented and artistic. The cakes look delicious - I'm jealous I don't get to eat them all. Super impressed with Dan Brownhill's origami castle and Alfie Yates created and edited his own video. Amazing! Mrs Sheehan



10X1 in 2021

It's been a strange year, and yet – I have found – with the increased student autonomy some students have soared. As a class, 10X1 fall into the latter category.

In recent weeks, 10X1 have worked collaboratively to produce newspaper articles on the condemnation of Justine Moritz (inspired by Mary Shelley's novel Frankenstein). The computer room was transformed into a buzzing newsroom! They debated and re-drafted, delegated and hit the deadline. I was delighted with the results and include an image of Izzie Hornby, Erin Campbell and Ruby Duffy's front page: professional!

As our most-recent lockdown drew to a (much-anticipated) close, I offered the class time away from the glare of the computer screen and my droning voice! I asked them to plan and produce a creative project which reflected something they understood about Much Ado About Nothing: a character or a theme, a scene or a context.

The work they produced was startling and work was showcased on our departmental Instagram page: @wellington_english_and_media.

I include here a few snapshots: Hannah Macartney's quote-inspired artwork and Toby Smith's witty cake diorama of the play's climax.

Thank you so much - 10X1 - for being a pleasure and a privilege to teach. As these projects proved: you're a splendid bunch.

Miss C Spencer



Media Studies

Year 10 Media and Year 9 pupils took part in a 'Content Creation Workshop' hosted by Bauer Media and Hits Radio.

Pupils had to create a storyboard for an online campaign to prevent knife and weapon crime. The guest judge, Hits Radio DJ Hattie, selected Maisie Mulholland's and Jasmine Dickenson's storyboards as the winning entries. The winning storyboards will be animated professionally and will feature on YouTube! Such a fantastic opportunity, well done to everyone involved.

Mrs Fletcher



10Y2

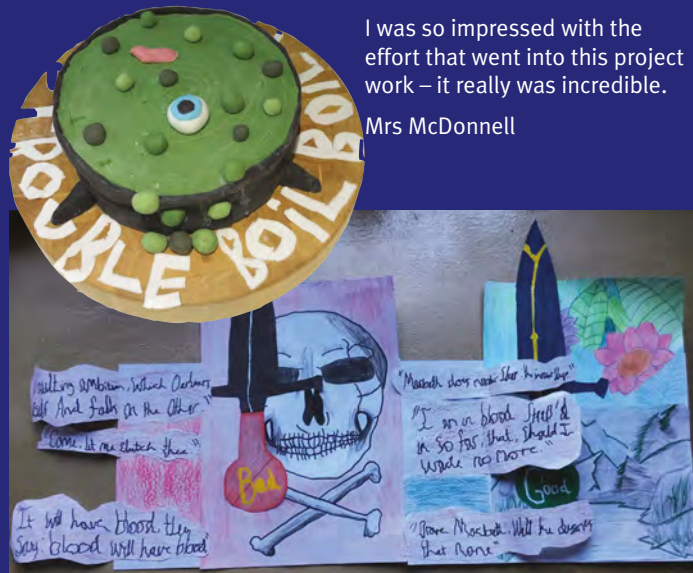
During lockdown, 10Y2 produced their own project work on Macbeth.

Their stunning work included: cakes, posters, computer designs, artwork, quotation worksheets, a 3d Lady Macbeth hand and even a gorgeous handmade doll.



I was so impressed with the effort that went into this project work – it really was incredible.

Mrs McDonnell



11X3

I am so incredibly proud of 11x3: they have consistently worked extremely hard and have been dedicated and committed throughout the whole of their GCSE course.

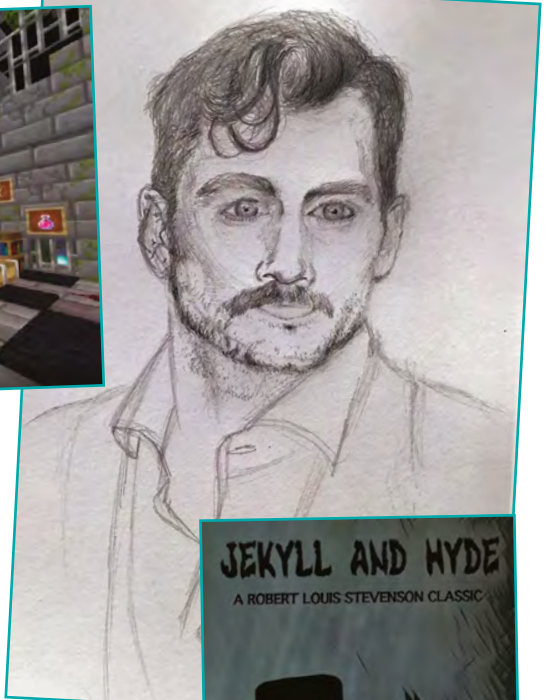
Despite the turbulent year, they've been super positive and taken everything in their stride. A little present of homemade 'You're Amazing' cookies and a handmade card was delivered to them as a thank you from me for all of their hard work during Mental Health Week back in February. From their honest responses to home learning to their assessments, they've continually acted in a mature and responsible way. Well done on being so resilient. I am so proud of them and they deserve every success.

Mrs Sheehan



11X1

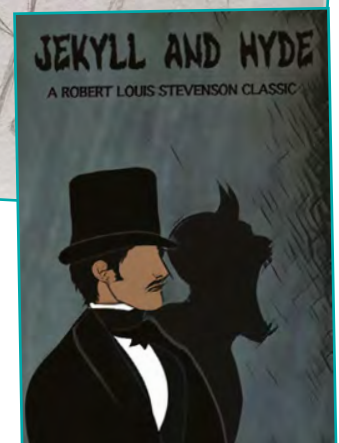
As part of their revision of the nineteenth century novella, 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde', 11X1 were asked to use their creative skills to reflect on central themes and characters of this dramatic and tense Gothic fiction text.



I was amazed by their skills! Across the group, there were cakes reflecting duality, word doodles of key quotations and ideas, new designs for book covers, mind-maps exploring characters and even Minecraft worlds depicting settings and a computer programme written in code!

It is always fun to use our knowledge in a creative way and it can really help students to reflect on complex ideas and consider different ways to express them. 11X1 have been an absolute pleasure to teach this year and I wish them all the best as they continue their educational journeys. Here is a small selection of their wonderful work from Nate Barnes (book cover), Arthur Fletcher and Luis Tate (Dr Jekyll's Minecraft laboratory), Laiba Liaquat (word doodle) and Oli Brindley (Dr Jekyll).

Mrs Jordan



English and Media Beyond Wellington Talk

The English and Media department were privileged to welcome back a former student, Jess Atkinson, who since Wellington has embarked on degree study and worked on numerous writing and media projects.

Our pride in her achievements was shared with our Year 12 cohort and a number of Year 10 pupils keen to learn more about the world of English and Media beyond school.

Thank you so much to Jess for giving up her time! Miss Hitchens



Half Term Heroes

The Half Term Heroes scheme allows each member of the department to nominate a student who has impressed them with either their attainment or effort over the past half term.

Our most recent 'Half-term Heroes' in English and Media Studies are: Lois Hinds, Harrison Sykes, Zainab Ali, Freya Spencer, Chloe Smith, Lauren Cowle, Izzie Hornby, Sophie West, Oscar Newton, Megan Saward, Sam Henshall and Iwan Ledgard.

All pupils receive a certificate and badge from their class teacher



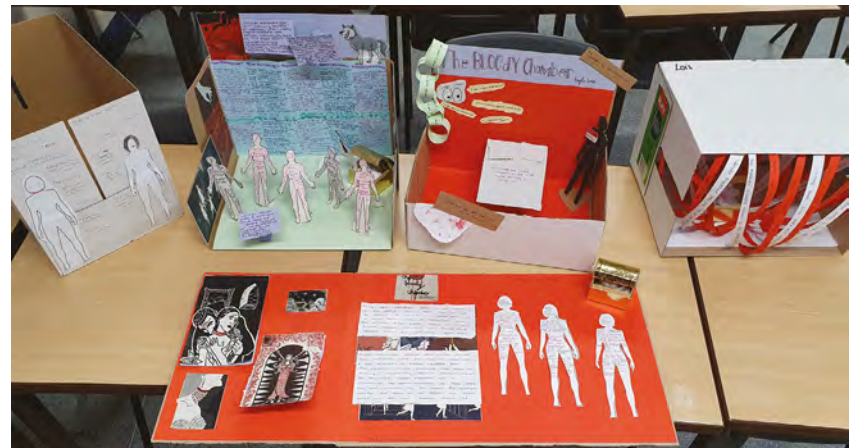
as well as fame on the department corridor display board!
Miss Hitchens

Year 12 English Literature

My Year 12 English Literature class have been studying Angela Carter's 'The Bloody Chamber' this year.

This is a challenging text which the class have fully embraced, producing some exceptional work such as these creative revision displays. The students had to create a visual display of 'The Bloody Chamber' and included quotes and critical perspectives. This outstanding work really does represent the very best of Year 12!

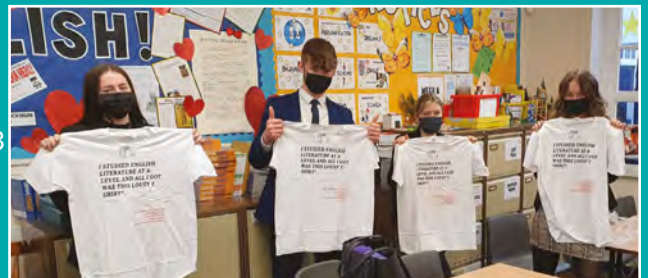
Mrs McDonnell



Farewell to our fabulous Y13 Literature students!

We're sad to say goodbye to a wonderful Year 13 Literature cohort!

Miss Hitchens, Mr Williams, Mrs McDonnell and I



have all commented on how fondly we will look back on the time we spent teaching our splendid literary enthusiasts, whilst in and out of lockdown, in this strange, strange year!

What has been especially nice is the community they have formed – in spite of all COVID has thrown at them!

