

Wellington School

Annual Newsletter

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Barcelona Trip



Awards Evening



Matilda



Sponsored Walk



Sports Day

Honesty Community Excellence Fairness Endeavour

Welcome to our latest Wellington School Newsletter



Prior to writing this year's Newsletter introduction, I had a quick glance back at what I had to

say last year; inevitably, there were references to 'the Omicron variant', 'ramifications of the pandemic', lots of the 'first time in three years' events etc. I think it's fair to say that the impact of Covid is still significant for many on an individual, community and wider societal level but at Wellington we have adjusted pretty well to the 'new normal' and there is a joyous abundance of evidence of that in this bumper edition of the Newsletter!

Rather than a global pandemic, it has been the more localised disruption of water mains bursting, industrial action and the passing and subsequent coronation of monarchs that have impacted our school calendar; nothing we can't handle with true aplomb, grace and resilience. As you read this Newsletter I hope that, once again, you sense the unbridled joy, the enthusiasm, the commitment and the pride that, in my humble opinion, is so typical of the Wellington community. It is quite staggering what we have achieved this year and I cannot thank everyone enough for what they have contributed.

I must make special mention of this year's sponsored walk and our chosen charity Papyrus. Based in Warrington but providing support nationally, Papyrus is committed to suicide prevention for young people. The assemblies, arranged by new sponsored walk coordinator-in-chief, Mrs Stephens, were

emotional enough but we were then joined on the day by one of the '3 dads walking', Mike Palmer, who tragically lost his daughter Beth to suicide. Only this week, Mike and the other dads met Secretary of State for Education, Gillian Keegan, to discuss the place of suicide prevention work in schools. Suffice to say, sponsored walk day was a resounding success as always and due to the efforts of our young people, the generosity of their friends and families and the support of colleagues, we raised over £30,000 once again. Thanks and well done to Mr Fenwick, the 'machine' that is our Deputy Headteacher, who completed the coast-to-coast 300km race in 61 hours, finishing 12th and raising over a £1000 split between Papyrus and the Warrington Foodbank. Thank you also to the aforementioned Mrs Stephens who did a brilliant job in coordinating the build-up, the day itself and the collection of monies. Our relationship with Papyrus will be ongoing as we seek to best meet the needs of all our young people.

There have been so many highlights again this year but among them I must include the performance of 'Matilda', our biggest and best ever Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition (over 170 Year 9s split over two weekends), our first ever Chinese / Lunar New Year celebration, the Year 7 boys' football team becoming the first Wellington team to win the Greater Manchester cup, our Eid celebration and, possibly my number 1, the visit of Holocaust survivor, 95 year old Ike Alterman and the subsequent renaming of the Gloucester building in his honour. But, of course, that doesn't even scratch the surface of all that our students and staff have accomplished this year.

It would be remiss of me not to mention our Year 11 and 13 students, who, as I type, have just begun week 2 of 5 weeks of GCSE and A level examinations. The Year 13s, of course, never got to sit their GCSEs and they, and their younger counterparts, have had their studies disrupted over the subsequent two years. They have inevitably shown that true

Wellington grit and character and we are confident that they will meet their own high expectations come results' days. I must also commend my colleagues for managing these students (academically and emotionally) with such care and dedication through this challenging period.

The last year has seen several additions to the Wellington 'family'; congratulations to Miss Pusey, Dr McMahon, Miss Challinor, Miss Tyrer, Mr Scott, Mrs Richardson, Mr Brownbill and, of course, their partners. We welcomed back Miss Pusey from her maternity leave in the April and we look forward to welcoming back Mrs Richardson, Dr McMahon, Miss Challinor and Miss Tyrer at the end of the Summer term.

At this point, I always like to acknowledge our outgoing and incoming colleagues. Last summer we said goodbye to Mrs Mildenstein, Mr Lloyd and Mrs Copeland and during the course of this year Mrs Baxter (Exams), Miss Flett (Science Technician), Miss Lee (Music), Mr Hatchell (Pastoral Manager), Mrs Shield (Finance) and Mrs Rushby (Social Sciences). We hope they are all well and continuing to do great things in their new roles or relishing the joys of retirement.

I often reflect that we must be doing something right here at Wellington as we have very little turnover of staff but we have added to the team this year in a number of areas, so a belated welcome and thank you for your efforts so far to: Dr Moussallati (Science Technician), Mrs Shields (Exams), Mrs Bailey (Finance), Miss Waldie (Student Support), Mr Garstang (Site Team), Mrs McCallin (TA), Ms Malpass (TA), Ms McNamee (TA), Mrs Parkinson (TA) and Miss Scholes (TA). We hope they will all have happy and successful careers here at Wellington, however long they may be with us for.

Anyway, that's quite enough from me, enjoy the Newsletter, thank you to all our Wellington 'family' and have a great summer.

S P Beeley, Headteacher



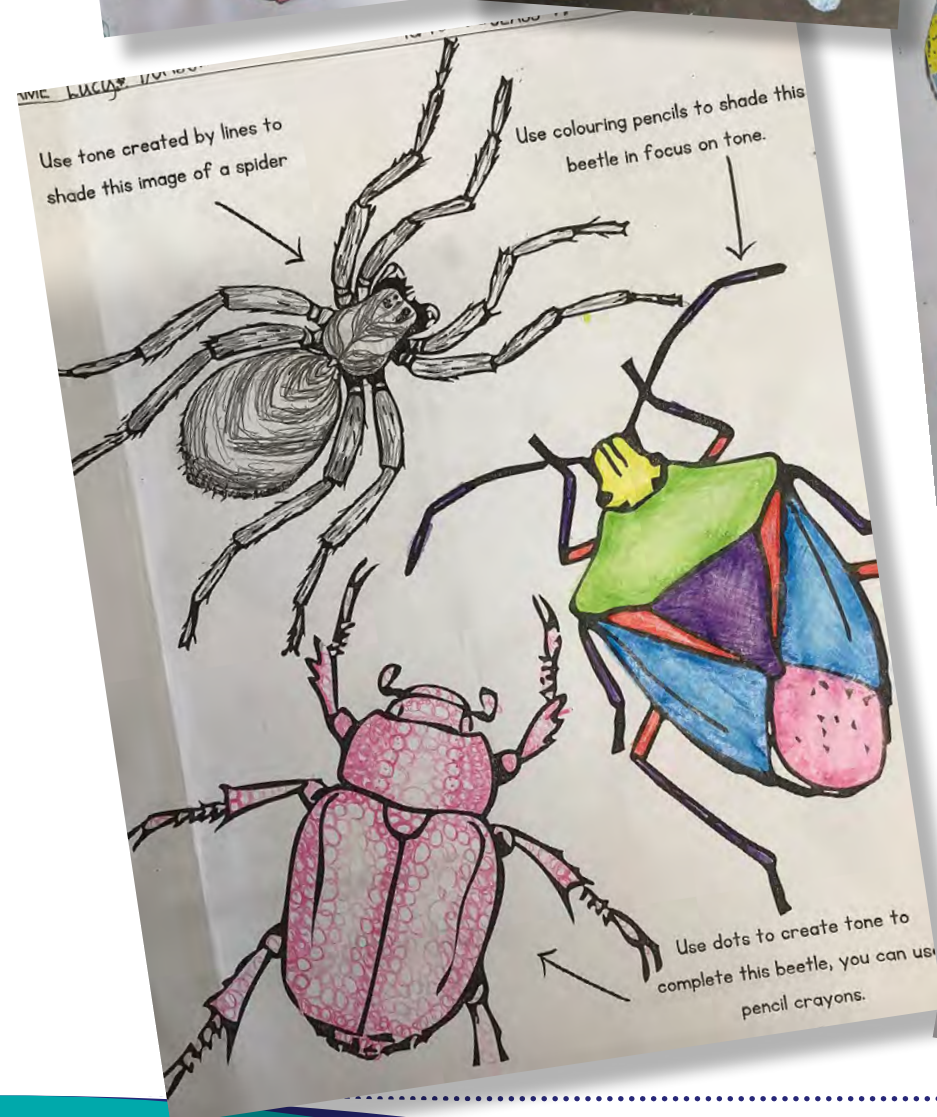
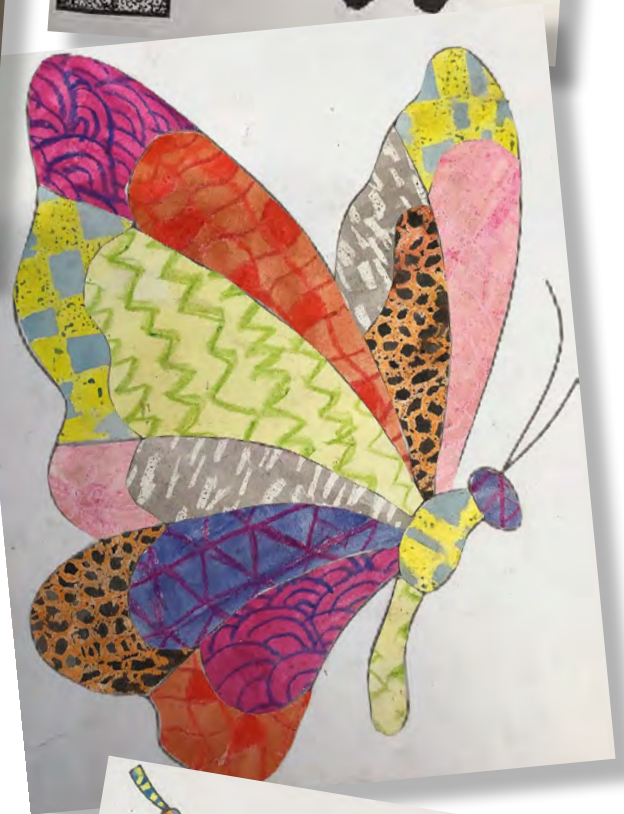
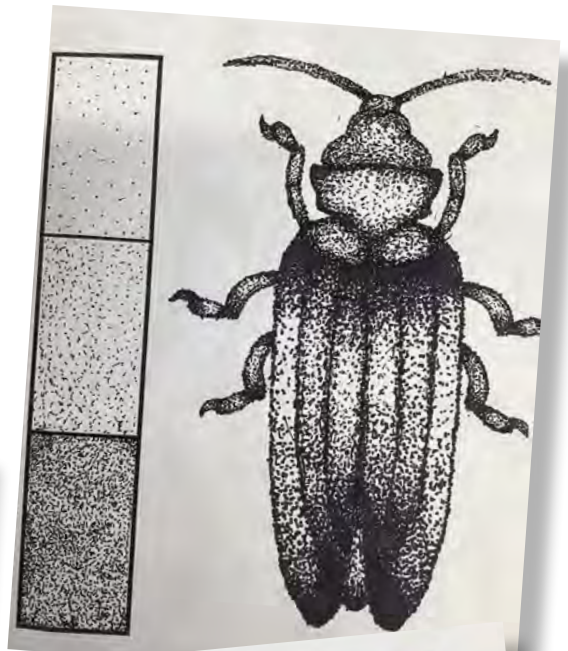
Year 7 - Formal Elements

The work got off to a 'flying' start with the exploration of insects across a broad range of different materials.

From oil pastel to ink, different qualities were experimented with and the fundamentals of Art like tone, texture, mark making, colour and pattern explored.

The insects were then developed into wonderful collages inspired by the artist Clare Youngs. The papers, colours and patterns created by the students were then cut to make these wonderful specimens!

Miss Grey, Mrs Kearney and Mrs Marneras



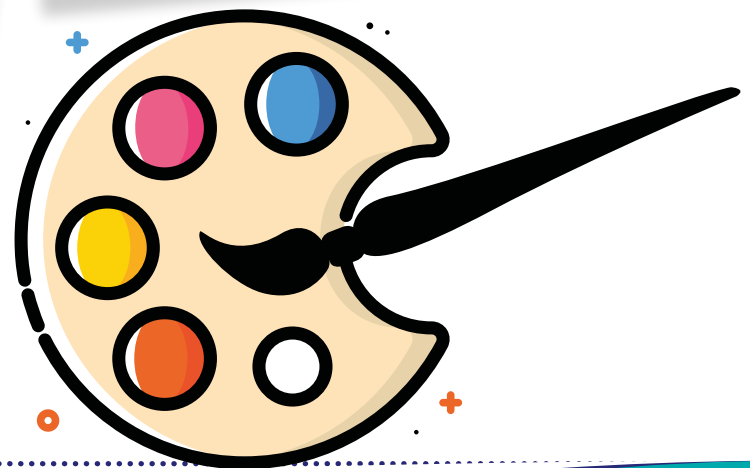
Year 8 - Colourful Maps

Year 8 started the year gaining a deeper understanding of colour theory. The students have looked closely at primary, secondary, tertiary, complementary, harmonious and analogous colours.

Students studied the work of Victoria Potrovitza whose work is abstract with geometric shapes inspired by contemporary maps.