As a goodbye, we gave all Literature students some silly t-shirts to remind them of their time with us in the English Department. However, it turns out they didn't just get a lousy t-shirt from studying Literature; they also became confident at using their voices, great at debate, deliberate in their language use and skilled at grappling with exciting, academic concepts that end with an 'ism'!

Whatever you all do, next year, we wish you the very best of luck!

Miss C Spencer



World Book Week

We couldn't celebrate World Book Week as we typically would this year, but we couldn't let the week pass by without acknowledging it.

This year, a virtual library was created for all Key Stage 3 pupils to access during lesson time. This library had links to a range of books on different genres, mental health advice, news websites, online games as well as a link to the department Instagram page where we are constantly celebrating the fantastic work our pupils are producing.

Mrs Sheehan



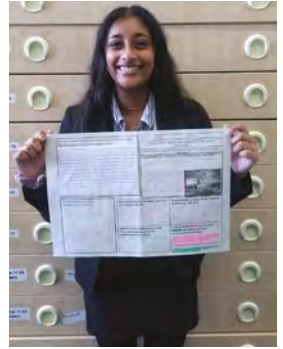
A-Level Language & Literature: The Denouement

A short entry to share how proud I am of our little Year 13 Lang/Lit class; they completed their A-Level despite so many difficulties and obstacles.

Mr Williams and I would like to say a warm "Well done!" to Deeksha, Matthew, Harrison & Joe!

Best wishes for your future!

Miss C Spencer



World Book Day

The English department didn't let a minor thing like a lockdown get in the way of World Book Day - in fact, there was probably more going on than ever before!

Right from the onset, the Department took to beginning the day in fancy dress: Miss McCann was singing away to 'The Wizard of Oz', Mrs Jordan - or the White Rabbit - was desperately trying to make sure she was on time and - in an impressive collaboration - we even managed to celebrate not just the Lion and the Witch in C.S. Lewis' classic but also the Wardrobe too! Fair play, Miss Spencer and Mrs Simpson!

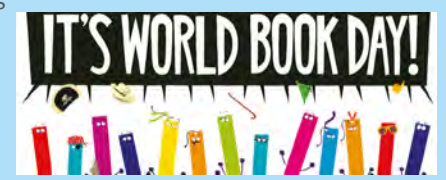
Meanwhile, pupils had access to our fantastic Virtual Library, designed by the wonderful Mrs Sheehan! Pupils could click on the links on our bookshelves and access content pertaining to this year's World Book Day featured books.

Never one to miss out on a trend, numerous staff got behind our 'The Masked Reader' quiz that was delivered in KS3 English lessons! Staff recorded themselves behind various filters and shared some of their favourite reads! The resulting videos were hilarious: I still can't get over just how expressive a piece of broccoli can be, Miss Richardson!

We've also contributed Reading minutes to the 200 Million Word Reading. Prizes and certificates were also awarded to KS3 pupils for designing a Book Token for the annual National Book Tokens competition.

Why not visit @wellington_english_and_media on Instagram to see more about all the events going on in the English and Media Studies department?

Miss Hitchens



National Poetry Day Winners

This year, ten winners were selected for the National Poetry Day competition; each contribution offering something interesting and exciting.

All winners received a Competition Winner Certificate and an accompanying badge to reward their efforts.

I selected a winner from each year group which was a difficult task as the standard of poetry has been exceptional this year. Congratulations to the following winners:

- Chloe Bedicer (9Y1)
- Jack Henly-Wild (8S)
- Libby Harry (7S)

As a prize, each of these pupils have received a beautifully illustrated copy of 'Poetry for Kids: William Shakespeare'. Congratulations once again to Chloe, Jack and Libby whose poems are truly inspiring! Their poems will be showcased on the new National Poetry Day display board, alongside poetry entries from other pupils.

Miss Tedford



Poet Laureate: Competition Winners

During our most recent lockdown, the English Department looked to poetry for answers... How are we all feeling? What's life like, locked-in, looking at a computer all day? How do we make sense of it all?

Amanda Gorman, America's Youth Poet Laureate, was so inspiring - at the US Presidential inauguration - that we ran a competition to find three students, one for each Key Stage, who could act as Wellington Poet Laureates. We will ask these students, occasionally, to share with us their 'take' on current or school events - just like Simon Armitage does as the UK Poet Laureate.

Hope Regained

For many fruitless hours I stare out onto the street.
It remains a still painting, untouched, frozen in time.
The water colour image grows fainter and fades in the callous winter,
But I am harmlessly indoors observing
This cast of clouds reigning its glory. Glory that too will fade like false glitter, it is temporary
As through this darkness the stars still glimmer.
There is light of snow spinning, circling, dancing.
There is hope beyond the cruel clouds that block our vision in the distance
As even in the toughest conditions, plants can bear fruit,
Roots of families can strengthen and grow,
The colours of tomorrow begin to illuminate and show

The competition was popular and the poems we read were simply wonderful. They were clever, funny, heart-breaking, thoughtful, sweet, furious, passionate, but above all: unique. Every poem had a voice and many members of staff contacted me to say what a privilege it was to read them. They were all so good and I want to say 'Thank you!' to everyone who entered.

As a result of the quality of the work sent in, a selection of the best - from across the school - has been published and is available to buy from the LRC for a voluntary £1.50 donation to Cash for Kids.

So, without any further ado, here are the winners* from our competition.

For KS3, Abigail Park.

For KS4, Noah Gower-Jones.

For KS5, Hannah Awan.

Our winners each received a badge for their bags, a copy of Kate Clanchy's How to Grow Your Own Poem, a £10 Waterstones voucher and their poems will be entered into the Foyle's Young Poet of the Year international competition.

I hope you are as thrilled by their carefully crafted work as we are.

Miss C Spencer

Judging*

- The KS3 poetry competition was judged initially by English teachers; the final 6 were judged anonymously by KS3 tutor groups.
- The KS4 poetry competition was judged anonymously by a panel of English teachers and Y13 Literature students
- The KS5 poetry competition was judged anonymously by a panel of English teachers, KS5 staff and members of SLT



Show Racism the Red Card Competition

Well done to all of our KS3 entrants for our Show Racism the Red Card competition. Pupils submitted some fantastic examples of creative writing for us to peruse.

Our two overall winners were Jessica Bell and Libby Bamber - each won a certificate, badge and £10 book voucher. Their work will be sent into the national competition as well.

Well done all! Miss Hitchens



Peak Performers

This year we have been super pleased with the resilience of our lovely KS3 Geographers. After what has been quite an unusual year, the commitment to their studies has not faltered.

The students in Year 7, 8 and 9 have been excellent, and engaged incredibly well both in the classroom and when learning from home. Many of our students have been awarded the 'Peak Performers' title whereby each class teacher nominates two students from their class each half term. The award is given to those students who demonstrate the school's value of Endeavour.

The students photographed above have not only been awarded the Peak Performers title, but they have also achieved the highest number of positive ClassCharts points for Geography in their year group. Well done and thank you for your hard work and commitment.

Year 9: Samuel Henshall, Mya Cockayne, Holly Abbott and Evie Ninian

Year 8: Mollie Farncombe, Amelie Tan, Wesley Wilson, Jimmy Taafe, Hannah Hevicon and Daniel Johnson

Year 7: Amelia Sutton, Alex Simpson and Sophie Atkins-Spelling

Miss Hennessey



Migration

While exploring the issues surrounding migration, Year 8 followed the harrowing stories of some of Europe's newest arrivals on Channel 4's Two Billion Mile interactive story.

Some superb, insightful accounts of these journeys followed. Below is a poem by Mahin Ulhaq, 8H.

Miss Martin

MIGRATION

*I am leaving Somalia because I am being forced
into the army
I travelled to Libya with some other people in a
lorry
We got caught and got arrested, we were all
frowning
But then I got released due to overcrowding
Then I sailed to Italy, then straight to Rome
I wanted nothing but to find myself a home
Next day I headed to Austria in a hidden lorry
And on my way, I saw sick bodies
I decided to head to Munich
And arrived with ease
I tried to claim asylum, but no one wanted me
I had no job, little money and nowhere to stay
I don't know where to go because home seems so
far away.*

By Mahin Ulhaq

Year 8 Projects

The budding geographers in Year 8 showed fantastic enthusiasm when set the challenge of creating model drainage basins as part of the River Landscapes scheme of work.

With cardboard boxes, Sellotape and a lot of key words on the tips of their tongues, they eagerly brought the natural world to life. The winners of the challenge can be seen in the photograph below. Isabella Stankard, Lily-Mae McCall and Abigail Park were awarded first prize for their fabulous creation, littered with geographical terminology. Eddie Sanders and Alex Hayward were runners up, along with Mia Vaughan for their inventive design. Zak White took the challenge one step further and decided to paint a beautiful interpretation of the upper course of a river.

Miss Hennessey



Geography Alumni

This year, the number of students studying Geography at A Level continued to increase. We welcomed a large group of returning students in September 2020 who have worked fantastically well throughout Year 12. Our Year 13 students continued their hard work and commitment to the subject, regardless of the challenges the last year has posed. I'm excited to say that many of the group are taking their geographical education further. Here's what they're planning on doing next:

After studying A-level Geography, I'm sold on studying it at Newcastle University! I've always had an interest in the world around me and Geography is the perfect way to explore this, developing useful skills that I believe will actually be practical for future life; I'd certainly recommend Geography and loved my time studying it at Wellington!

Harley Geraghty, Year 13

In September I will be embarking on an apprenticeship programme in Transportation Planning at Mott MacDonald in Manchester. After studying Geography at both GCSE and A-level, it became clear to me that I wanted to pursue a career which involved this subject. As Geography focuses on matters which are relevant to today, there are many ways in which you can expand your career. I am delighted to be joining a company which takes pride in tackling social, economic and environmental issues which are factors we study in great detail in Geography. It highlights everything I am passionate about, for example, reducing our carbon footprint and creating a sustainable future for not only our generation, but future generations also. I am excited to be moving on to the next chapter, using the skills and techniques I have learnt from Geography throughout my time at Wellington School.

Emily Read, Year 13



Photograph: Emily Read (left) and Grace O'Connor (right), Year 13, 2020-21

In September, I will be reading Geography BSc at Northumbria University. I have decided that I want to take Geography further because I feel that as a subject it is very relevant to the world we live in today and it creates an awareness of the problems people in the world face. After studying Geography at GCSE and A level, it became clear that I wanted to pursue a career in this subject due to the impact I felt it had on me. I'm particularly interested in topics like Volcanic Hazards and Coastal Landscapes. I'm looking forward to starting a new journey using everything I have learnt at Wellington School, and hope that one day I too will be a Geography teacher! I'm excited as I'm passionate to teach others in the same way I have been taught, and hopefully one day inspire others to understand the world better and enjoy the subject as well.

Grace O'Connor, Year 13

In September I will be studying Geography BSc at Newcastle University. I decided to take Geography at degree level as I enjoyed the diversity of the subject with both human and physical aspects, while also being able to apply knowledge learnt to current situations and case studies all over the world, allowing me to gain a wider perspective of different cultures and ways of life. As part of A-level Geography, I enjoyed creating and carrying out my own investigation on a topic that interested me, while also giving me an insight into what a geographical dissertation would be like.

Katie Davies, Year 13



I attended Wellington School, including the Sixth Form between 2009 - 2016. I initially took Geography at GCSE as it was a subject I thrived the most in as well as enjoyed. As I progressed through the school I really began to enjoy the subject for what it actually is.

Particularly in A Level, I was fascinated by the earth's landscapes and the science behind what we see outside our windows whether that be from for a human or physical geographical perspective. Fieldwork is essential to effective geographical understanding and the field trips to Shropshire and Blencathra, all those years ago, will remain a highlight of my time at Wellington School. I took Geography to the next level and began a BSc in Geography at Liverpool John Moore's University where this 'need to know' about the world flourished further. I had the opportunity to explore the world further by embarking on trips to Spain, Iceland, Crete and Santorini, some of which were funded by my university. I could not recommend Geography at university enough and I achieved a first-class Bachelor of Science. To all the students at Wellington, nothing is impossible! I was never an A* student, however I am now a fully qualified Geography teacher myself.

Holly Crick, 2009-2016

Year 7 Ecosystems Project

Students in Year 7 have been working hard studying the different biomes around the world.

Students began this topic during school closure, and so the quality of work produced is testament to their incredible efforts at home as much as in school! To finish the topic, the students designed a poster to showcase their knowledge on a biome of their choice. Pictured are some fantastic examples of the work produced by Oliver Freer (MLE), Millie Butterworth (SCS), Isabella Sorensen (MLE) and Jessica Wilkins (ESD).

Mr May



Eco-Committee

Eco-committee was in full swing just before the first national lockdown.

The highlight being a very successful second-hand stall which saw an excellent turnout and plenty of second-hand clothes and goods being given a new home.

The committee had also distributed pen collection tubs to every classroom so that old pens could be recycled at a local Terra-cycle centre as opposed to just being thrown away. Terra-cycling allows certain items (like pens) which normally cannot be recycled to be recycled. This is especially beneficial in school where we go through a lot of pens as you can image!

After a year of not being able to meet, we are delighted that the committee can resume this month. We will be meeting regularly to review our current targets and come up with new initiatives that we can run to help our school be more sustainable and achieve 'green flag status'. For more information on what this involves please check out the eco-school's website; <https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/>

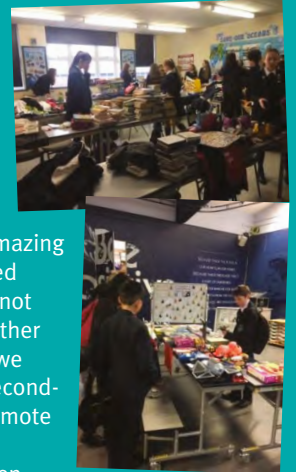
Initially this will involve getting our pen recycling scheme up and running again, looking at our energy consumption and coming up with advertisement campaigns on how to reduce our waste.

We will also be looking to recruit some new members to the committee to replace the fabulous Year 11 representatives who

have done some excellent groundwork for us to build upon.

Here is our 'Re-love our stuff' stall, as you can see, we had an amazing amount of donated goods. We might not be able to do another of these yet, but we will run further second-hand stalls to promote more sustainable buying habits when government guidelines allow.

Miss Jones



HISTORY and POLITICS News

Black History Month 2020

The History Department planned several activities to celebrate Black History Month across the school in October.

We wanted pupils to discover the contribution that black British people had made to the UK. We put plaques up around the School site commemorating the contribution of important black British people and asked pupils to research the impact that these individuals had on British History. We also asked pupils to design their own plaques to commemorate Black History Month 2020. We wanted pupils to do something that captured the spirit of 2020 and the growing movement to achieve a truly anti-racist society. We were inundated with entries from pupils so decided to select a few winners and give out some rewards. Layton O'Brien Forrester, Isla Sullivan and Libby Wakes were our Runners Up and were given treats for their plaques and research. Our overall winner was Jamie Spencer for his lovely plaque commemorating Marcus Rashford's recent charitable endeavours. This excellent plaque will now be displayed permanently at School. Jamie won a copy of David Olusoga's Black and British for his efforts too. Well done Jamie and all pupils involved!

Mr Gerschler



Wellington Debating Society

March saw the much-anticipated return of the Wellington Debating Society for students in Sixth Form.

All manner of contentious subjects from 'Has the Royal Family had its day?' to 'Has society become too sensitive?' have been covered and attendance has been so impressive that on occasion numbers have exceeded capacity. Mrs Cooper and I have been overwhelmed by the sophisticated level of debate, with students able to articulate their points coherently, passionately, and with a level of mutual respect that is often missing in the House of Commons.

Mr Scott



Human Rights Programme

Brother of ex-US President, John F. Kennedy, and former presidential candidate himself, Robert F. Kennedy, had a foundation set up in his name to promote and protect human rights across the world.



Wellington School have partnered up with the UK branch of this foundation to create and deliver an innovative world-class human rights education programme for our pupils. The idea is to inspire and empower pupils to make everyday decisions that help make human rights a reality for all – to be ripples of hope in their communities.

This year will mark the first in a 3-year partnership which will be piloted with all Year 7 students with the goal to develop a project which will help develop the mindsets, attitudes and skills to make human rights a reality in their school and communities. Pupils will have 2 break out days focussed on the programme and penultimate week of the academic year will see Year 7 students showcase their project. Watch this space!

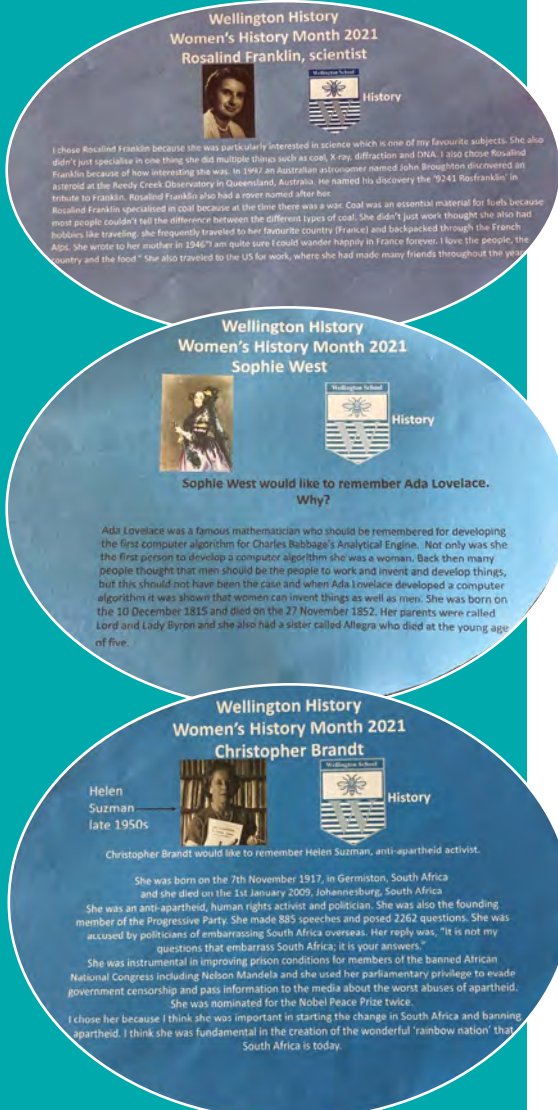
Mr Scott

Women's History Month March 2021

To commemorate Women's History Month, this year we asked Key Stage 3 students to research and create a commemorative blue plaque to remember a heroine who has made an impact locally, nationally or internationally in the past or the present.

We had some wonderful entries explaining the impact of women like Rosalind Franklin, Ada Lovelace, Cleopatra, Hazel Hill, Mary McLeod-Bethune and Helen Suzman. Entries were judged by the History Department and the creators of our favourite plaques won Waterstones vouchers!

Well done to Jess Hill, Joseph Stockley, Christopher Brandt, Sophie Atkins-Spelling, Sophie West and Ben Eckersley.
Mr Gerschler



Holocaust Memorial Day 2021

It has become an annual tradition for Year 9 Historians to mark Holocaust Memorial Day every January by listening to a Holocaust survivor's testimony.

These events are so valuable for all who take part and we've been fortunate to have had some memorable visits from Joanna Millen, Tomi Komoly and Lady Milena Grenfell-Baines. We didn't want Year 9 pupils to miss out this year so the History Department were delighted when the Holocaust Educational Trust announced that this year they would broadcast a survivor's testimony digitally.

On Tuesday 26th January, all Year 9 pupils were invited to hear the testimony of Eve Kugler BEM. Eve was born in Halle, Germany in 1931. She witnessed the events of Kristallnacht in November 1939, after which her father was sent to Buchenwald Concentration Camp. In June 1939, the family fled to Paris on a forged visa. After living in the occupied city, by chance, Eve and one of her sisters were able to find refuge in New York. Eve's other sister went into hiding and her parents survived the concentration camps. The family was reunited in New York in 1946. Eve worked as a journalist until she moved to London in 1990.

Eve spoke about her heartache at missing her family after leaving Europe. The resilience Eve's family showed to rebuild their lives again in the USA after having lived through the period of Nazi occupation was an inspiration for all listening. Eve's testimony contained so many important messages about tolerance, respect for individuals and appreciation for all we have. Year 9 were very thankful that Eve took time out to speak to them and we hope to host a Holocaust survivor at Wellington again sometime in the future.