After exploring Potrovitza's work and producing some wonderful research on her, students began to combine their colour theory knowledge to create their wonderful unique Manchester maps.

Miss Grey, Mrs Kearney and Mrs Marneras



Year 9 - Colourful Cells

Year 9 began drawing work in a number of different mediums looking at cell forms.

They explored different ways of drawing including wax resist, collage, relief, and stitch work. Students also explored different surfaces, textures and experimented with layers of mixed media and mark making.

Students were inspired by the work of Betty Busby and each student created a piece that has formed a wall hanging installation in the style of Jacob Hashimoto.

Miss Grey, Mrs Kearney & Mrs Marneras



Year 10 - Decay

Year 10 have successfully completed their first project based on 'Decay' and we are delighted with how these projects turned out.

Students have experimented and explored a huge range of materials, techniques and processes. They have developed skills in painting, drawing and mixed media work. As well as developing their photography skills, they are now absolute pros at using Photopea and everyone used this program to help plan out compositions for their final pieces.

It has been so exciting to see these projects develop and how students have developed their own personal responses to the theme!

Well done Year 10!

Miss Grey, Mrs Kearney and Mrs Marneras



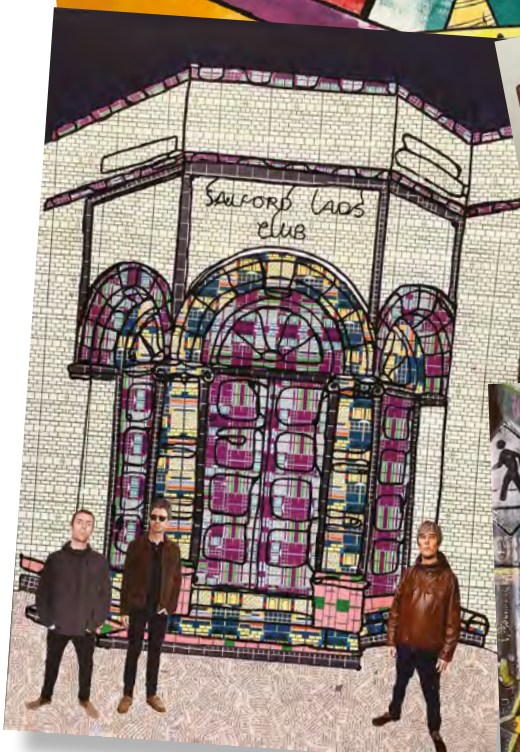
Year 11 - Success

Another great year with students creating some marvellous work across a range of different media and subject matter.

You want to see Manchester, we got it! Fruit and Sweet treats, the plate is very full!! City scenes a plenty too. It is, as always, a varied course and shows the range of work our talented lot produce.

Word is lots of them are coming back to do A-level Art which is great to see. Well done on your hard work and success Year 11.

Miss Grey, Mrs Kearney & Mrs Marneras



Year 12 - Birds, Greek Mythology, Sealife & Portraits

Year 12 began the year with a bang!

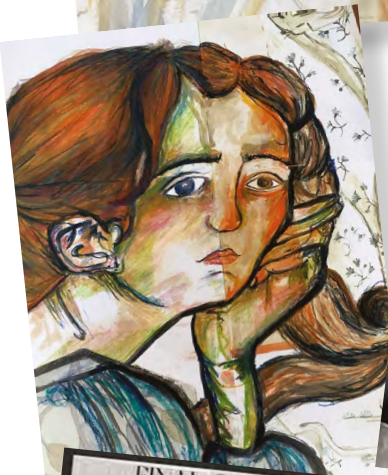
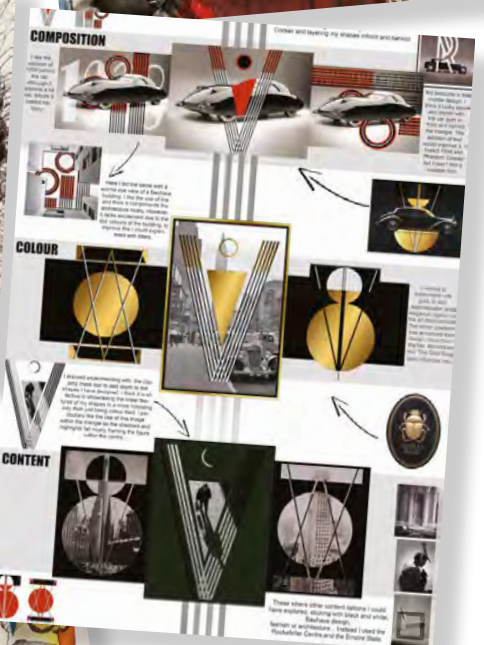
Techniques were varied and they explored a range of themes such as Portraits, Anatomy, Distortion, Seaside, Nature, Architecture and Food.

With such varied themes as Birds, Greek Mythology, Sealife and Portraits it was bound to get interesting.

The students have explored a range of media and presenting work and have shown their creativity with aplomb!

We are looking forward to seeing their work develop next year!

Miss Grey & Mrs Marneras



Year 13 - Coursework

Year 13 have worked hard this past year.

Their work shows their skill and talent across a variety of materials and media.

There is intricate embroidery and stitch work, mixed media, digital work, oil painting and collage. Every time we look at the work we see something new and are constantly amazed at the way they have created work.

Our students have been dedicated throughout their time to complete the coursework and examination requirements.

Many of our students are going on to study Art at University, including Architecture, Fashion and a Foundation course, can't wait to see what they create there!

Well done to everyone!

Miss Grey & Mrs Kearney



Paint Altrincham Blue

Well done to Michael Harrison, Emily Wall and Abby Smith (Year 13 students) who entered work for the Paint Altrincham Blue Art Trial.

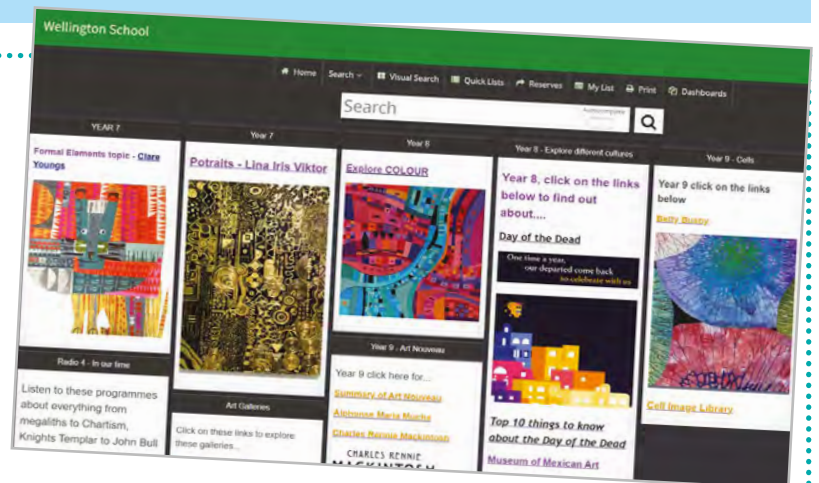
Their work was on display in shop windows, train stations and businesses around Altrincham to raise awareness of prostate cancer and men's mental health.

Mrs Kearney



Art Support

Working with the LRC we have been able to create a dashboard of support materials for all our projects and provide links to websites to extend the study experience.



There is also a link to the departments YouTube channel with practical demonstrations on there.

In classrooms we have ensured key words and art language is highlighted and there are prompts of where to find fiction, film and television with an Art focus.

Art really is everywhere!

Miss Grey, Mrs Kearney and Mrs Marneras

Chinese New Year

This year we celebrated the Year of the Rabbit.

We explored the meaning of the year and the rituals that surround this famous Chinese celebration.

KS3 decorated their own rabbit with signs and symbols and looked at the work of contemporary artist Chris Chun to add details.

The work was then mounted and displayed at the school's community celebration, providing a perfect backdrop to the event.

Miss Grey, Mrs Kearney & Mrs Marneras



GCSE and A Level Art Exhibition

We are looking forward to welcoming parents, students and staff to celebrate the work of our talented Year 11 and Year 13 students on Thursday 6th July. All welcome!

Miss Grey, Mrs Kearney and Mrs Marneras

**GCSE & A LEVEL
ART EXHIBITION**

THURSDAY 6TH JULY

**ART DEPARTMENT
4.30PM - 6PM**

Parents, students and staff are all welcome to celebrate the work of our talented Y11 & Y13 art students.

KS3 Enterprise Club

This year the Business Studies department introduced the KS3 Enterprise Club to Year 7 giving any budding entrepreneurs the opportunity to demonstrate their business ideas and test their entrepreneurial skills. It has proved to be extremely popular.

Club members set up their own mini-business to run Wellington School's first Christmas market to help raise money for Francis House, a local charity.

Each team decided on a stall and I was impressed by the range of ideas from the traditional cake stalls to 'lucky' dip raffles, to sweet bags and Christmas cards.

Once ideas were finalised, each mini business prepared a budget, set prices and created promotional material to be on display around school to raise awareness of the event. The event was a great success, raising in excess of £300 towards the charity.

An amazing effort and well done to everyone who took part.
Mrs Clarke



KS5 Young Enterprise Programme

This year saw the KS5 Young Enterprise Programme enter it's second year. The programme provides a real-life learning opportunity that introduces pupils to the realities of the world of work.

The team consisted of Year 12 pupils, who set up and ran their own company, 'Small Sprouts'. The pupils made all of the decisions about their business, from deciding on their company name and product to managing the company finances.

The company produced high-quality animal themed plant pots aimed at young children, with a focus on encouraging responsibility and promoting wellbeing.

The pupils have demonstrated an entrepreneurial mindset throughout the programme and have worked with enthusiasm, adaptability and creativity. Not only have they gained practical business experience, they have also developed the employability skills needed to secure successful futures in industry.

Well done to all involved! Mr A Shelton



Year 10 Business

The department has been busy this year offering a range of enrichment opportunities for our GCSE students.

Year 10 Enterprise and Marketing

Our current Year 10's are working towards the OCR Cambridge National in Enterprise and Marketing and have made a fantastic start to the course.

They have had the opportunity to visit Old Trafford as well as visiting the Trafford Centre to complete their market research activities this year.

The visit to Old Trafford was an opportunity for pupils to see a football club from a different perspective. Our first activity was to take part in a workshop, delivered by one of Manchester United Youth Team coaches, focusing on marketing and the importance of branding. Pupils fully engaged with the discussion and showed a good understanding of the impact social media has on consumers as well as the value of having a strong brand and reputation. This was followed up by a guided tour of the stadium.

Although no sign of Rashford, pupils had the opportunity to have their photo taken with a range of famous memorabilia, including Beckham's shirt and Ronaldo's boots.

Well done and keep up the fantastic work!

Year 10 GCSE Business Studies

We have re-introduced GCSE Business Studies this year and it has proven to be extremely popular with our KS4 students. As part of their studies our Year 10 pupils visited Cadbury World.

The visit was an opportunity for pupils to see a business in action and bring classroom content to life. After a self-guided tour about the manufacturing process of chocolate, during which the pupils had the opportunity to temper chocolate and observe staff personalising a range of Christmas products, the pupils participated in a talk. The talk covered a range of current topics from product design and branding, to costs and the environmental impact. Pupils engaged in the talk showing an understanding of the content. They have been able to use this learning in lessons since our visit.

Year 10 Enterprise Challenge

Run by Manchester Airport, the department entered a team to take part in a Dragon's Den style Enterprise Challenge – to create and sell a Christmas gift to raise money for a local charity.

Our team, Team Vixen, created a fantastic children's Christmas activity kit and had to pitch their idea to the dragons to win the investment.

Having successfully secured the investment, the hard work really began – creating and selling their kits. The team identified a number of sales opportunities including attending Christmas parties at local care homes and Christmas fairs held at primary schools.

The final task was to deliver a presentation in front of the dragons. Sitting in the presentation, I was proud of how they presented themselves and of their achievement to complete this challenge. They raised a fantastic £250 for Francis House.

Well done on your achievement. Mrs Clarke



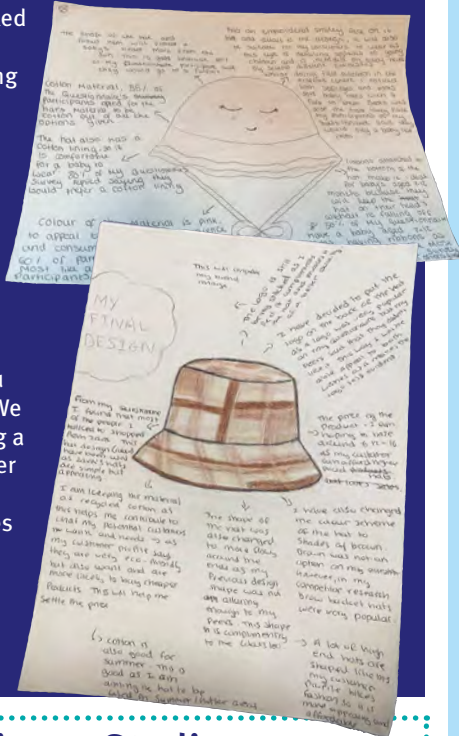
Year 11 Enterprise and Marketing

Year 11 Business pupils returned to school with a continued determination to succeed following some outstanding performances on the examination unit at the end of Year 10.