EVE KUGLER

For more information about Eve, and her book, please see: www.shatteredcrystals.net

Mr Gerschler

MATHS News

MEM Maths Challenge

The Mathematical Educational on Merseyside schools challenge provides an opportunity for students from the surrounding regions to solve some interesting and different mathematical and logical problems.

Students must set out their solutions to each of eight problems and points are awarded for creativity as well as mathematical accuracy and reasoning.

This year, Wellington student Diganth Raj's (7MLE) entry was awarded third prize overall by the judges. He has been invited to the prize giving ceremony later in the year to receive his award.

Congratulations Diganth! Mrs Fairbairn



SatsuMaths

Recently, Mr Hodson's Year 9 class have been looking into the geometry of 2D shapes; squares, triangles, trapeziums, and circles.

They have worked incredibly hard to understand this and have produced some fantastic work.

This then meant we could look at more complex 3D shapes and work out the surface area of a sphere. Students were set the unusual homework of bringing an easy peeler orange into school for their next lesson. Despite the initial fears of smelling of orange from all the peel, the students were great and investigated the approximate area of the surface of a sphere. There were lots of great solutions, but Isaac Topping (9FLE) was the best who discovered that the surface of a sphere is 4 times the area of a circle (with the same radius).

Although the class enjoyed the lesson, one student had a suggestion, to use chocolate oranges next time! Keep up the great work 9X5!

Mr Hodson



Maths Stars of the Term

In the Easter Term students have been rewarded for exceptional work in their mathematics lessons with a "Star of the Term" certificate.

With only a few winners across the whole school, these students really have gone above and beyond with their efforts in Maths.

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded the Star of the Term prize this year.

Mrs Chidlaw

Sophie West	7PRR
Ashwika Kumar	7GGS
Layton O'Brien-Forrester	7JHY
Sophie Atkins-Spelling	7ESD
Aimee-Mae Stanton	7ESD
Chris Bhattacharya	7ESD
Digant Raj	7MLE
Jake Bamber	7MLE
Charles Selwood-Metcalf	7ETS
Chloe Smith	8NDT
Wesley Wilson	8SCE
Emily Bushnell	8DBL
Eddie Sanders	8FSR
Anas Mirza	8DBL
Vishnu Pandaraparambath	9GBN
Toby Hayes	9SBN
Dontae Thomas	9GBN
Luke Hicklin	9DMY
Hannah Birch	9CSR
Isabel Oultram	10GHN
Ben Hurlstone	10LCY
Lucy Everitt	10GHN
Kieran Stanton	10OHN
Yusuf Arshad	11BSN
Josie Watson	12BST

Pi Fashion

The pandemic has meant that the face mask has become a staple of all our wardrobes over the past year.

Never wanting to be left behind in the fashion stakes, Mr Rispin commissioned some Pi face masks for the Maths teachers to sport around school. Expect to see them on the cover of Vogue's 2021 September Issue.

Mr Riley



Year 7	Year 8
Zach Carney	Henry Ashton
Oliver Freer	Benjamin Mudd
Holly Heaton	Will Preston
Ashwika Kumar	Alice Stephens
Zachary Richards	Sydney Andrew
Rory Rzepka	Emily Boocker
Andras Toth	Emily Bushnell
Jack Wheeler	Grace Cummings
Jacob Hornby	Arthur Finney
Amy Fielding	Luke Greenlees
Pippa Hornby	Alex Hayward
	Dhriti Kulkarni
	Felix Medford
	Sam Millington
	Bella Stankard
	Amelie Tan

Junior Maths Challenge

Some of our brightest young mathematical prospects in Year 7 and 8 took part in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge in April.

This year the competition was run online, but the questions were just as challenging and thought provoking as always. An incredible half of the Wellington students who entered were awarded with a certificate for their efforts showing that the future is bright for Maths at Wellington! Mrs Fairbairn



Senior Maths Challenge

Even in the most unusual year we were still able to provide the brilliant UKMT challenge to our A level students.

The UKMT provides a difficult set of questions that challenge the most capable school mathematicians from around the country. With certificates only going to the top 40% of entrants. This year we have a fantastic 8 students achieving a certificate, 7 bronze awards and an impressive silver award (top 20% in the UK). Well done to all those who participated and particularly to the one's pictured (Yusaf Hijazi, Joe Neary, Ruby Sykes, Matthew Vaniak, Mia Liddell, Thomas Pavey, Ella Spencer and Cameron Sandison).

Mrs Fairbairn



MFL News

Linguist of Lockdown

Each term the MFL department nominate those pupils who have shown enthusiasm and maturity to their language learning.

The individuals who are nominated have impressed their teacher with their effort and progress in the subject. All pupils who receive this award have their name displayed on the MFL corridor.

This year due to the disruptions of the pandemic we did a special Linguist of Lockdown where we nominated those pupils who had really stood out and impressed their teachers the most during the period of home learning.

To celebrate their achievements, as well as a little prize and a letter home, a special 'Linguist of Lockdown' board is displayed on the MFL corridor for all to see.

Mrs Stevens



Inclusivity in MFL

Mrs Stevens researched how gender-neutral language is evolving around Europe and how MFL can be more inclusive.

The MFL corridor now displays a very creative board (from the very talented Mrs Roe) illustrating how gendered languages like French, German and Spanish are adapting.

The MFL Department



World Book Day

We love reading in the MFL department! World Book Day gave us the opportunity to show off some of our favourite books in French, German and Spanish.

Our A-Level Students study a book in Year 13: 'Un Sac de Billes' in French, and 'Der Besuch der alten Dame' in German. Reading is a fantastic way to broaden vocabulary and improve cultural understanding, as well as being lots of fun!

I read the opening of Harry Potter und der Stein der Weisen in German for our school-wide quiz on World Book Day this year. Can you guess which Harry Potter Book it is?

Mrs Ramsuair

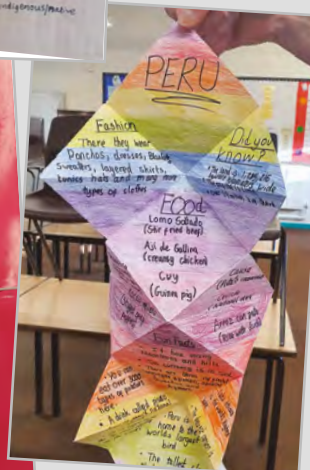
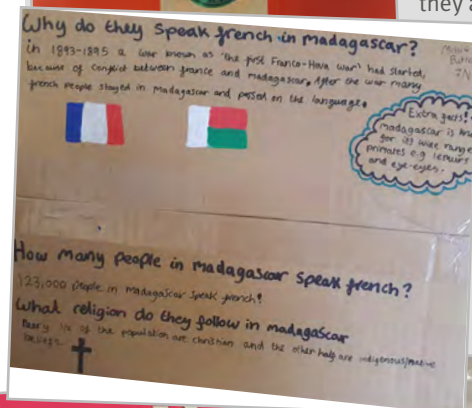


Year 7 Cultural Projects

Year 7 were given the brief of researching a French- or Spanish-speaking country

They were told to find out cultural information including why the language is spoken there and how the culture differs from France/Spain. They have spent homework time researching according to their own interests and have presented their findings in these beautiful Cultural Projects. We think they look great and they are so creative!

Bravo, Year 7!



Final Winners – Cultural Project

In May 2021, the 3 winners of the 2021 Year 7 MFL cultural project competition were announced. MFL staff were so impressed with the creativity, imagination and commitment of our Year 7 French and Spanish students. Even more of an achievement when considering that this was all completed during remote learning! Picking the top 3 amongst some amazing entries was certainly a difficult task! Congratulations to our top 3 'cultural researchers':

1st place: Oscar Newton, 7E, for an outstanding project on Bolivia

2nd place: Ruby Sims, 7E, for her creative and vibrant project on Mexico

3rd place: Oisin Pegler, 7N, for his 'very rough guide' on Switzerland

Miss De Sacco



Music Making This Year

Despite restrictions restricting some of our classroom and all of our community music making activities it has been a highlight of the year that we have found new and different ways to ensure that we continue to express ourselves using Music, pushing us out of our comfort zones!

All of our classes enjoyed learning how to sign sing the songs we would normally learn as part of our music lessons, and this is definitely something that we will continue with. We focused on performing with expression and responding to the music, instead of developing our singing technique we worked on our performance. Year 9s also enjoyed their time developing their ukulele skills as well as participating in chair drumming exercises. Not sure if everyone in the Vale building enjoyed this as much as we did however!

I'd like to thank our instrumental teachers Mr Billingham, Mr Burton, Mrs Chambers, Mr Parkinson, Mrs Smyth and Mrs Woodward for all of their efforts in ensuring that instrumental lessons could continue safely this year. The practice rooms have looked very different for these instrumental lessons but everyone, staff and students, have played their part.

Our extra-curricular activities such as Rock Band and the Wellington School Band have started back in year group bubbles and the Year 7s have been a revelation and we are really looking forward to seeing and hearing the quality music making that will be taking place with this year group.

Mrs Moorhouse

WellyFest 2020

At the end of the school year in 2020 Wellington Students once again rallied together to show how much of a community we are and continue to be.

Instead of the actual Wellyfest in July we broadcast a virtual WellyFest via our You Tube and Instagram accounts (@wellingtonschoolmusic) and all the videos can still be found on there.

Once again this highlighted the variety of talents that we have here at Wellington and I would thoroughly recommend subscribing to our You Tube channel (Wellington School Music Department) to watch the performances if you missed them last year. There are instrumental solos, card tricks, horse riding, gymnastics, singing, dancing as well as special guest appearances by Mr Beeley, The Drama Department and the Wellington Lockdown Singers and Players.

We hope the students (and staff) enjoyed contributing to this just as much as we've enjoyed watching it.

We are all looking forward to Wellyfest 2021.