This year, pupils worked on their controlled assessment, producing a business plan for a new hat including a detailed marketing and finance strategy. We were really impressed by the quality of the work they produced during this time.

Well done Year 11, you have been fantastic. We look forward to seeing a lot of you in September when we start the A Level Business Studies course.

Mrs Clarke



Year 12 Business Studies

Our very talented and entrepreneurial Year 12 cohort have made a fantastic start to the course. From the start of the year Mrs Clarke and I have been impressed by their enthusiasm and passion for Business.

During the year, the group have studied a number of topics, including finance, marketing, human resources and operations. Part of the marketing unit included working as part of a team to develop the marketing strategy for a local community event. Pupils then pitched their idea to a potential investor outlining the key elements of their marketing strategy. All of the class demonstrated excellent presentation skills and conveyed their ideas with confidence. Despite tough competition, the winner pitched a comprehensive and exciting proposal for a music and food festival. Well done Ben, Zain, Maxwell and Nathan.

Business Studies London Trip

In January the Business Studies cohort visited London as part of the department's enrichment programme.

The highlight of the first day was a visit to the Museum of Brands to investigate the importance of brand image and packaging. Pupils took a journey through the history of branding, before redesigning the packaging for a number of well known brands. To finish a very busy day, the group visited the London Eye before taking in Leicester Square at night.



Year 13 Business Studies

And so, to Year 13. You have been a pleasure to teach for the past 2 years and have shown a real passion for Business throughout the course.

You returned to school in September determined to succeed and the progress you have made has been remarkable. You applied yourself well to your studies and continued with your enthusiasm for the subject.

In January the cohort took part in a Tutor2U Strong Foundations workshop in the Trafford Centre. The workshop provided

a challenging and engaging learning environment where students developed their skills of analysis and revised key exam theory. The workshop was designed and delivered by experienced AQA examiner presenters, all of whom have a deep understanding of what students need to focus on in order to succeed in their Business Studies exams. All of our students performed brilliantly at the event!

We hope that you enjoyed your business experience and take away some happy memories. All the best Year 13 and good luck for the future.

Mr Shelton and Mrs Clarke



During the second day the pupils developed their understanding of the role of the Financial District in UK economy and took in key locations of the City of London during a guided walking tour. The group also visited the home of Chelsea Football Club to learn more about the business of football and gained valuable insight into the inner workings of one of Europe's most successful clubs.

On the final day the pupils got to learn more about the UK economy with a tour of the Bank of England. Before heading home, we also got to see London from above, taking a very cold and windy trip to the 72nd floor of the highest building in the UK, the Shard.



To finish off the Spring term the group attended the Tutor2U Grade Booster workshop in Manchester. The workshop provided an interactive, intensive and engaging learning environment where the pupils worked hard to further develop their exam technique and understanding of the key theory studied so far. We are looking forward to further enrichment activities in the summer term including employer talks from representatives from the Finance industry.

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

Mr A Shelton

Bebras and OUCC

Every November, all Computing students at Wellington take part in the Bebras Challenge, which tests them on their computational and logical thinking skills.

Those that score in the top 10% in the country receive a gold award and qualify for a further competition – the Oxford University Computing Challenge. 44 of our students qualified (some are pictured here).

The highest scorers in Key Stage 3 were Rachel Miles (Year 9), Jimi Nicholls (Year 8) and Archie Taylor (Year 7).

The OUCC tests the ability to create programmed solutions to computational thinking problems and goes far beyond the normal curriculum for their age group. We had our best ever results this year. Two of our students scored in the top 5% nationally and narrowly missed out on a place in the final at Oxford. One of those is Lewis Goodwin who is pictured here with his certificate of distinction.

Mr Little and Mrs Cook



Cybergirls First Trip to UA92

In May, 10 Year 8 girls had the opportunity to visit University Academy 92 for a day of activities related to the technology sector.

The students were given a tour of the campus before having lectures from representatives of JP Morgan and Microsoft. These discussed the cryptography, cyber security and the impact of artificial intelligence. The girls did the school proud by cracking codes and setting challenges for the instructor. They got to witness live hacks and learnt some tips for protecting their computers. More sessions followed after lunch on public speaking (the Z technique is a new one for me), and finally a visit to the Igloo – which was a bit like a 360 cinema. The highlight of the day was either seconds at lunch or the goody bag at the end!

Mr Little



KS3 - Year 7

Textiles

Year 7 students have been learning to develop their sewing skills to design and make felt animal cushions for an intended user which are personalised in their own style.

Students have learnt how to develop their hand sewing to applique designs using hand embroidery, sew buttons and more advanced skills such as threading and sewing using the sewing machine.

I'm sure you will agree these animal creations are just 'purr-fect' (excuse the pun)!

Fabulous work Year 7! Mrs Booth



Cooking and Nutrition

It has been an amazing year for the Year 7 pupils who have impressed me with their enthusiasm for this subject.

In Year 7 we do a mix of work to develop both practical skills and also knowledge of nutrition. Pupils have particularly enjoyed learning about the Eatwell Guide and it has been very pleasing to see that many already have a sound knowledge of healthy eating guidelines.

In the practical sessions we have made a variety of healthy main meals such as veggie pasta sauce, cheesy frittata and chicken stir-fry. We also made carrot cake tray bake which went down a treat, with many pupils saying they had never tried it before, but all agreeing it was delicious.

I've been very impressed with the standard of work produced and it has been great to hear from both the pupils and their parents that many pupils are helping out more with the cooking at home and have also tried and enjoyed foods they have previously thought they wouldn't like.

Well done Year 7. I look forward to working with you all again in Year 8. Mrs Ryan



Automata Project

In Product Design, Year 7 have been learning about mechanisms and motion.

They have been designing and making an Automata, which is a moving toy that uses a cam mechanism. This project has focused on developing awareness of designing graphics to a brief, considering the wants, needs and interests of a client. Year 7 have done some fantastic work creating a product aimed at a young child, which can be seen in their creative design work, and the final products which are currently being constructed. Well done Year 7!

Miss Furniss and Mr Brown



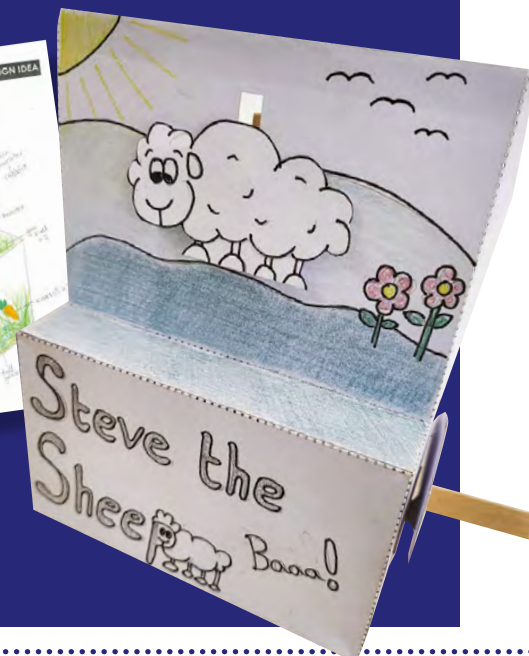
Product Design Catamaran Boat Design

This year the students in Year 7 have explored a range of hand tools and machinery and the importance of health and safety when working in a workshop environment.

They were tasked with building a wooden catamaran boat. Throughout the project students have grown in confidence and have developed their ability to problem solve to successfully manufacture their outcomes.

Great effort and well done Year 7!

Mr Travis



KS3 - Year 8

Mediterranean Cuisine

Within the Mediterranean area there are a wide variety of countries and cultures, each with their own unique style of delicious Mediterranean Cuisine.

As such it is a perfect area to study and with many people holidaying in this region many pupils are already familiar with some of the dishes.

Year 8 pupils have the opportunity to research the Med and make a number of common dishes before going on to plan their own choice of final dish.

Pupils not only learn about the different dishes and typical types of ingredients used in Mediterranean countries, they also develop a wide range of skills such as using different types of research, organisational skills and time management.

Practical lessons have further developed skills that we started to learn in Year 7 with pupils making Greek Salad (Greece), French style Chicken with Bacon and Peas (France), Pizza (Italy) and Meskouta Orange Cake (Morocco).

The final assessment for all pupils was a practical task. The pupils were required to find a Mediterranean recipe of their own choice, using this to develop a detailed time plan which was followed when making their chosen dish.

I have loved seeing the variety of dishes chosen and it has been particularly pleasing discussing the ideas with pupils, many of whom have really challenged themselves.

Great work Year 8. Keep up the effort in Year 9. Mrs Ryan



Product Design

Year 8 have continued to develop their Design and Technology workshop skills manufacturing a working clock based on a frame design incorporating 4 wood joints at 90 degree angles to enable precise construction of the clock body.

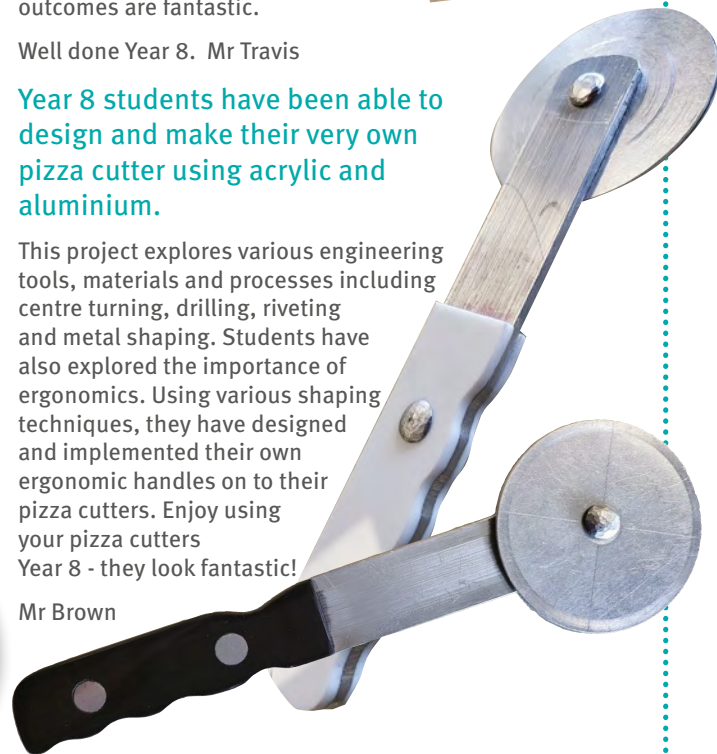
The students have also designed the face for their clock using Computer Aided Design facilities and vector graphics. I am sure you will agree; the outcomes are fantastic.

Well done Year 8. Mr Travis

Year 8 students have been able to design and make their very own pizza cutter using acrylic and aluminium.

This project explores various engineering tools, materials and processes including centre turning, drilling, riveting and metal shaping. Students have also explored the importance of ergonomics. Using various shaping techniques, they have designed and implemented their own ergonomic handles on to their pizza cutters. Enjoy using your pizza cutters Year 8 - they look fantastic!

Mr Brown



Sustainable Toys

Year 8 students have been designing and making sustainable toys made from organic cotton, recycled felt and buttons in Textiles this year.

The toy designs are aimed at young children and are based on 'friendly monsters' and have been created with their own unique and original characters.

Students have experimented with a range of decorative techniques to enhance the fabric using tie dye, hand embroidery to appliqué, and machine sewing skills to manufacture the toy.

As well as developing their practical skills students have also been learning why is organic cotton better for us as consumers and the environment too!

As you can see these monsters are colourful and creative, well done Year 8! Mrs Booth



KS3 - Year 9 Product Design

Year 9 have been working hard on a CAD (Computer Aided Design) project where they have digitally created 2D and 3D designs for the production of a child's card-based Mathematics learning game.

Alongside technical drawings and graphic design, the students have also outputted their work professionally and produced excellent 3D models.

Well done Year 9.

Mr Travis

Year 9 students were tasked with building a USB powered LED light.

This advanced project covers a range of skills and techniques from CAD work, resistant material manipulation, electronics and soldering. Given the vast range of knowledge students needed to learn and use, all of the students produced excellent outcomes. Well done Year 9!

Mr Brown



Textiles - Hat Designs

Year 9 have been developing their sewing skills to create a range of hat designs.

Students have used the sewing machine to create a variety of decorative techniques such as applique, sublimation printing and computerised embroidery.

Mrs Booth



Hot Water Bottle Covers Designs

Year 9 students have been developing their skills to create a range of novelty hot water bottle covers.

Students researched a potential theme to develop design ideas to suit a chosen audience.

To develop their sewing skills students learnt how to use the sewing machine to create a variety of decorative techniques to create their original designs.

These designs look fantastic, well done Year 9!

Mrs Booth



Asia, Africa and the Americas

Building on work completed in Year 8 on Mediterranean Cuisine, Year 9 begin looking further afield learning about the types of cuisine served in Asia, Africa and the Americas.

To make this unit even more challenging, pupils must also consider the cost of living increasing across the UK, and investigate ways to manage a budget as well as provide low cost, nutritious family meals.

Theory lessons have not only covered how to analyse a design brief and how to research, but have also included information on healthy eating guidelines and which cooking methods are more beneficial when creating nutritious meals.

Practical dishes we have made include Matar Paneer (India), Bunny Chow (South Africa) and Chinese Chicken Curry (China). Pupils also made an assessed final dish of their own choice.

Detailed time plans are an important aspect of Cooking and Nutrition and pupils start to learn about them in Year 8. Year 9 gives us another opportunity to revisit and further develop skills and knowledge of time plans and once again pupils are expected to complete their own, which must be followed when making their chosen dish.

Amazing effort Year 9. Mrs Ryan



KS4 - Year 10

Design & Technology

Year 10 Design & Technology students have been developing their investigative, analytical, design and making skills to complete a Design & Make project to prepare them for their Non-Examination Assessment which commences in June.

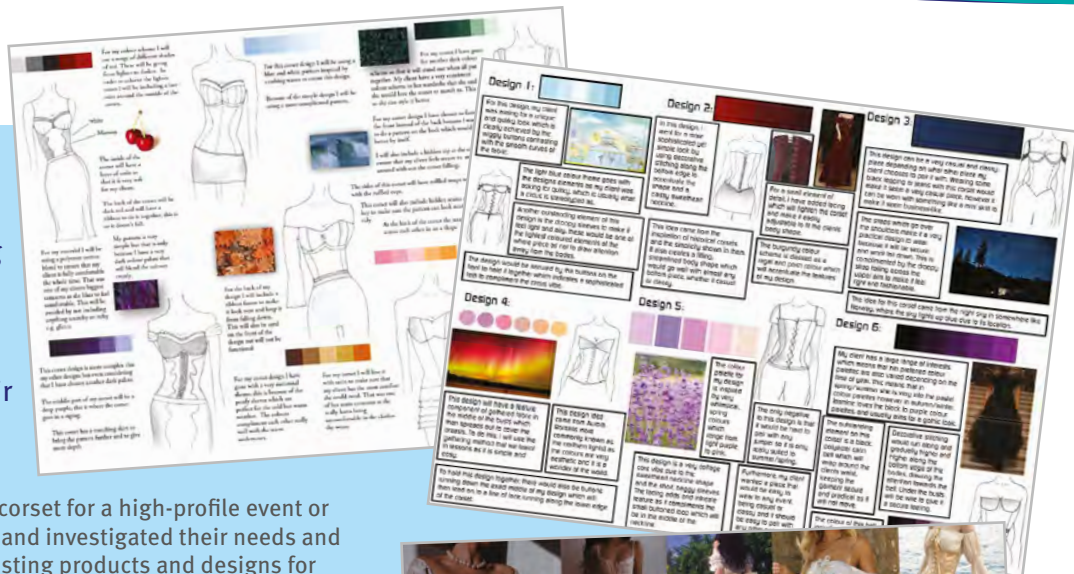
The project aim is to design a fashion corset for a high-profile event or occasion. Students identified a client and investigated their needs and requirements. They have analysed existing products and designs for inspiration before creating their ideas.

To develop their practical skills students used a variety of tools and equipment to produce a 'toile' mock up version of their design to test and evaluate their ideas prior to manufacture. Students are now in the final stages of making their corset style top design.

To support these skills students have been studying the theoretical elements which also help them prepare for their Non-Examination Assessment and their end of year examination.

The students have worked hard and shown dedication and commitment and I look forward to seeing how their ideas develop in their Non-Examination Assessment in Year 11.

Mrs Booth



Chicken Masterclass

At the start of the school year, chef Martin Belcher from the School's catering company, Caterlink, came in to deliver a Chicken Masterclass to the Year 10 GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition Class.

Pupils participated in a 2 hour session learning how to portion a whole chicken and make a stock using the carcass and then make their own "Nando's" style meal using the different parts of the chicken.

To go with the chicken, pupils also made wedges, coleslaw and salad. They were then challenged to present their food to restaurant standard.

Without a doubt though, the part pupils enjoyed most was eating what they had made.

Thanks so much to Martin and Caterlink, we had a fantastic time and learnt lots of valuable skills.

Mrs Ryan

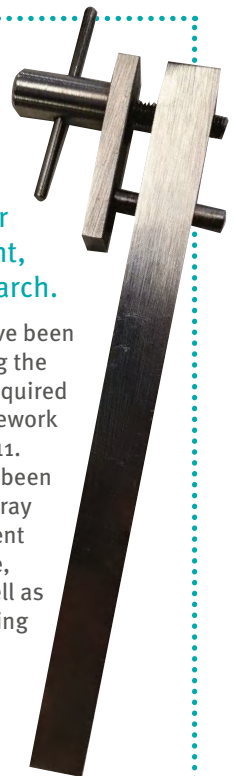


Engineering

Our Year 10 Engineers worked very hard learning the content for their external assessment, which was sat in March.

Since then students have been learning and developing the skills and knowledge required to complete their coursework which will start in Year 11. Practical skills we have been looking at include an array of engineering equipment such as the centre lathe, marking out tools as well as manipulation and shaping of various materials. All of this hard work will contribute towards their internal synoptic assessment which will commence in December 2022.

Well done Year 10!
Mr Brown and Mr Travis





KS4 - Year 11

GCSE Design & Technology

The students studying GCSE Design & Technology have been working hard to complete their Non-Examination Assessment, they have had to investigate a contextual challenge of Caring for Animals or Working or Studying from Home.

They have designed and manufactured prototypes for specific users and identified their wants and needs.

The students have worked hard and shown dedication and commitment as the outcomes are diverse and commercially viable, these include folding bed desks, portable desks, desk organisers with speakers and stackable dog bowls with storage.

A fantastic effort Year 11, the very best of luck for your exams this summer!

Mrs Booth



Engineering

The Year 11 Engineers have been working hard on their assessed Synoptic Project.



Students have planned and manufactured an engineering product specified by the exam board – in this case a bird nesting box.



They have shown their skills using hand drawn and CAD drawings and have also demonstrated their manufacturing skills to produce the 3D outcome to specific dimensions and requirements. Well done Year 11.

Mr Brown and Mr Travis



GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

A massive well done to our Year 11 Food group on the amazing dishes produced for their final GCSE assessment.

The final practical is a three hour session where pupils are expected to follow a detailed time plan to prepare, cook and present three dishes based on their chosen task.

This year's task choices were dishes high in calcium, plant-based dishes for teenagers or North and South American cuisine.

Parents were invited to join us at the end of the day to test the dishes produced and provide feedback for the pupils to use in the write up of their work. Thank you to all those who were able to attend.

Unfortunately, we are unable to show the photos as they are examination work – however some photos from last year are available and suffice to say this year's pupils met the same high standards.

Mrs Ryan

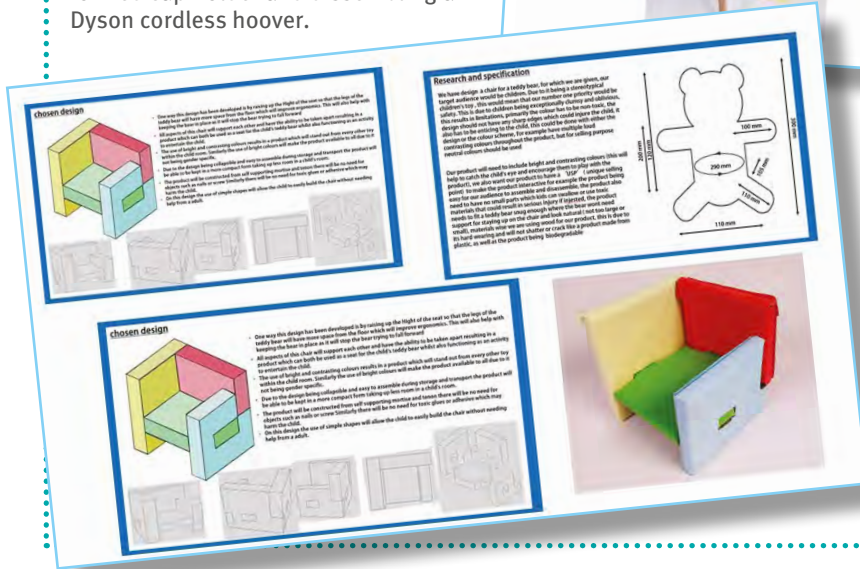
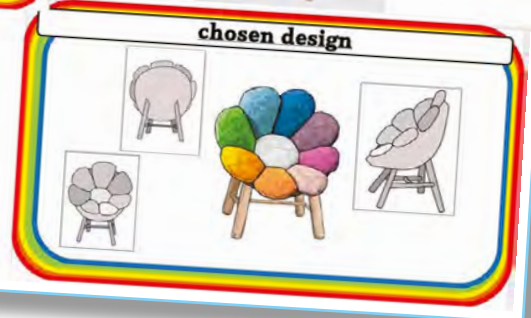
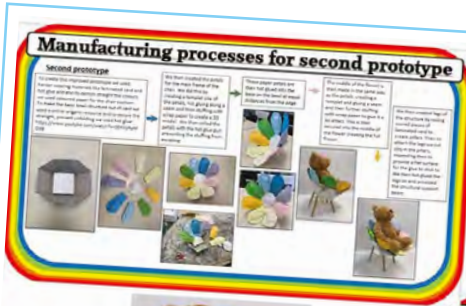


Year 12

Product Design

Year 12 have made a brilliant start to this year covering much of the external assessment content in these first two terms.

To supplement the learning of these skills and knowledge students completed mini practical projects such as; an acrylic phone stand, a vacuum formed cup holder and disassembling a Dyson cordless Hoover.



The class were also set a mini design and make project with a client brief. In two teams, students researched, designed and prototyped the products with brilliant end results. At this point in the year they are now embarking upon their NEA project which is a context of their choosing. We are currently exploring different methods of primary and secondary research which are appropriate for each individual.

Mr Brown and Mrs Booth

Concorde Technical Tour

Year 10 Engineering students visited the aviation viewing park at Manchester Airport to experience the Concorde Technical Tour on Thursday 25th May. This was a fantastic experience for the engineers who have made a great start to their NCFE Engineering course.



The tour didn't disappoint, starting with a short video shown to us by a very informative guide, moving through to the hangar where the iconic Concorde sat majestically. We were treated to a full interior tour including sitting on the flight deck and then an exterior tour of Concorde showing us the landing gear and engines up close and the various technical elements that influenced its design.



This tour is a must for any engineer! Mr Travis

Formula 1 in Schools

STEM club have been focussing their sessions this term in to launching Formula 1 in schools. The project involves designing, testing and engineering a model F1 car which will compete locally and (hopefully) nationally.

It is their hope and ambition to raise enough money to buy the required materials, tools and equipment to fully resource our own F1 team. To make progress towards this goal a small group of the STEM club presented a pitch to the Senior Leadership Team here at Wellington. They were blown away by the passion and enthusiasm they showed for this project - the team have already raised over £1000 and hope to raise more over the coming months. Lights out and away we go!