Mrs Moorhouse



Virtual Carol Service

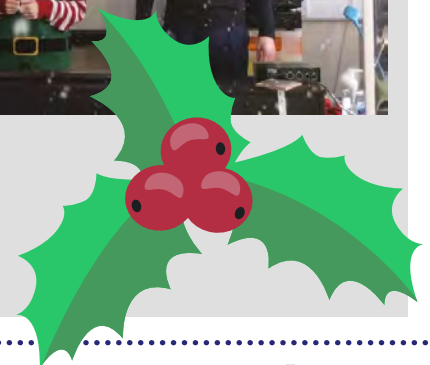
This year saw the first ever virtual Wellington School Carol Service as we were unable to join Rev Jim Bridgman at Christ Church, so we brought Christ Church to our virtual service.

I must start with a huge thank you to all the students who contributed to this virtual Carol Service. Recording these video submissions is not an easy task and we are incredibly grateful to every student and parent who set these up and forwarded on to us. A huge thank you as well to Mr Beeley for his address and to Rev Jim Bridgman for his contribution, representing our wider community here at Wellington.



We had a number of different performances and contributions for the Carol Service. Thank you to Lucy, Sally, Jessica and Lois who delivered the readings. Sing performed two traditional carols, 'Away in a Manger' and 'Silent Night'. Wellington School Band's contribution was a rendition of 'Carol of the Bells' whilst the Rock Band rocked out to 'I Wish It Could Be Christmas Everyday' which also featured a number of our new Year 7s which was fantastic to see. A special mention must also go to Ben and Josh Rabbani for mixing and editing the video for this. The Year 12 Music Group wished for a 'White Christmas' whilst it was time to say goodbye to Jack Deighton-Brown, our Year 13 vocalist whose contribution to the Music Department since he began in Year 7 has been phenomenal. For his swansong Jack performed 'Oh Holy Night' beautifully. But to show that once you've been a part of the Wellington Music Community you never really leave we must thank Rob King for recording 'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas' for us.

Make sure you keep Monday 13th December free in your calendars for when the Carol Service returns to Christ Church! Mrs Moorhouse



PE Department

The resilience shown by PE students during lock down was outstanding. Students learning from home were creative and inspiring with the work they produced. GCSE classes designed DIY skeletons and 'eat well' resources, they researched technology in sport and reported their findings in 'Teams' discussions. KS3 designed and completed circuits, used FITBITS to record mileage on daily exercise challenges and were fully involved in an array of challenges set by the department. This led to the PE Instagram page - a real tonic to keep up with our students over lockdown.

The students who were in school during this period were fully engaged in the PE activities provided, it was a delight to be back teaching practical lessons to our students and was a timely reminder of the importance that physical education plays at Wellington.

The Wellington sports calendar has been unrecognisable over the last 14 months, and it seems right to remind ourselves of what we can look forward to in the future. We've been busy preparing for the 2021 Sports Day that will be held at Longford Park on Friday June 18th. Form Tutors have been finalising teams, it will be particularly special for the Year 7 and 8's who will be taking part for the first time. We can't wait for the sun to shine and the first event to start. We have a strong history of competition at Wellington and pride ourselves on the breadth of activities that we compete in across the borough and further afield. Athletics, Rugby, Handball, Cricket, Football, Rounders, Hockey, Netball and Basketball are all sports that we have missed out on competing in over the last year.

As soon as the green light was given, extra-curricular sport started back at Wellington. Attendance has been excellent and highlights the desire of students to improve their skills and enjoy competition.

We're blessed in the PE department to have several non-PE staff helping with teams, Mr Beeley and Mr Burgess have been straight to it, getting the Year 7s 'rugby ready' for matches. Mr Higginson is working with other Trafford schools on a project that will lead to a new league structure for rugby starting in September.

On Monday evenings Miss Richards, together with coaches from Timperley Hockey Club, have delivered to large numbers of students across a range of Year groups, additionally sports leaders from Year 11 and 12 have supported the sessions.



During Autumn term we were able to get our netball, basketball and football teams training. Mr Tomlinson has been really pleased with his Year 7 footballers and looks forward to seeing them compete fully in the future. His Year 9 team are looking to pick up where they left off and compete well across Trafford. Mr Morgan and Mr Gubbins were busy with Year 8 and 10, both enthused by the numbers attending each session. Girls football has taken off over the last few years at Wellington and the numbers attending practice with Miss Crewe highlight a bright future once fixtures are back up and running.

Miss Kelly and Miss Challinor have many talented netballers across all year groups, and will no doubt be pushing hard for more success as we compete across Trafford in the future. Likewise, the basketball teams are developing well, it's a real shame that the Year 7s didn't have the opportunity to compete this year as they have the potential to be an excellent team.

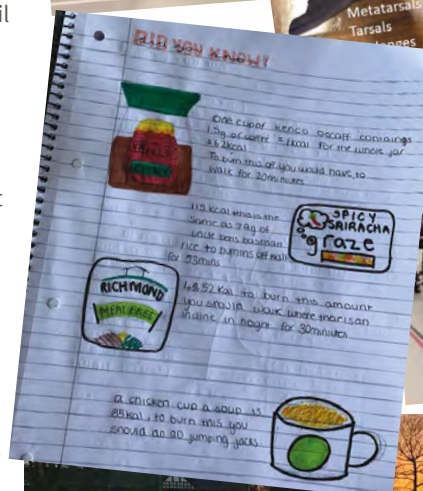
From Easter to May half term extra-curricular has focused on rounders, cricket and athletics. While not blessed with the best of weather, participation has been high, KS3 are taking Sports Day seriously and getting in plenty of practice. I'm sure we will see the fruits of their labour on June 18th.

In a normal year we would be celebrating sporting successes at our annual Sports Awards evening held at Bowdon Rugby club, it's always a wonderful event allowing us to reward students for their sporting endeavours, unfortunately this will have to wait until 2022. It promises to be a bumper year!

Finally, a word on PE in curriculum time during the pandemic; staff have adjusted, lessons have been adapted and the pupils have responded magnificently. From the beginning it was clear just how important PE and school sport is to our student body, they relished the return to organised activity, got to grips with two-hour PE lessons, different changing areas and a strict cleaning regime. They participated with a smile on their faces and gave us everything, from interform to cross country, Zumba lessons to non-contact games lessons. We are all incredibly proud of their efforts, the resilience and strength of character shown in PE lessons over the last 14 months will inform their future characters for years to come.

Mr Morgan

20-21 INTERFORM WINNERS	1st	2nd	3rd
YEAR 7	PRR	TBN	GGs
YEAR 8	SCE	DBL	NDT
YEAR 9	ARN	GBN	CAD



Christingle

My Year 10 full course REP group finished 2020 with a creative task – to create their own Christingle.

Students learned how this relates to the incarnation and waited all of 10 minutes before they ate them. Special mention to Sam Rogerson for his beautiful Christingle!

Miss Crump



Tzedakah Boxes

8R were asked to consider a charity close to their heart.

As part of their unit of work on Judaism, students created a Tzedakah box each, in which to collect money for their nominated charity for the rest of the year.

Miss Crump



Year 7 World Religion Projects

My Year 7 groups have been researching and creating their own projects on a world religion of their choosing.

Pupils were asked to research various elements of their chosen religion and present it in a creative way. Some of the projects were absolutely outstanding. Well done for all of your hard work.

Mr Harrison



Christmas Cards for Hampers

After enduring a tumultuous year, Year 7 students were asked to reflect on the impact covid-19 has had on the wider community.

As part of the Social Sciences drive to create hampers for Timperley Care Home, our Year 7 students spent their final REP lesson of the year designing and writing thoughtful and uplifting Christmas Cards for the residents, that were very well received. Thank you for showing a real sense of community Year 7.

Miss Crump



Year 8

My Year 8 groups have recently been looking at the religion of Islam and have been considering why the pillars may be seen to be important and whether the world would be a better place if some of them were made compulsory.

Some of the creativity and hard work put into these projects deserves to be celebrated and shown here. Well done Year 8!

Mr Harrison



Year 9

As part of our learning in Year 9, pupils learn about Buddhism and focus on the 'big teachings' within the religion.

This includes their views towards what may happen to us when we die. As a homework activity, groups were asked to look into this belief and research something called Samsara and the wheel of life. Pupils went above and beyond in their research (one example pictured) and we explored the Buddhist principles of life after death in detail. Well done to our Year 9 pupils who we look forward to teaching GCSE REP to next year!

Mr Harrison



REP Instagram

Throughout lockdown, the REP department wanted to keep pupils thinking about those big philosophical and ethical questions.

So, we posted several of these on our departmental Instagram account (@wellersrep) and asked pupils to discuss these issues. Thank you so much to those that engaged with these (current pupils and even those that have now left us). We were so inspired by some of the contributions that we have incorporated some of the ethical issues into our lessons in KS3 to discuss them further this year and beyond.

Mr Harrison



Goodbye Year 13

2021 marks the end of an era for our Year 13 pupils, who have managed to navigate a challenging time and they have done so well.

It has been an absolute pleasure to teach them, they are an absolute credit to the school and deserve every success. We wish you all the very best in the future and know that you are all going to go onto great things. Well done Year 13, you have all been Welly REP superstars.

Mr Harrison

Marvellous Micro World

Year 10 and 12 scientists have been examining the world beyond the limit of our vision, looking into both microorganisms and sub-cellular structures.

Year 10 have been investigating microorganisms, firstly by looking at what types of organisms commonly grow on our own skin as part of the healthy natural skin fauna, 10Y5 have grown these examples on nutrient agar showing different bacterial colonies and one fungus. 10X1 have been investigating how antibiotics work in helping our bodies fight off bacterial infections. They tested the action of four antibiotics: Penicillin; Tetracycline; Vancomycin and Metronidazole on the bacterium *Bacillus megaterium*. William Brazendale showed excellent aseptic technique to produce this superb plate showing the zones where the antibiotic has inhibited bacterial growth.

Year 12 have been investigating the stages of mitosis in onion root tip cells as part of their A-Level CPAC assessments and have produced these excellent images showing cells with chromosomes in various stages of mitosis. Eren Sayan, inspired by the work with microscopes, produced these slides on which he managed to make an imprint of a snowflake before it melted. He then brought them into school to use the image capturing equipment in the Science department to create these brilliant images.

Mr Brownbill



Year 7 Science Club

The Year 7 Science Club takes place on Wednesday afternoons from 3-4pm.

Our Science Clubbers have been busy this term doing lots of exciting experiments! They did of course get their Bunsen Burner licence and were trained to use all of the equipment safely. Every week we go through the science behind the experiments and our budding scientists have some wonderful ideas about the world around us.

We have been making soda snakes, elephant's toothpaste, fire extinguishers, parachutes, bath bombs and even acted like spacemen trying to carry out various tasks with big space gloves on! It is so lovely to see our explorers coming in every week and enjoying themselves. We look forward to doing lots more for the final summer term.

Mr Ashfield, Ms Ayub and Dr Lane



KS3 Lockdown Project

Year 7 and 8 Scientists were involved in a project-based learning activity over the Spring lockdown.

All the students were challenged to plan and complete their own scientific investigation using equipment and apparatus in their own homes. The students investigated how diffusion of fluid looks in skittles, which shoes provided the most friction on different surfaces, or which food types would decompose the fastest.

All of the entries were fantastic, but there were some stand outs (who took home the £10 Waterstones prize):

Esah Quddos, Will Summerfield, George Wood, Ibrahim Ahmed, Tom Moloney, Anna Darcy Westwell, Ruby Forbes, Albie Sutton, Amelie Sutton.

Well done everyone for your involvement!

Miss Tyrer

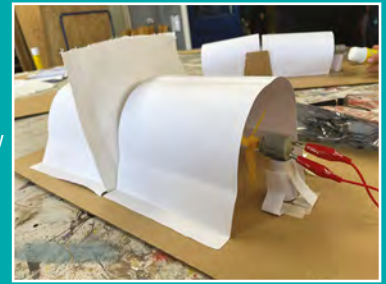
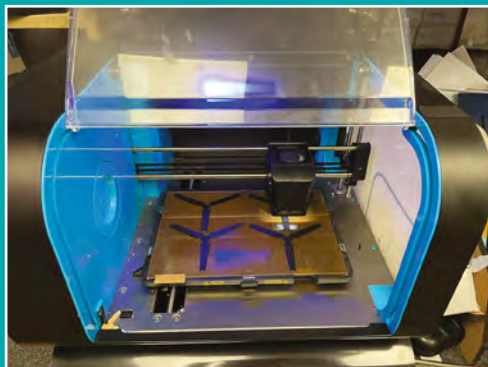


STEM Club – Design your own respiratory device!

Our STEM club attendees this year have been busy exploring all things to do with 'Engineering in a Pandemic'.

The most recent challenge has been to design and make a model for a device to test levels of airflow through different materials. The challenge is inspired by the huge increase in demand this last year to stop the movement of particles between people (for example, by wearing masks) but also to purify air for the wearers through the use of filters. The Year 7s have experimented with different ways to mount the fans and design different wind tunnels, with some great original ideas. We've even had the pleasure of using the 3D printer to replicate more propellers for use in more trials!

Dr McMahon, Mr Brown and Mr Eckersley



WELLBEING News

LGBTQ+

The start of Wellington School's LGBTQ+ sessions have been a great success so far. 20+ pupils ranging from Years 7-11 have been attending the after-school sessions in the Vale Hall. Pupils have remained within their year group bubbles and it has been great to see their communication and interactions with each other.

Pupils in attendance have provided feedback to say that they are happy that the school is running such sessions as it allows them to learn more on an educational level and to simply, make new friends.

A further aim of the sessions is to promote inclusivity, equality and diversity within the school community; all pupils should be treated equally which is a sentiment I believe we all share.

I am really pleased with the number of pupils who have attended the sessions so far and hope it will continue to grow. Its popularity serves to enhance the need for an LGBTQ+ community within the school and I am happy to be able make these sessions available to those pupils who wish to attend.

Miss Tedford



IT'S OK TO NOT BE OK!

Do you want to talk to a Mental Health First Aider?

WELLBEING DROP-IN- LRC

Pop in to the LRC and you will be able to have a chat with someone who will listen.

SCHOOL NURSE

See your Pastoral Manager to make an appointment.

OUR SPACE

If you want to go somewhere at lunchtime see your Pastoral Manager.

REMEMBER

kooth.com - on line support

Childline 08001111

See Mrs Copeland for further support/advice

Great Dream - Ten Keys to Happier Living

Giving: Do things for others

Relating: Connect with people

Exercising: Take care of your body

Awareness: Live life mindfully

Trying out: Keep learning new things

Direction: Have goals to look forward to

Resilience: Find ways to bounce back

Emotions: Look for what's good

Acceptance: Be comfortable with who you are

Meaning: Be part of something bigger



Anti-Racism Ambassador Training

During May, our 480 Anti-racism Ambassadors received their Level 1 training. The students were all fantastic. So willing to listen and learn. The training included what anti-racism means (as opposed to not being racist), what allyship looks like and a toolkit on how to deal with incidents of racism.

The key to true allyship is to listen, to understand and to educate. Allyship is a verb, an ally is someone who listens to understand, someone who constantly tries to educate themselves, someone who amplifies voices that need to be heard. Someone who gives space to educate others, room to grow.

We had some fantastic discussions and will shortly carry out a focus group on black identity (in time for the school's adoption of the Halo Hair Code in September).

The thing that struck me in all 13 sessions, is how knowledgeable young people are about race and racism today. The drive and determination we have to fight racism in our school and in the wider and global community continues.

It is clear to me that our young people are reading, learning and thinking deeply, and this really does give hope for the future.

Mrs Jaunbocus-Cooper



Mental Health and Wellbeing

RECOMMENDED PODCASTS:

Elizabeth Day- How to Fail- a series of podcasts focus- we all fail and we learn from our failures

Mo Gawdat - how we think about life, stress, anxiety

Alain De Botton

Glennon Doyle

Mathew Syed

Frankie Bridge

Ferane Cotton- Happy Place

Elizabeth Gilbert

Philippa Perry (great for parents)

Bryony Gordon

Reggie Yates

Authentic Enoughness



School Counsellor

This year it has been even more important to ensure that children feel supported with regards to their mental health.

The School Counsellor, Debbie Magid, has been available via Zoom throughout the pandemic, having regular check in's with students. Debbie has been working hard to provide information for parents through her wellbeing blog. Mrs Norbury and Debbie also made a podcast regarding the pandemic and the effects on student's mental health. Watch this space for more of these.

Duke of Edinburgh

This year we have had over 120 Year 9 students sign up to take part in the Bronze award which is our highest number to date. Students have been diligently working both inside and outside of school to get set up ready for their expeditions in July.

We have had 2 Saturday training sessions where students have come into school to develop their map reading skills and plan their routes, as well as learning how to use the cooking Trangias and how to perform first aid. Students have also begun their out of school sections: finding new skills to learn; joining sports clubs and gyms; as well as going to local schools and clubs to begin volunteering. This all works towards their final award, along with their expedition.

Having spoken to staff, we believe that this is one of the most successful groups we have had, with all students fully embracing the award and picking up their new skills with ease.

The expeditions in July will take place at Rivington so fingers crossed for the weather!

We have also continued to successfully move our Year 11 students through to completing their Silver Award with, the help of Glenn and his team from Grip Adventures. This year, our 15 students will be navigating the canals of Cheshire and completing a canoeing expedition, the first of its kind for our school. A practice day in Sale put our students through their paces in preparation for their final 3-day expedition. What a great way to end their school and Duke of Edinburgh journey, especially after a turbulent 18 months.

We also have 60 Year 10 students signed up to begin their Silver Award, which will take place towards the end of July and run into the start of the Autumn term. More news of this to follow!

Miss Challinor



Careers Information and Guidance



It has been a difficult year in more ways than one, but our inability to welcome guests onto the school site has been particularly challenging.

The fact that this put paid to our normal suite of onsite show-piece events like the Year 11 Careers Fair and the Year 9 Options Carousel meant that we have had to approach careers education in some innovative new ways this year.



Since we all became Teamers and Zoomers during lockdown, it seemed appropriate to offer our students virtual careers experiences wherever possible. Back in February our Year 10 and Year 12 students took part in the National Apprenticeship Show where they were able to wander around a virtual auditorium gathering information, joining message boards, 'live-chatting' and even have face-to-face meetings with employers and providers from over eighty companies and organisations.

In a similar vein, our Year 11 and Year 13 students joined the online National School Leavers Show in December to gather information from colleges and universities to help their decision-making as they prepared for the next step on their journey. We also have many Year 12 students embarking on virtual internships and work-experience during the summer holidays.

It is fair to say that some of the ways in which we have adapted our careers curriculum will remain in the future. They say that necessity is the mother of invention and this has



certainly proved to be the case in terms of careers guidance. Virtual events will never be a substitute for real life employer encounters but they will enable our students to sample an even wider variety of experiences as we combine the two in future years.

Mr Holt

GOVERNORS News

Wellington Governors

It feels hard to believe that it is almost a year since I wrote the first Governor contribution to the Wellington Newsletter. This has been a year like no other, however I know that the Newsletter will make fantastic reading even though there have been many difficult circumstances during the year. I am really looking forward to reading about the huge range of achievements by our students.

At Wellington, the Board are in the privileged position of having a close working relationship with Mr Beeley and the whole Wellington team. That working relationship has been strengthened this year in a way that we could never have anticipated. I believe that all the skills that we have on the Board have been used in a meaningful and constructive way and this has formed the basis of many decisions that have had to be made during the past months. We have continued to be critical friends to Wellington, always putting our young people first and enabling the team to do what they do best. I hope that we have supported them in some small way to achieve this.

The staff and students continue to work in extremely challenging conditions with guidelines changing frequently. However, there has been a real "can do" approach from the Wellington Community and dozens of examples of wonderful support and achievement from both staff and students to maintain as normal an environment as

possible. As well as this, we have had overwhelming support from our families who have worked tirelessly to help us. This dedication and commitment from everyone makes Wellington what it is today and, on behalf of the Board, I send heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you.

Later this year I will complete my term of office as a Governor at Wellington School. It has been the greatest honour and privilege to be involved with such an inspirational and dedicated team. I have had the opportunity to meet with truly extraordinary young people and I have met families who are coping with circumstances which have inspired me to work even harder as a Governor, so that their children succeed and are happy in whatever they choose to do in the future. Thank you so much to you all for giving me that opportunity and I wish everyone in the Wellington family every success for the future.