Mr Brown and Mr Eckersley

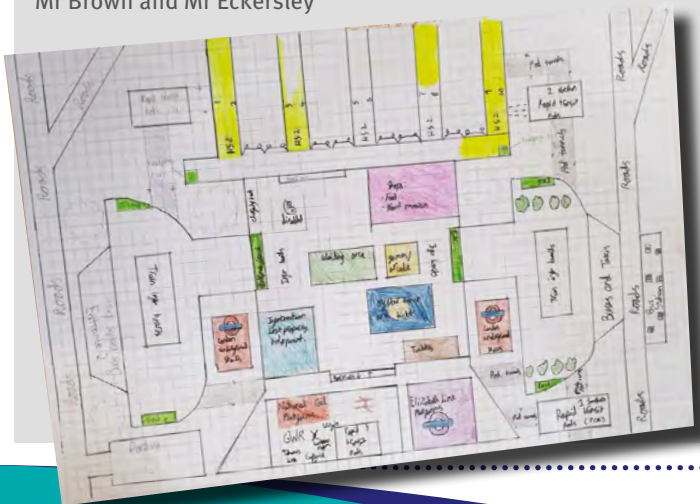
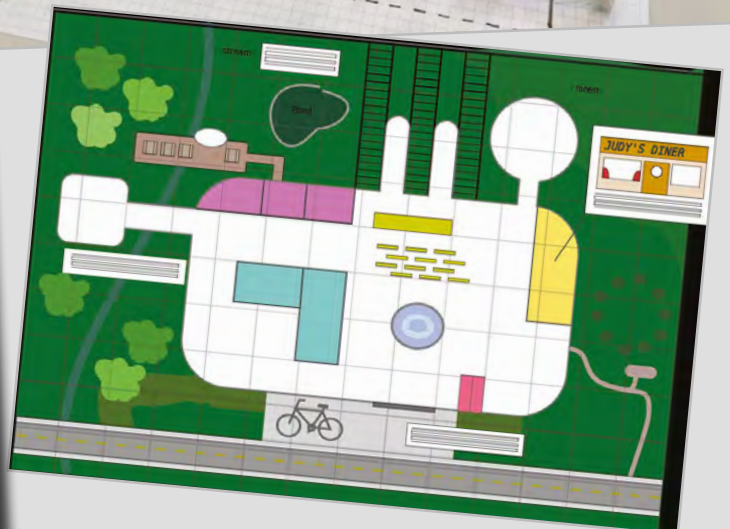
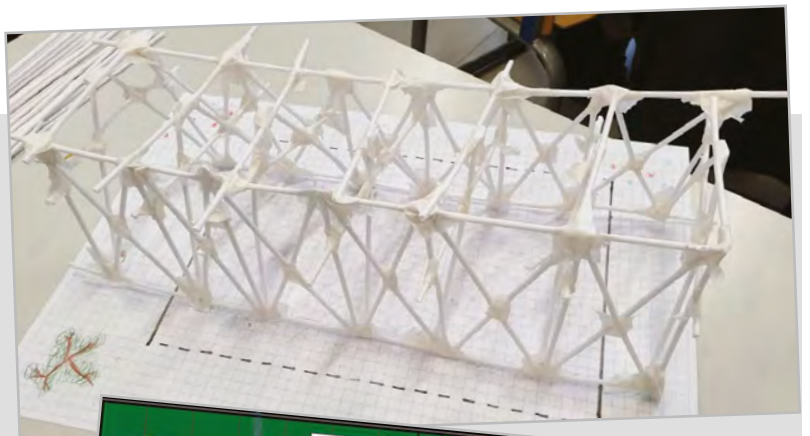


HS2 Event

In January, 60 Year 9 students were given the opportunity to participate in a full day's workshop exploring the new railway system HS2.

The day was broken down in to multiple mini activities exploring different aspects of the project such as what a railway station will look like in the future, as well as what makes a successful structure when building a railway line underground. The group thoroughly enjoyed the day, learning and developing many skills along the way such as inter-personal skills and various other STEM related skills.

Mr Brown and Mr Eckersley



Wild Alaskan Salmon

This year we have once again been selected to receive 40 fillets of Wild Alaskan Salmon from the Fish Heroes programme organised by the Food Teachers Centre.

As part of the programme, 250 schools nationwide received a free delivery of Salmon. With the cost of living and rise in food prices, this is a very generous offer and we are thrilled to have been selected.

The Fish Heroes programme is designed to encourage pupils to cook with fish more and to try dishes they may not have tried before. It also encourages pupils to try food which they may not have previously been a fan of.

Year 10 pupils began learning about the seafood industry by following modules through the Seafood University: <https://alaskaseafooduniversity.co.uk/login/> - which you too can access should you wish to find out more.



Pupils then had the opportunity to cook and taste the salmon, with many stating they didn't really like fish before but really enjoyed the salmon and would try other types of fish.

Year 10 pupils made "Salmon Kebabs with Flatbreads and Tzatziki", which was very challenging in an hour's lesson. The group all rose to the challenge and it was great preparation for their final GCSE practical next year.

The rest of the fish will be used with KS3 pupils – I'm sure they will enjoy it as much as Year 10.

Photographs of the finished fish dishes can be seen on the Wellington DT Instagram page: **Wellington_design_technology**. Mrs Ryan



Remembrance 2022

In Textiles, Year 9 students have created poppies to honour those who fought, served and died in wars and other conflicts and those who continue to serve and protect us by creating a commemorative display.

We will remember them.

Mrs Booth



KS3 - Drama

Year 7 Drama

What a fun and fantastic start the new Year 7 cohort have made. After learning and developing their umbrella of basic drama skills, the year started off with an exploration into the very spooky Dark Wood Manor. Students explored the background of the house and what made it so famously scary, they became objects and Gargoyles using physical theatre whilst also exploring thought track to express how a character is feeling.

The year then moved on with an exploration into one of the Drama departments favourite authors, Roald Dahl. We started with his famous 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory', using film clips, character studies and scripts the pupils leapt into the roles of Verruca Salt, Violet Beauregarde, Augustus Gloop and Mike Teevee to explore how to use their voices and body language in character presentation. The exploration of Roald Dahl did not stop there and neither did the opportunity to learn new skills, James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, Georges Marvellous Medicines and The Twits helped students to explore skills such as physical theatre, conscious alley, ensemble and script work.



From the wonderful world of Roald Dahl to a completely different topic, students became spys! They went undercover to work for a special spy school to find out clues and complete missions around the theatre practitioner Constantine Stanislavski. Students were tasked with exploring naturalism, mime and deeper characterisation with a range of skills such as emotional memories, the art of experience, visualisation and understanding the importance of the fourth wall. This scheme of work really challenged students as it opened their mind up to working with their emotions, motivations behind scenes and the objectives behind each character's thoughts, movement and dialogue choices.

Our final scheme, and one every single student knows I would not miss the opportunity to build in to the curriculum, wave those magical wands, as it's Harry Potter! Continuing our studies on characterisation, students used their characterisation skills to understand how best to represent a character on stage, making them unique, interesting and of course, entertaining for our audience.

This Year 7 cohort have been an absolute pleasure to teach, they have been resilient, hard working and creative. So many different tasks and skills have been thrown at them this year and they have cracked on with every single challenge faced, all whilst making their teacher laugh and most importantly proud! Well done Year 7 a fantastic contribution to lessons and extra-curricular activities.

Miss Pusey

Year 8 Drama

Their return to Wellington and a fresh new year! Year 8 got well and truly stuck in straight away, exploring Willy Russell's Blood Brothers.



Using a bank of body language skills from Year 7, students explored a range of characters from different social



backgrounds and different ages. They allowed themselves to have fun and let their guards down to be fun and energetic 7-year olds, whilst understanding that adult life can take a quick turn and superstition can change everything! The performances and characters created by the students were fantastic and staff within the department were blown away by many of the performances. Many questionable, funny and fantastic Liverpoolian accents were used as well!

Next, students went on a journey, a journey through the ages, looking at the history of theatre. Firstly, they went straight back to the start and explored choral work/speaking within Greek Theatre, some fantastic creations of mythical creatures and explorations of the story of Oedipus. They also looked at where characterisation and mask work started within Commedia dell'arte and Kabuki, then finishing with the most famous theatre movements Naturalism and Brechtian theatre.

We then looked at a piece of Verbatim theatre, exploring the story of Derek Bentley. 'Let Him Have It'. Students explored the real story and were able to share their thoughts and feelings in the safe space of the drama classroom. They recreated the all-important scenes from the story using a range of skills, marking the moment being one of these. Students were also able to discuss stereotypes and how we may represent these through our characterisation. Year 8 approached this topic with such maturity and the discussion had demonstrated to us just how thoughtful and understanding this year group are. It's a pleasure to allow such open discussions to happen within the classroom.

Finally, students explored William Shakespeare's 'A Midsummers Night Dream', exploring the different characters/speeches using stage combat and physical theatre. Stage combat was a brand-new skill for our students and they really enjoyed learning how to create these moments on stage, being creative and adding a whole new definition to our performances.

Year 8 have been an absolute pleasure to teach this year and we are so proud of how hard they work and how enthusiastic they are! Their enthusiasm has also been shown through the contribution to extra-curricular and their passion for performing! Well done!

Miss Pusey

KS3 - Drama

Year 9 Drama

What a great year for our Year 9 cohort. The independent and thought-provoking topics inspired excellent performances on stage.

This year has purposely pushed students out of their comfort zones in creating performances that challenge them and the audience around them.

The year started off with a focus on one of John Godber's most famous plays, 'Teachers'. This topic allows students to explore skills such as, characterisation, physicality and multi-role, all whilst exploring comedy on stage. This script is really relatable for the students and so are the stereotypes that comes with it meaning that the students really engage with what is in front of them!

We then took a step back in time, where we visited a Borstal, students played characters from a borstal and learnt how to create a character back story to help with the creation of character. Students loved to see teachers in role as the governor, they responded really well to teacher in role and made it incredibly fun for us. This scheme of work also pushed students out of their comfort zone as they had to perform monologues on stage for the first time.

Students then explored Physical Theatre, in particular Frantic Assembly, they looked at the 'Frantic Method' of building blocks working with, Round-By-Through and Chair Duets. They then took their newly learnt skills and created a performance around the idea of fear and how fear can be portrayed on stage through physicality rather than words. Really impressed with the performances that were created and there was a lot of fun had in each

lesson learning a new element of Frantic Assembly!

Finally, students then developed their skills of being able to analyse and evaluate live theatre. Students watched a performance and then looked at understanding why and how different things were used on stage. Such as set, costume, proxemics, music and a whole lot more! This scheme was a nice way of bringing the year to a close as it summed up all the skills the students have explored through KS3, they were able to identify them through watching a live performance, they were then able to write and evaluate these.

Well done Year 9. We really look forwards to working with some of you at GCSE and we cannot wait to see you develop your skills even further.

Miss Pusey

KS4 - Drama

Year 10 Performing Arts

Working with the talented 7 students during the Performing Arts course this year has been a wonderful experience in developing creativity, passion and individual flair.

This cohort of Year 10's will be the first group to undertake the new Eduqas Performing Arts course and it has been an exciting year discovering the course with the students.

The academic year began by exploring a variety of practitioners: Stanislavski, Brecht, Frantic Assembly and Artaud. This allowed the students to begin to create some of their own devised pieces of work utilising the various styles of the practitioners – it was amazing to see the political, important and impactful messages the students began to convey through their performances. Students started to form their personal aptitudes within theatre and the drama space, which allowed them to develop a desire for educational theatre that had relevant social messages.

Following this the students began to explore various scripts: 'Blood Brothers', 'Teachers', 'Bouncers and Shakers', 'The Cosmonaut's Last Message To The Woman he once Loved in the Former Soviet Union' and many more. The students were able to develop their abilities within drama by researching the various scripts, watching plays online and viewing live theatre to develop their characterisation. Eventually, students chose the play they wanted to do for their scripted performance and began to undertake extensive rehearsals to ensure their final show was to a professional standard.

It has been a pleasure to work so closely with this year's Performing Arts cohort and I am confident that their abilities will continue to develop and blossom throughout the course and during their time in Year 11.

Mr Vernon



Year 10 GCSE

Year 10 are enjoying their GCSE journey.

The first half of the year is spent learning a range of techniques and practitioners in order to prepare for their GCSE exams. The class have been busy preparing for their devising unit. Pupils were given a range of stimuli including watching the google advert, 'where is the love' remix and array of different images; all relating to world events in the last two years. Students were busy researching various different themes and topics in preparation for the creation process. Students will perform these pieces for their parents in a showcase event. Their attitude to learning and approach to their GCSE has been fantastic, keep up the great work Year 10 and you will achieve nothing but successful things in Year 11!

Miss Pusey

KS4 - Drama

Year 11 Performing Arts

It has been a wonderful year working with this year's Year 11 Performing Arts class to help them develop their scripted work and expand their knowledge of the performing arts industry.

The academic year began with the cohort having the amazing opportunity to showcase their scripted performance as part of their overall qualification. This was

demonstrated through a fun and exciting awards evening style performance, with a comedic twist, thrilling scenes and overall a great display of talent and dedication. The variety evening encapsulated the Year 10 audience members with scenes from 'Blood Brothers', 'This Wide Night', 'Bouncers and Shakers' and 'Bird'. Students dedicated all their time and effort to ensuring that their scripted performance was to a very high standard and performed professionally.

Once the students had completed their scripted component of the course, then

they began to explore the performing arts industry, developing their understanding and awareness of the social, economic and cultural impacts of the industry. From this, the students will transfer their knowledge during a written exam that will allow them to demonstrate their vast knowledge of the theatrical industry.

It has been a pleasure to work with the 6 Year 11 Performing Arts students and I am extremely confident in them achieving whatever their endeavours may be in the years to come.
Mr Vernon

Shakespeare Schools Festival 2023

On Wednesday 15th March, 24 students from Year 8, 9 and 10 took part in the Shakespeare Schools Festival, a national event where students of all ages and abilities perform a 30-minute version of a Shakespeare play on a professional stage.

On the back of last year's spectacular Romeo and Juliet, this year we opted for a comedy: A Midsummer Night's Dream. The students were cast and began rehearsals back in November and worked diligently to produce a professional standard performance.