Enjoy reading this brilliant newsletter! Here's hoping for plenty of sunshine for the rest of the summer and enjoy the rest of term.

Alison Christopher - Chair of Governors



Sixth Form

It has been a difficult year for everyone and it has been a real challenge to adhere to Covid restrictions without compromising too much on the experiences, well-being and learning of our students. As always, we have endeavoured to make their time in 6th Form as rewarding and fulfilling as possible. As is the Wellington way, we pulled out all the stops and made the 'new normal' work for us, ensuring everyone was catered for and creating, on reflection, a busy and productive year. Here are a few of our achievements and events...

We relaunched our Twitter account @6thWelly early in the academic year so we could forward important information, advice, UCAS and 'next steps' information as well as celebrate our students' achievements.



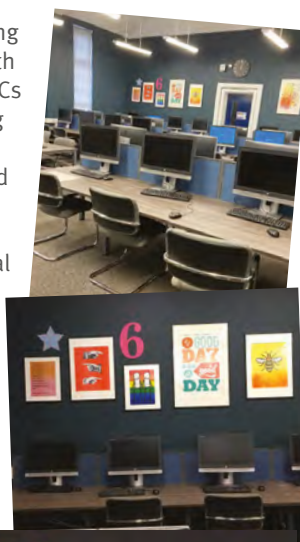
We're worth a follow!

Over the summer, we were treated to a refurbishment in Sixth Form Private Study. We wanted to update the facility and create extra work space for our ever-expanding numbers on roll.

We think you'll agree that the end product is absolutely wonderful - professional, comfortable and stylish. Despite the disruption of this year, our Sixth Formers have settled very well into their new surroundings and have commented on how



plush and inviting the space is (with a suite of new PCs no less). Making choices about the furniture and layout was very much a team effort but special mention must go to Miss Grey for her creative input - the fabulous colour scheme and inspiring art work are all her!



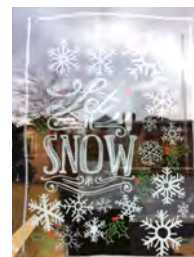
Curriculum Enrichment was a challenge to organise this year and initially had to take on a different format. We began with study skills and explored a variety of ways to plan revision, recall and note taking - all to support more focused study. A very useful skill set for assessments and exams. Once restrictions allowed, we were able to offer a greater range of activities including sport, Tech Buddies and community work.

In what has become an annual event, we organised and ran a foodbank for the Trussell Trust in December. The students were organised and thorough in their planning and overseeing of the collection. As always, the generosity of our Wellington community amazed us and we had a van full of goods to



contribute. Huge thanks to Mr Woolley from our site staff who helped with the delivery and all of the parents and students who donated.

Following our messages of positivity on the school's Reception windows during the pandemic, we organised a Creative Team from 6th Form to create Christmas windows in the main entrance to school. They were a beautiful festive message to everyone in these difficult times; we hope our school community, neighbours, visitors and parents all enjoyed viewing them from Wellington Road. Adding to the Christmas spirit, we also had our annual 'Do your bit in a festive knit' Christmas Jumper Day. Students donned their yuletide best and donated to FareShare, the charity championed by England and Manchester United footballer, Marcus Rashford who is one of the charity's ambassadors. Our bucket collection raised £220 for this worthy cause.



More Curriculum Enrichment work also included writing and sending Christmas cards to our local residential care homes. A team of our students wrote messages and kind thoughts to those who were on their own or isolated for the festive season. We were delighted so many of our students participated in this venture and were keen to hand deliver the cards themselves.

Another creative project, as part of our Curriculum Enrichment programme, has been stone painting sessions led by Mrs Cook. Again, this was an initiative designed

to benefit our local community. Students designed and painted brightly coloured stones with positive messages and then dotted them around our neighbourhood for people to come across and hopefully find a little joy. We also had another group working with Miss Grey to produce paintings for the school's main entrance; the images will reflect the school values and goals.



'Tech Buddies' was a new Curriculum Enrichment activity, ably led by 2 of our Year 12 students, Ruby Sykes and Lucy Sparks. The group of students involved in this initiative support the elderly and other novice techies in using computers, the internet and apps with greater knowledge and confidence; the goal being to make the inevitable increased use of technology, brought about by the pandemic, accessible and safer for all. Both Ruby and Lucy were involved in this project prior to it being offered as an activity in school and we are grateful to them for continuing to lead the way with this work - well done and thank you!



We rounded off the term by issuing our 'Passports to Success' to Year 11 who were applying to our 6th Form. It allowed them to reflect on their skills, strengths and successes and form

a basis for their application and subsequent interview. Prospective applicants enjoyed a tour of the facilities and a talk from Mrs Stephens and Mr Cropper about the support and structure we offer, as well as the subject and pastoral content. It certainly sounded like the place to be and this was confirmed by record numbers of students applying to join us next academic year.



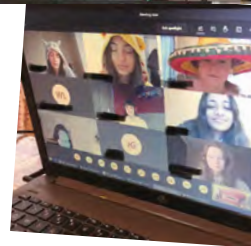
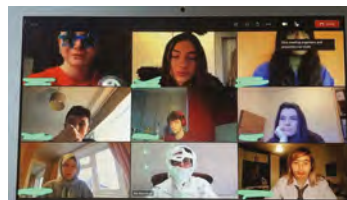
As we hit January, it was of course back to another lockdown for everyone. Our students, as ever, showed resilience and determination to access their lessons on

Teams. It was a steep learning curve for all, including staff, but we soon had it sussed! We had to do things a bit differently so we organised a 6th Form tutor programme that focussed on life skills, well-being and health. We launched the 2021 miles challenge, with students recording their weekly mileage. The 2021 miles were soon completed and then some! There was a healthy eating activity, with students and staff sharing recipes and photographs of the culinary delights they'd made for their families. Move over Gordon Ramsay & Nigella Lawson! We also had a '100 books' challenge with lots of reading recommendations from a variety of genres. Challenge updates were shared via our daily online tutor sessions and we were delighted by the way in which the students embraced these activities and sent in their contributions. Mrs Moorhouse and a few of the other tutors added their own flair to tutor time with Fridays being fancy dress!



100 Books by 1/2 term

Reading can give you so much. You will all aim to complete one book by half term. It can be fiction, a biography, classics, poetry, thriller, historical fiction, science fiction, memoir, mystery, crime, self help so many to choose from. This will take you out of your own world and get you thinking about something else. Let your tutor know what you are reading - a few lines of recommendations will be very useful.



Teams was the way forward for our Year 11 6th Form interviews, with Mrs Stephens, Mr Cropper and Miss Grey undertaking these. We were super impressed with the students' efforts: they were well prepared, used their passports effectively and spoke really well about their ambitions and future plans. Can't wait to meet them all next year.

Care packages were the order of the day in February. Tutors nominated tutees they felt had gone the extra mile, worked hard and contributed throughout lockdown. A movie night 'snack pack' was put together and Mrs Stephens, Mrs Wilson and Miss Grey became Wellington 6th Form's version of Deliveroo on our quest to drop off the bags to all the worthy recipients!



Back in school again and our focus was to settle our students following the upheaval they had endured and provide a safe and welcoming learning environment. There were Easter school sessions kindly run by subject staff. Year 13 had offers from universities flying in and decisions about first and insurance choices and accommodation then had to be made. Several of our students have gone down the apprenticeship route with Darcy joining Marks and Spencer and Emily joining Mott McDonald; others have opted for a gap year. Year 12 have now begun their UCAS journey, attending online events to explore the variety of institutions and the wealth of courses on offer. Mrs Wilson has also launched the EPQ with Year 12 and they're currently researching and formulating their project titles.

There are many other opportunities and plans still to come as this term progresses, but we think you will agree that, despite the shadow of Covid and remote learning preventing attendance in school for a number of weeks of the year, it has been really busy and we have achieved a huge amount.

We are really proud of all the work of everyone who is part of the 6th Form team, students and staff alike, but in particular Year 13 who have embraced their exam changes and ensured they are taking every opportunity to be their best and focus on their futures. We did manage a small farewell but plan to do something bigger and better depending on well, you know! But very well done indeed to our Class of 2021!

Miss Grey and Mrs Wilson



Sponsored Walk

Pupils took part in a virtual sponsored walk on Friday 26th February 2021. The challenge was to aim to complete 10,000 steps/approximately 5 miles by walking/running/cycling on that day or attempting any sponsored challenge.

The school was raising money to support Cash for Kids in Greater Manchester so they can make a real difference to the lives of local children and young people. Everything raised in our area stays in our area, with a focus on alleviating poverty, supporting disability and improving quality of life. As ever, the Wellington community rose to the challenge! We raised over £19,400! What an amazing achievement.

I have to mention Jake Marsh Patrick and Owen Hunt who particularly rose to the challenge in their incredible fancy dress. I also HAVE to mention Wonderwoman (Mrs Ramsuair) and the Seagull (Mrs Moorhouse).

Cash for Kids are blown away by the amount we raised in a pandemic or otherwise! We were delighted when Jess, from Hits Radio Cash for Kids, popped in say thank you and presented us with incredible Gold and Silver discs for the money we have raised over the last 2 years.

They are putting together a leaflet detailing some of the children they have helped and the local charities and community organisations they have been able to support with our donations which we will share with you when it arrives. They have just completed a grant round and helped 33,728 children across Greater Manchester – a brilliant achievement!

Thank you all so much for your amazing generosity.

Mrs Copeland

KEY STAGE 3 News

Something positive to come out of lock down!

Congratulations to Leland Bower in Year 7 who created this amazing blanket during lock down in Wellington school.

Leland showed resilience whilst learning how to crochet even though he found it difficult at times. Well done Leland you have learnt an amazing new skill!

Mrs Soldiew



Despite the chaotic Covid and the loopy lockdown, students within Key Stage 3 at Wellington School have smashed this year.

Attendance and engagement during lockdown was fantastic and tutors reported how great it was to chat to the students over that period. As you are aware we have a system of rewarding students within the school using their ClassCharts points and the ratio of positive to negative within those points.