Following a workshop in February and an all-day rehearsal the day before, we set off for the Contact Theatre in Manchester on the Wednesday lunchtime and treated ourselves to a McDonald's for lunch to keep us going through what would prove to be a long and challenging day. During their technical rehearsal, the students conducted themselves with maturity and true professionalism (commented on by the stage team at the Contact Theatre) and breezed through their dress rehearsal. After a quick pause for some food, and to apply more gemstones to the fairy's faces, we readied ourselves to watch and perform.

While watching another school's performance of Macbeth, our students were polite and supportive, making astute and mature commentary on the performance. I was very proud of their attitude and behaviour. Then it was our turn to head backstage when the students conducted themselves beautifully, despite some nerves.

Finally, performing in the prestigious closing spot of the show, our students gave the performance of a lifetime, successfully bringing the bard's words to life for the audience. Afterwards, several parents and audience members (parents from other schools) commented to me on how fantastic and professional their performance was, which was wonderful to hear. I also overheard one of their peers who had come to support them comment that they "understand Shakespeare now!": a glowing review if ever I heard one. Special mentions must go to Joe Allan as Bottom, whose comic turn had the whole audience rolling with laughter during his 'dramatic death', and to Jack Adams as Puck; it is no mean feat to learn all those lines but to also perform with such physicality and humour, as a Year 8, is truly a testament to his natural talent and how hard he worked during this process. Well done, all!

The students should be incredibly proud of themselves as we are of them.

I'm already looking forward to next year! Miss F Spencer



Matilda

Following the success of the last school production of 'High School Musical', the Drama department decided to tell the story of Matilda and the "revolting children" who are out to teach the grown-ups a lesson. Matilda's story was a magical tale to bring to life, through her intelligent wit and special powers. Auditions took place and the world of Matilda began to form throughout the whole of Wellington's culture.

Our leading lady was the marvellous Marlis Robson (Year 8), who delivered a loveable and sassy rendition of the role of Matilda, which stole the show with her incredible acting and singing talent. She did a fantastic job of handling the demands of the lead role, and we

do not doubt that she will feature frequently on the Wellington stage in the years to come. Samuel Henshall (Year 11) delivered a fantastic Miss Trunchbull, which had the audience hysterically laughing through his comedic twist on the role – not to mention the gripping solos! Connie Needham (Year 9) portrayed a delightful Miss Honey, who had the whole audience rooting for her. And a special thanks to the Wormwoods: Tilly Fletcher (Year 9), Reuben Clarke (Year 9) and Mikey Bailey (Year 8), who demonstrated an uncaring family that provided the show with great witty elements through immaculate comedic timing and chemistry on stage. The group of incredibly talented Year 7's must also be mentioned; many of them earned many roles during the rehearsal process as a result of their dedication and acting prowess (keep an eye out for them in the years to come too!). A final huge well done and thank you to the rest of the cast, without their incredible talent and ensemble work the musical would not have been the showstopper it was.

An enormous thanks to the staff that put all the work and effort into making Matilda a memorable show for years to come. Thank you to Mr Cawley for always being on hand to help with the technical elements of the show (and of course for organising the amazing interval snacks and refreshments!). A great big thank you to the art department for helping us bring the Wellington stage to life and providing us with some awesome props. Since a musical wouldn't be complete without music, a special thank you must be extended to the wonderful Mrs Moorhouse, through her direction the students were able to sing incredibly as an ensemble and during solos. Mrs Simpson, Miss Spencer and Mr Vernon put great efforts into the overall flair of the production, co-directing scenes, creating exciting choreography and helping with the music and tech of the show. And a final massive thank you to the amazing Mrs Richardson as lead director, without her efforts, commitment and dedication to the show and the pupils, the show would not have been the magnificent performance it was.

Thank you for all the support everyone showed by turning up to our production of Matilda, and until the next school production...

Wellington Drama Department



Year 7 Pantomime Trip

Students from Year 7 got to boo and hiss their hearts out when they attended a professional pantomime performance at Manchester's Contact Theatre in December. (Oh yes they did!)

The Eight-Freestyle company welcomed Wellington School students back for an exclusive performance of 'Robin Hood – the 80s version' and it certainly did not disappoint.

Packed full of song, dance, jokes and general silliness it was a great way to mark the festive season and a fabulous learning tool for their drama skills. And, we got some great eighties bangers to boot!

This is the second successful Pantomime trip for the school and next year's trip is already being organised.

Mrs Simpson





ENGLISH & MEDIA News



7R Reading Goody Bags

7R have worked tirelessly hard this year and their teachers decided they deserved a treat!

At Christmas - after a call from Lapland - a special delivery came into Mrs Sheehan's English lesson where pupils all received a goody bag full of books connected to their current studies... from *Horrible Histories* to Greek myths. Even our Year 13 English Literature elves came along to deliver them!

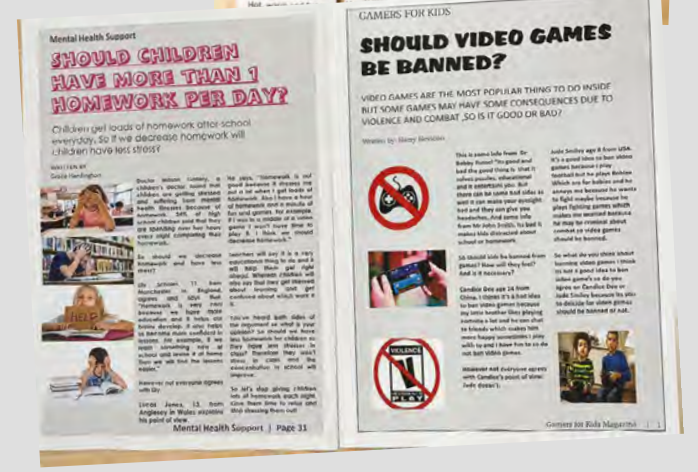
As always, the pupils were full of smiles and gratitude! It was great to see pupils immediately starting to read the books and their excitement. Miss Hitchens

7R Success!

7R have been on a mission this year.

Each and every one of them have worked tirelessly and diligently producing work of a very high standard. This year alone they have been a games developer designing a video game featuring a protagonist who has obstacles and an antagonist to overcome. They have been a newspaper editor writing an editorial on a topical issue of their choice. They have been a holiday presenter and designed a persuasive holiday brochure. What fantastic work they have produced and I couldn't be any prouder of them!

Mrs Sheehan



National Storytelling Day

On Tuesday 7th March, all 280 of our Year 7 students were off timetable, in the hall and on a mission!



Netflix had called and they need Year 7's creative input. They had to work to a brief: adapting, scripting, designing, building, performing, filming and pitching a pilot for a new children's TV show based on a myth they had read.



Some focused on Anansi and the Sky God an African myth, some on Odin's Eye from Norse mythology, some on Bastet's Rise an Egyptian story, but all groups had to work collaboratively to get the story told in the time they had! It was really fantastic to witness the students working together. There was a great energy in the Adthead Hall all day, and that's a testament to the creative and cheery character of this lovely year group.



Ms Spencer-Cruise and Mrs Sheehan

Short Story Competition

At the start of the year, many Key Stage 3 classes entered a short story competition from Young Writers called 'Twisted Tales'.

Mrs Collinge was delighted to be informed that many of these entries had been chosen to appear in a published compilation. All pupils included were awarded a certificate and a bookmark.

Well done to all involved and continue with your creative writing!

Mrs Collinge



8R Travel Writing

8R worked tirelessly to produce some amazing multi-modal texts about Manchester.

I was incredibly proud of their use of computer and language skills whilst they completed this project. They showed a great understanding of how multi-modal texts are used and how to write informatively.

Mrs McDonnell



Year 8 Romeo and Juliet English/Media Project

To enhance Year 8's study of Romeo and Juliet pupils were tasked with creating an advertising campaign to promote Friar Lawrence's sleeping potion.



The groups could create a script, website, advert, storyboard as well as a sales pitch that included various rhetorical devices. I thoroughly enjoyed listening to 80's presentations and looking through the campaign materials. One particular group had an outstanding advert that was humorous, persuasive and showcased so much creativity. Well done to Lucy Johnson for creating the advert!

Mrs Fletcher

8F English

It has been a wonderful year for my English classes and I have been delighted to see the work they produced – whether it was play scripts in Year 9, poetry or speeches in Year 7.

However, I have been most impressed with the work carried out by students in 8F this year, as well as an array of amazing fantasy islands for their travel writing module, the class have also worked hard at getting to grips with the themes of Romeo and Juliet.

As we head towards the end of the year, the class are continuing to build their knowledge of the Gothic genre and are showing excellent understanding as well as a real fascination of the macabre.

Well done to all and have a great summer.

Mrs Simpson

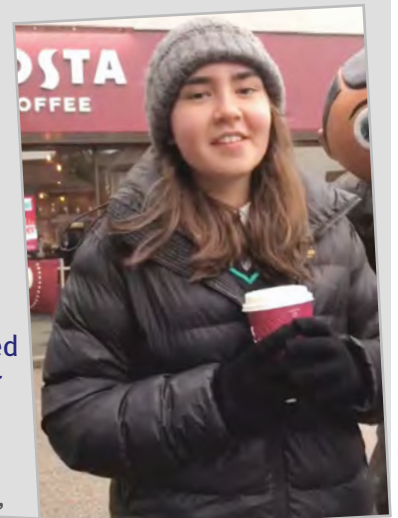


80 Travel Writing Unit

In order to support their understanding of travel writing and how it can be used in an entertaining way, 80 were tasked with scripting their own Travel Man episode!

As a homework project, pupils headed off into Timperley to film and then edit their opening sequences. I was so impressed with the enthusiasm and quality of the final products. It certainly looked like everyone enjoyed themselves on this particular task! Well done 80!

Mrs Fletcher



‘Cat on a Hot Tin Roof’: an afternoon in the theatre

In April of this year, Miss Hitchens and I took 28 Year 9 students to the Royal Exchange Theatre for a fantastic new production of Tennessee Williams’ *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*.



The year group have lately studied dramatic realism and a play contemporary to Williams’: *A View from the Bridge* by Arthur Miller. Ostensibly, the plays seem very different; however on closer inspection they share the domestic setting, themes of marital and familial conflict and somewhat naturalistic dialogue (Williams’ style is more figurative).



We were all massively impressed by Ntombizodwa Ndlovu - who played Maggie the Cat. She delivered hundreds and hundreds of lines of rapid, vivacious dialogue! How she learnt them all was a mystery! For a play that asks “Why is it so damn hard for people to talk?” that Maggie, she talks a lot!

Whilst the trip ended with a bonus 40 minute wait for the bus, the children were brilliantly behaved and we couldn’t have been prouder.

Ms Spencer-Cruise

‘An Inspector Calls’ Theatre Trip

In March, Mrs Simpson, Mrs Dunne and I took 55 Year 10 and Year 11 students to the Liverpool Empire Theatre to watch the production of J. B. Priestley’s *An Inspector Calls*.

This is an exam text studied as part of the GCSE English Literature qualification. It was a memorable production and I’m sure it helped pupils in furthering their understanding of the narrative, characters and Priestley’s message.

Mrs Fletcher



Year 12 Literature

Year 12 Literature students have been studying the new text on the syllabus, ‘Rebecca’ this year.

This Gothic story has intrigued and excited them with the creepy character of Mrs Danvers and its ominous setting. I have been so impressed with how the students have shared ideas about the text and contributed to the class understanding of key ideas and themes. It has been wonderful to see the students engaging with critical and contextual concepts too- a challenging task! Our next task is to watch the Hitchcock version of the novel and use this to further explore different interpretations. Well done, Year 12! Mrs McDonnell

Shakespeare and Popcorn: trips with Year 10 and Year 12

Last October, I took a select group of Year 10 students to Stockport Light Cinema to see the ‘National Theatre Live!’ release of *Much Ado About Nothing*.

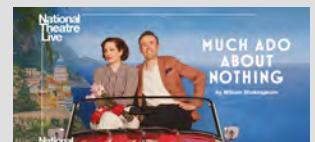
Some of our pupils study this brilliant Shakespearean comedy as part of their GCSE Literature course, so we hopped on a mini-bus, guzzled lots of fizzy-pop and popcorn and headed to The Messina which - in this excellent and well-reviewed production - had become a snazzy 1920s’ hotel in Italy.



I was delighted to hear that the students ‘got’ it, despite only being a few scenes into the play! What a bright bunch.



A few months later, the National Theatre announced they would cinematically release their production of *Othello*, directed by Clint Dyer – unbelievably the first directed by a person of colour!



So, in April, Miss McCann and I took our (lovely) Year 12 English Language and Literature A Level students back to the cinema for more Shakespeare and popcorn.