We award badges based on their achievements throughout the year and give postcards out each week for the top performing students within one of our school values.

Badge criteria			
Bronze	Silver	Gold	Ambassador
60	120	180	280
Ratio	Ratio	Ratio	Ratio
80%	85%	90%	95%

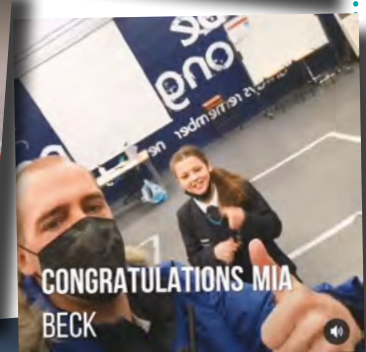
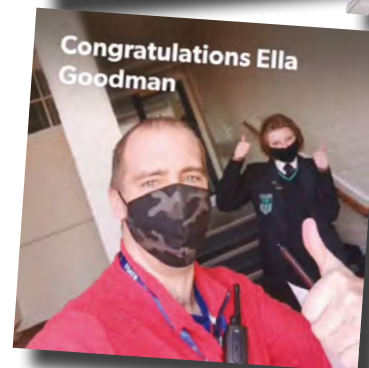
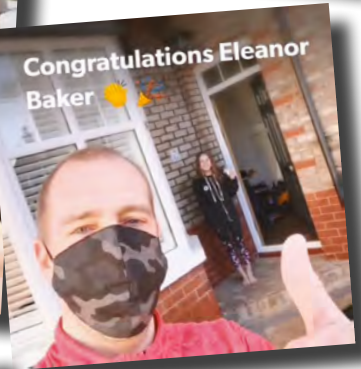
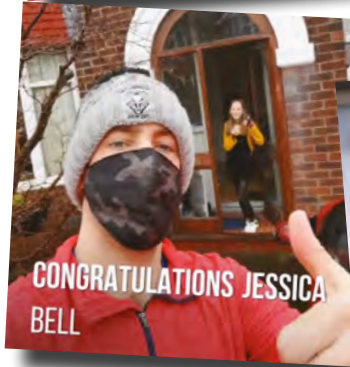


Although Covid has put paid to our usual "Breakfast with the Boss", "Afternoon Pizza and Film" and termly "Trafford Centre visits", the badges have been important in keeping motivation levels high (these rewards will be back).

We are operating within Key Stage 3 at a 96% positive behaviour ratio for the year so far, which is absolutely outstanding. The culture of rewarding success within the Key Stage has really been embraced by the students. It was so lovely to get out during lockdown and deliver the gold badges to students personally and see how they were getting on (some of you may have seen our highlight reels on our Instagram page). It was also nice to see students receiving their bronze and silver badges through the post and posting their thanks on the Instagram page.

Across the Key Stage 89% of students within the whole of the Key Stage have now achieved their bronze badge, with 73% of pupils having achieved their Silver Badge and 30% of pupils having already surpassed the Gold Badge threshold. Students have even started to achieve our Ambassador status, where they become Ambassadors for our school for various events and tasks. So far 4 Year 7 students, 5 Year 8 students and 3 Year 9 students have achieved their Ambassador badge.

Mr Tomlinson



Year 10

Well this will not be a year that anyone forgets. It only seems like yesterday when I first spoke to 241 of the most inspirational and dedicated young people.

Even with the worst global event in their lifetime happening, each and every one has not ceased to amaze and surprise me. The resilience shown and ability to adapt in such a short time frame demonstrated maturity beyond their years and skills that will assist them in future life.

With school being so different, over the last 12 months in particular, you could be excused in thinking the pupils have not had the same opportunity to achieve success. In essence, they have not. What many have done however is turned this negative into a positive and focussed their efforts into their studies and school. As it currently stands, we still have over 70 pupils with zero negatives since September. As well as this, we now have over 120 pupils who have accumulated over 150 positive referrals. Both of these achievements are fantastic but are highlighted even more within the current climate. We are still waiting for our next delivery of KS4 badges then we can celebrate the success of the young people even further. However, at Easter, we had the pleasure of handing out more KS4 badges to our fantastic year group. This reward system builds on the foundations of KS3, and the parameters as follows:

- **Gold- over 150 positives with 90% ratio**
- **Silver- over 100 positives with 85% ratio**
- **Bronze- over 50 positives with 80% ratio**

All levels are a great achievement and as such Mr Manifould and I try to celebrate the success whenever we can. This said, attaining the gold badge, especially within Year 10, is a massive achievement, therefore, Mr Beeley and Mrs Copeland assisted with the presentation.

With Year 11 fast approaching the pupils have been working diligently in class and morning registration time has been dedicated to support their revision. The pupils have been working through revision techniques and have lessons focussed on 'how to revise'. Hopefully these building blocks will assist the excellent foundation many have already laid.

As well as the academic success, we have rallied together and raised money for young children less fortunate than ourselves. As the sponsored walk did not go ahead as normal, we have done this with such creativity and drive this year. Examples included laps around gardens in homage to Captain Tom.

To reward all the amazing things going on daily within the year group we have endeavoured to celebrate with pupils every week, handed out badges each term, sent letters home, positive phone calls home, Christmas selection boxes, tutee of the week and tins of chocolates for quiz winners.

We are both very proud of our year group and the culture we are trying to create.

Mr Gubbins and Mr Manifould



Year 11

Having had the privilege of being Director of Year 11 multiple times at Wellington, it's always around this time of year when we would be putting the final preparations into the Year 11 Leavers' Prom and eagerly looking forward to the event itself.

We'd be getting ready to send out the final tickets and the students would unquestionably have plans to spend their parents money on a prom outfit and a chauffeur-driven limo.

By now we'd have had a leavers' assembly looking back at the events and achievements since the baby-faced days of Year 7. We'd have had a good giggle at the montage of photos taken from the past 5 years and a mass of shirt signing on the

netball courts in celebration of the last days of Year 11.

Sadly, these rituals were denied due to the Covid factor, alongside the experience of writing furiously twice a day for three weeks sat in an examination hall! The students may not have taken their seat in the Adsheed Hall with a clear pencil case and an unlabelled water bottle, but nothing has been wasted with our internal assessments proving a valuable and reliable alternative.

Throughout the 5 years, the vast majority of students have made the most of the opportunities provided by Wellington School, enriching their lives with knowledge and along the way developing the habits of hard work and resilience that will last a lifetime. But in the end, life isn't about grades. Grades are important, but really, it's about human relationships and the strength of our memories and our sense of community which has shaped the wonderful adults that the Year 11's have become.



As life progresses, our Year 11's will inevitably hit times of struggle. I hope when this happens they remember to recall our Bob Marley inspired year group motto 'Every little thing is gonna be alright'.

We wish all Year 11's the very best for the future and continued success.

Mr Travis & Mr Crooks



The provision proved a success and this continued once we returned to some normality to help students transition back into school.

We are excited to be starting our new literacy skills focus group, aimed at supporting Year 7 with confidence and new skills to improve their writing. It has been lovely to see the enthusiasm and creativity already from the pupils during these sessions. We have been looking at sentence types, punctuation and how to 'stretch' a sentence to add detail. The students are enjoying working together and sharing ideas, we even made a human sentence by standing up and joining parts of a sentence together!

The children are greeted by the very enthusiastic TA team in the morning and the evening. This provision is extremely beneficial to our students and without the commitment of the TAs we would not be able to offer this wonderful provision.

Each TA has a group of students who attend 2x weekly sessions to develop their reading accuracy and reading comprehension. The children enjoy their sessions but I am sure that the juice and biscuits help with their engagement!



Estates

It has been another busy year in the Estates department with lots going on, a number of projects staff and students have seen the improvement straight away, others have not been so obvious.

Starting off with the completion of the partial roof replacement. From September to December, Everlast Group finished off the Sports Hall roof and for those of you with a keen eye you will notice the slight shade difference on the colouring. The final phase of the roofing project was the Adshead Hall and Gym where they renewed the roofing materials, taking the old stone off and fitting new roof panels to create improved drainage and insulation.

Over the Christmas holidays, a team from Audience Systems installed our new retractable seating into the Adshead Hall. This was planned to improve the versatility of this space, allowing for raised auditorium seating to be used for both conference and performances, ensuring uninterrupted views for every member of the audience.

As well as the seating, during our Christmas holidays, we had 414 Solutions developing our new Student Support Office/Reception allowing for a more personal experience for our students when they are needing additional support.

In January, we set up our COVID Testing Centre after receiving our pallets of equipment from the Government. The Adshead Hall was split up into three different sections, as per Government guidance, with a welcome and registration area first, then into a testing bay with a warm welcome by one of our volunteers, a member of Senior Leadership Team or one of our Pastoral Managers, who had all been fully trained to conduct the testing.

Then for the final stage of the process, our Admin staff logged all the results, with Mr Beeley and I overseeing every stage to uphold our quality control process. It was an accomplishment to test all our students three times in a two-and-half-week period upon their return to school, and without our volunteers and the help of our staff (a special thank you to Dr Lane our Senior Science Technician) we could not have done this.

Over the Easter holidays the team were busy again with contractors finishing off the Adshead Hall project. Adlib Audio installed a new digital lighting and sound system to enhance our future performances and conferences, with all new LED performance lighting and digital sound allowing for easier and quicker set up times as well as reducing our carbon footprint. With this installed, it completed our project along with newly installed seating system.

As part of the continuation to refurbish our facilities, the MFL classrooms have had replacement carpet planks installed by Flooring Solutions over the Easter break with a new look to freshen up the current worn out carpets before they become a trip hazard.

All this has taken place alongside the normal day to day running and general maintenance of the Estate, and credit must also be given to Mr Rogerson and our cleaning staff who have embraced the enhanced cleaning needs that the school has had to deal with over this last year.

Mr Cawley (Estates Manager)



Sports Day

We were delighted to be back at Longford Park for our KS3 Sports Day this year. This event was greatly missed last year and was particularly special for our Year 7 and Year 8's who took part for the first time. A fabulous day was had by all!





Please scan here
to view our
School Prospectus

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INVESTORS
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