In spite of the fact the Year 12s won’t study the play until next academic year, we were impressed by their grasp of the plot and views on the stagecraft. In fact, the class were impeccably behaved all afternoon and made us very proud. Even a cancelled train home, didn’t spoil a fun afternoon of fantastic theatre/ cinema! Ms Spencer-Cruise

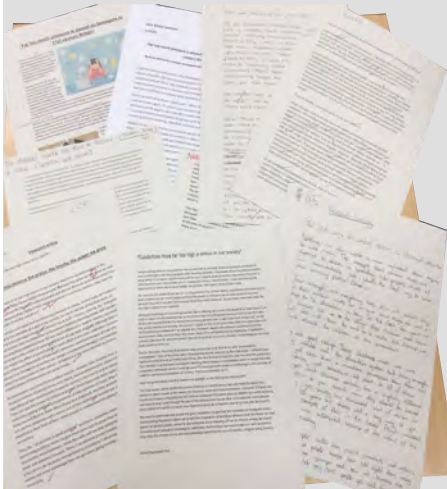


Year 11 Future Writers Competitions

To help Year 11 students hone their writing skills before their mock examinations, the English department organised a 'Future Writers' competition in Narrative and Descriptive Writing and Viewpoint Writing in October and January.

In both of the competitions, the standard of work across the year was very pleasing, with some excellent writing completed by the students. A winner from each class was selected and these winners then went forward to a prize draw to win a gift card as a reward for their efforts.

The winners from each class were for the Narrative and Descriptive Writing were Ellen Welby, Nikita Ayyanki, Lucia Irving, Sam Pearson, Simrah Semun, Isaac Darling, Nancy Pickles, Elizabeth Quinlan, Naomi Kochovski and Oscar Cooper.



The winners from each class for the Viewpoint Writing were Poppy Milne, Sofia Popplewell, Esme Frost, Natalie Tranter, Flint Eddy, Nekita Kennedy, Lucas Moola, Phoebe Jolly, Jack-Bosco Cummins and Samuel Heap.

Well done to all of the winners: we certainly have some Future Writers in our midst!

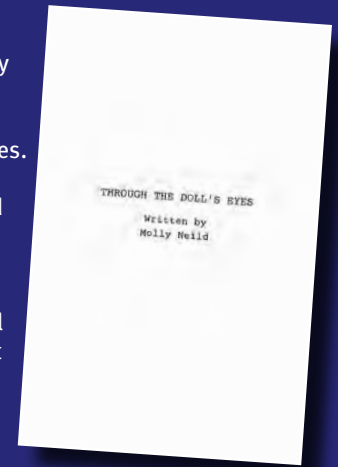
Mr Williams

Film Studies

Year 13 pupils have worked tirelessly on their NEAs this year and have produced some fantastic pieces.

Molly Neild and Lucie Bent have produced a screenplay for a short horror film and took photographs to storyboard one of the scenes. Jamie Bennett and Oscar Popplewell planned, filmed and edited their own short film, each with a specific focus of a non-linear narrative and a narrator. All worked so hard throughout the year. Well done!

Mrs Fletcher



English Language & Literature A Level

A very hearty 'Good luck!' to our Year 13 students for this summer season.

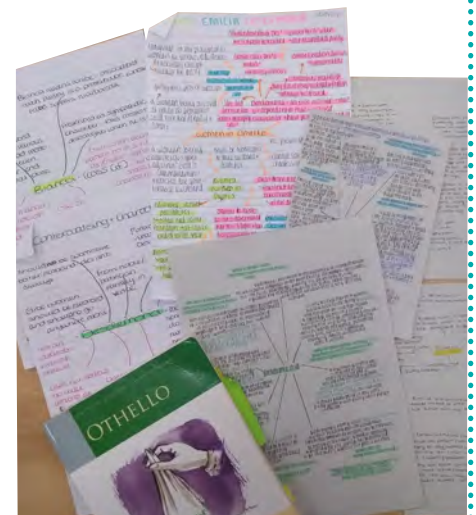
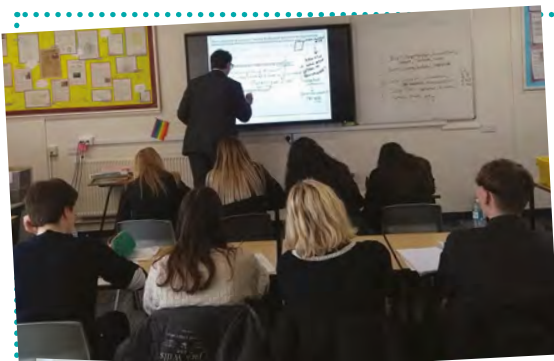
As you can see, students have been working really hard – both in class and independently – to get ready for their exams. I have received some wonderfully detailed revision on Othello and some fantastic independent essays too. We have recently gorged on Dominos and watched the National Theatre's spectacularly reviewed 2022 production of Shakespeare's play (starring Rory Kinnear and Adrian Lester) and now we're busy recapping the Gothic Horror, *Dracula*.

Our Year 12s are at the start of their Language and Literature journey, moving towards their mock exams too. They have studied a collection of non-fiction texts about Paris and a sequence of poems by Seamus Heaney. They are now analysing Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* and starting to put together exciting ideas for their NEAs! Recently, the class have done some really impressive peer-teaching – they've made a cracking start to the course...

... to those nearing the end of their course – Harry, Tala, Jayda, Milan, Shaun, Betty, Abi, Ruby, Issy, Jenna, Emily, Stewart, Alex, Jasmine, Jemima, Hannah and Imogen – you will be fine! Thank you for being such a pleasure to teach!

We look forward to welcoming some new Language and Literature students in September.

Ms Spencer-Cruise





A Level Film Studies

Lights, Camera, Action! A-level film students explored a range of genres for their summer parody task creating a selection of amazing, fun short scenes.

The Year 13 students even managed to convince family and friends to star in their parody projects - using James Bond, The Matrix films and Peaky Blinders for inspiration.

The films were awesome; as well as showcasing their skills in using camera angles, sound, graphics and editing the students were also able to have a bit of fun with this too.

It was a great start to the year and shows how talented they are as well as helping in preparation for the NEA.

Mrs Simpson



Introduction to Canva

In September, Year 10 pupils signed up to the 'Wellington Media' group on Canva! This is a fantastic free graphic design website that makes creating different media texts simple and effective.

Over the past few months Year 10 have completed many tasks on Canva to build their confidence before the NEA production begins.

In a very short space of time, Year 10 can produce interesting and aesthetically pleasing designs!

Mrs Fletcher



Introduction to Media Language

We had a fantastic start to the Media Studies course out on the school site taking photographs.

Year 10 were tasked with taking as many different shot types as they could using iPads and a prop. It was a great activity to introduce new vocabulary in a practical way.

Mrs Fletcher



Year 9 Taster Sessions

In January, Year 9 were considering which subjects to select for their options and had the opportunity to attend a taster session.

I had 3 wonderful groups who gained an insight to what the subject covers and the types of activities we do in lessons. We had some fantastic ideas shared during our discussions on the power of the media, music videos and magazines.

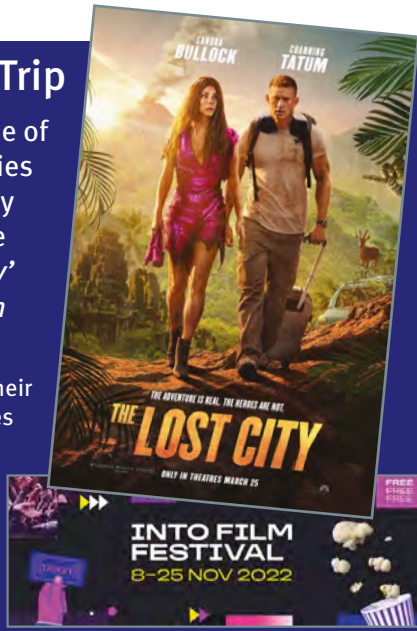
I was so impressed with the practical task I set. In just 15 minutes, pupils were able to create these fantastic magazine mock ups! There was so much creativity on display in such a short space of time. Thank you to everyone who took part and I can't wait to meet the new Media Studies cohort. Mrs Fletcher



Year 10 Cinema Trip

Back in November, some of our Year 10 Media Studies students were invited by *Into Film* to watch a free viewing of 'The Lost City' as part of their *Into Film Festival*.

Students had just finished their introduction to Media Studies topic, which had them look at how camera, editing and lighting are used in moving image to create meaning. Therefore, the free cinema trip was the perfect opportunity to see the media language being used in action. 20 students walked to Vue Altrincham and even received a free voucher to visit the cinema again after the event. Miss McCann



GCSE NEA Tasks

One of the GCSE NEA tasks was to create an 'animal welfare' magazine, so I thought it would be a great idea to invite a farm to the school! In the summer term, Year 10 staged a photoshoot with the various animals in the 'farm' in order to use the photos to create their magazines.



It was such a fun morning spending time with the pigs, goats, donkeys, ducks and rabbits! Year 11 have now finished their magazines and they are very impressive. Well done Year 11.



Another GCSE NEA task completed by 3 pupils was the music video task. Pupils planned, filmed and edited their music videos independently. Well done to Sam Osivwemu, Chloe- Mae Bedicer and Maisie Mulholland-Wells.

Mrs Fletcher



MOJO Music Magazine

For the GCSE course pupils have to study MOJO magazine, analysing the media language on front covers.

In order to check everyone's understanding of conventions of magazines and MOJO's house style, Year 10 were given an image of Liam Gallagher and had to create their own MOJO front cover on Canva. I was very impressed with the results and many covers looked like a professional MOJO cover! Mrs Fletcher



Cloverlea Microclimate Investigation

Last Summer, when the weather was glorious, the Geography department invited the Year 6 class from Cloverlea Primary School to Wellington to perform an investigation into Microclimates.

Many of the students have since joined us in Year 7. They enjoyed this fantastic opportunity as they could meet our department and work alongside a number of our Year 12 students who helped guide and support our visitors. The students from Cloverlea had a great time, exploring the school site along with their Year 12 guides. They investigated the microclimate of different sites around school and gathered data using a number of techniques they learnt in the classroom. The students then used the data they had gathered to complete a write up, suggesting the best location for a number of different items from new picnic benches, a greenhouse and even a swimming pool!

Mr May

Year 11 GCSE Fieldwork in New Islington

Earlier this year, the Year 11 geographers visited New Islington to complete their Human Geography fieldwork.

In contrast to the spectacular scenery they had experienced months earlier in the Lake District for their Physical Geography fieldwork, this trip brought them to the fast regenerating industrial backdrop of East Manchester. Mr Holt acted as tour guide for the day, providing an insight into the history of the area as they walked from New Islington to Piccadilly Gardens. Along the way, the students completed environmental quality surveys to assess the quality of the built environment in different locations. The students explored a variety of locations, from old, decaying and boarded up mills to shiny new and expensive apartment buildings gathering data as they went. This was then used as part of a write up which takes place in lessons. Good effort Year 11!

Mr May



GA WorldWide Quiz

In September the students in Key Stage 3 competed to take part in the WorldWide Quiz organised by the Geographical Association and hosted at MMU Business School.

There were a number of weekly heats at Geography Club before we could choose the final team. It was a tough decision, but after a few final rounds, the team was decided. On the team was Daisy Bennett (Year 8) James Kirkup (Year 8) and Chris Brandt (Year 9).

With 13 teams eager to win the GA trophy competition was tough. The students did exceptionally well. They held their nerve and approached each round with enthusiasm, teamwork and focus.

We are so proud of how the students did. We might not have won this year, but we came extremely close! Bring on next year!

Miss Baker



Geography Club

This year at lunch time the students who attend Geography Club have been completing a range of activities.



At Halloween, they carved their own pumpkins into the shape of the world map. At Christmas, they created baubles using old OS maps. They've also been watching Geography themed films such as Ice Age and many David Attenborough documentaries. The lunch club has also enjoyed a range of Geography themed games such as Ticket to Ride and Mapominoes.

I would like to give a big shout out to Sophie, Georgia, James and Rowan in Year 8 for creating and delivering the past few Geography quizzes. I hope this knowledge of maps, countries and other Geography trivia will prepare us to win next year's GA Worldwide Quiz.

Miss Baker



Osmington Bay Adventure Study Trip, Year 9

What an amazing week we had travelling around the Dorset coastline with a fabulous group of Year 9 students.

We left Wellington on a Sunday morning in October 2022, all set for a long minibus journey to Osmington PGL Centre. The schedule was jam packed! During the day, we visited well known destinations along the Jurassic coast, including Lyme Regis, Old Harry's Rocks and Durdle Door. At each destination, they practised fieldwork techniques, such as measuring beach profiles and drawing field sketches. After each day trip, they returned to the centre to have a go at some of the fantastic on-site activities on offer. The Giant Swing, Capture the Flag and Dragon Boat Racing were some of their favourites.

The students were brilliant and their energy level was relentless! They were keen to give everything on offer a go and thoroughly enjoyed the adventure. We were so proud of their focus, drive and enthusiasm for what we had planned.

Well done Year 9! We hope you had a brilliant time and have created lasting memories.

Miss Hennessey, Mr Whitaker, Mr Crooks and Mr Cropper



Geography Awareness Week, My Patch Project

To celebrate Geography Awareness Week in November, students in Key Stage 3 created their own My Patch Project.

Students were asked to present a place that they feel particularly attached to and explain why they have an emotional bond with this place. The places described were wide ranging from the Timperley Cricket Club to Chennai, from the shores of Anglesey to Hong Kong and even to the chicken coop they'd built! It gave a fascinating insight into student's interests outside school. Here are just a few examples of the projects created.

Mrs Martin



Settlement Hierarchy Investigation, Year 7

In April, the Year 7s completed their first local fieldwork activity with the Geography Department.

The students were investigating the Settlement Hierarchy. Before setting off, they established their hypotheses. They needed to decide which settlement will have the greatest range of shops and services, and therefore will be the most popular. The students walked to Timperley first where they completed a land use survey and performed pedestrian counts. We then walked to Altrincham and repeated these data collection activities. The weather was glorious and so it was a great day for the students to be out of school. Their behaviour was exemplary and they were all eager to get stuck in -well done!

Miss Hennessey



Visit to Broomwood Primary School

In January, Miss Baker and I visited Broomwood Primary School to teach about the different types of volcanoes to Years 3 and 4.

The students learnt first of all about the different types of material released during an eruption before making models of composite and shield volcanoes using play doh. The students needed to use the resources provided to decide which labels to add to their volcano. We then discussed the idea of viscosity and how it affects the shape of the volcano.

The students were brilliant. Their knowledge of geographical key words was impressive. They behaved so well and thoroughly engaged with the activities.

Miss Hennessey



Year 13 and Year 12 Geography: Blencathra Scorcher!

Last June Miss Hennessey, Mrs Martin and I took the Year 12 Geographers (now Year 13) to the Lake District to begin work on their Non-Examined Assessment.

The students arrived on Wednesday to the Blencathra Centre in Threlkeld. They then headed to Keswick to conduct a Human Geography Fieldwork investigation. The students had an interesting time collecting data which they then analysed later in the evening at the centre. It was great to see the students enjoying Keswick and having fun whilst out in the field and experiencing proper Geography. Furthermore, the weather was fantastic which added to the overall experience and helped on the long days gathering data.

On the second day, we took the students to the coast. The students learnt how to perform a Physical Geography investigation by collecting beach profile data and analysing sea defences. Again, it was a scorcher of a day and so the students were all treated to an ice cream for their hard work.

In the evening, after the classroom sessions, the students and staff thoroughly enjoyed watching football, playing basketball, playing snooker or finding the hidden waterfall.

The students were fantastic and a real credit to themselves and the school. Their behaviour and work ethic were exceptional.

It was great to get back to real Geography and create lasting memories after what has been a difficult couple of years away from fieldwork experiences.

The students involved have now produced their Geography NEA coursework. We will miss these students now they are leaving and we hope they will remember these enjoyable fieldwork experiences.

This June we are also taking the Year 12 Geographers on the same trip in order to prepare them for their own NEA write up. We shall see what the weather brings!

Mr Whitaker



Naming of the Alterman Building

On Wednesday 26th April 2023, we had the pleasure of once again being visited by Ike Alterman.

Ike is a Holocaust survivor. His Fed My Voice life book, which chronicles his life before, during and after the Second World War and includes detailed recollections of his time as a prisoner of four Concentration Camps, has inspired the History Department to redesign our teaching of the Holocaust around Ike's story. As a result of this, Ike has become part of the Wellington Community and our pupils continue to learn invaluable lessons from his life every year. Ike has made such an impact on our staff and students that we decided to rename the Humanities building after him. Ike, his family and friends from the Jewish Fed were present at School to see Ike proudly unveil the Alterman Building. To quote Ike's speech, 'Never in my wildest dreams did I think the young boy who came to England with no family, having survived the worst of man's cruelty, would be standing here having a building named after him'. Ike is a wonderful man and fully deserves the honour of having a building at Wellington named in his honour. His legacy will live on at Wellington School for many years.

Mr Gerschler



Guardianship Project

In March, three Holocaust survivors came into School to speak to Year 12 pupils about their experiences of the Holocaust: Anne Super, Marianne Phillips and Gisela Feldman.

We're very lucky to work closely with the Jewish Fed and, as a result of this, 12 Year 12 pupils have been selected to become Guardians of the stories of these 3 remarkable women. This means that our pupils will learn with and from these survivors, with the intention being to continue sharing these stories in the future. Our Guardians will now prepare and deliver a series of presentations about the lives of Anne, Marianne and Gisela. When we asked Anne Super how she would like us to retell her story she said "It is your job. Tell everyone, I don't care who, this happened to me, and others so don't forget it! You are the ones who need to know. My time on earth is nearly finished and the next generation has to follow the stories and tell them." We are blessed and lucky to share these stories and opportunities, thank you to the Fed for organising. Mr Gerschler





Ike Alterman

On Wednesday 30th November 2022, Ike Alterman gave up his time to speak to Year 10 Historians and 6th Form students.

Ike is a Holocaust Survivor. To a packed Adshead Hall filled with around 140 pupils, the Mayor of Manchester Andy Burnham and Nihal Arthanayake of BBC 5 Live, Ike spoke poignantly about his life before, during and after the Second World War. Ike implored pupils to remember his story, the family he lost and the 6 million murdered for their faith. His main message was to "Help everybody! Help the person who hasn't got the facilities and education you have! Do it! Don't wait for other people!" It was a lifechanging experience for all present and one of the most inspiring speeches I have ever had the pleasure of hearing in person. We have now integrated Ike's story into our History curriculum so our pupils can learn from his experiences in the future. After Ike's talk, two of our Ukrainian pupils, Vlad and Sonia, were interviewed by the BBC along with Ike. Thank you to Ike, the Jewish Fed, Mayor Andy Burnham and the BBC for making the day so memorable and special.

Mr Gerschler



The Doctor

On Monday 30th January 2023, the History Department took 46 Year 10 pupils to Sale Waterside Theatre to watch the Doctors Show; a production based around the Health and the People GCSE course.

We all enjoyed watching a Medieval operation, seeing some Medical heavyweights demonstrate their breakthroughs and the guidance around improving exam technique. It was a really great trip!

Mr Gerschler



Warwick Castle Trip

On Friday 9th December 2022, the History Department braved the cold to take 49 Year 7 pupils to Warwick Castle.

We learned all about the Castle's early life as an Anglo-Saxon fortress, how it then developed into a Norman Motte and Bailey in 1068 and eventually how it became the Stone Keep you see today. We walked the walls, fed the peacocks, raided the giftshops and even enjoyed some hot chocolate at the Christmas Market. The day ended with a display of Medieval weapons in which, despite what the pictures may show, nobody got hurt!

Mr Gerschler



IWM Loan Box

In November 2022, Year 9 Historians had the opportunity to handle some artefacts from the First World War.

We were very lucky to be able to borrow a loan box of items from the Imperial War Museum North and every Year 9 class had the opportunity to study these items in a History lesson. It was great fun and a fantastic opportunity to study some really unique artefacts from the Great War. We learned about pigeon message carriers, 104-year-old Memorial plaques, Huntley and Palmer's biscuits, Princess Mary tins and tank masks. It really helped our pupils empathise with the experiences of British soldiers living and fighting from the trenches. Thank you to the IWM for giving us this experience.

Mr Gerschler



RFK Human Rights

In December, Wellington marked UN International Human Rights Day in collaboration with the charity RFK Human Rights.



A group of Year 10 pupils passionate about defending and promoting the importance of human rights produced a presentation which was delivered to all Wellington School pupils in tutor time. They also launched and ran a competition for pupils to mark Human Rights Day by encouraging pupils to produce informative handouts on where human rights have been wrongly denied, and what should be done to tackle this issue. Winners were selected after Christmas and their work has been collated onto a display board in the Alterman building. The pupils received a certificate on behalf of RFK Human Rights and were rightly proud to be recognised for their efforts in promoting the importance of human rights across the school.

Mr Scott & Mr May

Q & A with Speaker Hoyle

In October, 6th Form Politics students had the opportunity to attend a Q&A with the Speaker of the House of Commons, Sir Lindsay Hoyle at The Bolton School.



Sir Lindsay opened the session with a fascinating insight into his political life, taking students on a journey from his humble beginnings as a young local Councillor in the north-west, right up to present day meetings with President Biden.

It was interesting to see him stress the importance of ensuring Respect, Diversity and the defence of British values in the House, as well as dealing with concerns around security.

Wellington students conducted themselves admirably, asking pertinent questions on his favourite PM, and whether he is in favour of reforming the voting system. Perhaps the most insightful response, was his analysis that PMQs is 'pure theatre', rather than effective scrutiny of the government, something which has found its way into many an essay since.

Mr Scott, Mr Holt and Mr Crooks



Parliament Trip

For the first time since 2019 the History and Politics department were able to take both Year 12 and 13 Politics pupils on their annual pilgrimage to Parliament.

The group may have departed in darkness, but the sun was shining upon arrival in Westminster, and Parliament was glistening following Big Ben's refurbishment. The tour took in both houses of Parliament, central lobby, Westminster hall, and the King's robing room. A very insightful Q&A from a Select Committee clerk in one of the committee rooms was a particular highlight. Students were subsequently greeted by Lord Kennedy, who hosted a Q&A on the effectiveness of the Lords. The tour finished with a lively debate on the extent to which Parliament is able to scrutinise the government, with the blue team victorious.

A quick detour to Downing St preceded a self-guided tour of the Supreme Court. Following the obligatory photo on Parliament Square it was back on the tube to Euston. A long but great day, and a fantastic opportunity to get a feel for Westminster.

Mr Scott & Mrs Jaunbocus-Cooper



Taking Maths Further

On Wednesday 7th December, eight Year 11 mathematicians attended the Advanced Maths Support Programme 'Taking Maths Further' event at Manchester University.



The students completed 'Apprentice' style tasks that centred around the manufacturing of toy fish mobiles which included working with movements, considering the statistics involved in quality control and the logistics of packing. The day ended with a Dragon Quiz which was highly competitive and enjoyed by all.

Mrs Fairbairn

MEM Maths Challenges

A massive well done to all those students who took part in the February half-term MEM Maths Challenges.



A special mention must be given to Bernard and Nia for achieving merit of participation awards in the Senior and Year 7/8 Challenges respectively, and being invited to a presentation evening at Liverpool University – an achievement they can be rightly proud of.

Mrs Lewis



Problem Solving Event

On Thursday 1st December, eight Year 12 Maths students attended a problem solving event run by the Advanced Maths Support Programme at Manchester University.

It was a fabulous day in an impressive building, the Whitworth Hall.

Throughout the day, the students worked on intriguing and challenging questions, all of which could be solved using familiar techniques but in an unfamiliar way. The event ended with a nail-biting Cross Clue competition where students from different 6th forms were paired up and set the task of solving a fiendish number crossword. Mrs Fairbairn



March Maths Feast

On Tuesday 28th March, eight of our keen Year 10 mathematicians took part in the Maths Feast AMSP (Advanced Maths Support Programme) event run at Manchester University.

Wellington School regularly attends this team event which gives students the opportunity to engage in a 2.5-hour session of fun problem solving. The general consensus amongst the students was that they thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Mr Riley





Intermediate Challenge 2023

Congratulations to the Year 9's and 10's who took part in the United Kingdom Mathematical Trust challenge held on Thursday 2nd February. There were lots of certificates to hand out – well done to everyone who took part.

The Maths Department



Pi Day

Students celebrated International Pi Day on Tuesday 14th March (3/14 when using the American date format).

They took part in a teacher treasure hunt where over 50 members of staff were wearing digits of pi around school. In addition, our winner of the pi recital competition was Stephanos Farquharson who was able to say pi to over 100 decimal places. Students also took up the opportunity to show off their culinary talents by bringing in home-made pies and even a loaf of bread in the shape of pi! Well done to all those who took part, we look forward to next Pi Day already.

Mr Rispin



Year 10 Interactive Maths

Eight of our Year 10 Mathematicians attended an outreach interactive problem solving day at Manchester University.

The day began with a roadshow of puzzles, followed by 2 extended activities, including building an origami tower!

A super interesting trip with plenty of new concepts to think about!

The Maths Department



Berlin Trip March 2023

35 Year 10 GCSE students and 5 Year 12 A level students went on a 4-day visit to Berlin in March.

We stayed in the Hotel Transit Loft in the Prenzlauer Berg district of Berlin. Visits included a walking tour of Berlin, which included walking to the Museum Island, the book burning memorial at Bebelplatz, the memorial to the murdered Jews of Europe, the site of Hitler's bunker and finally the Brandenburg Gate. Wellington students also visited several museums, including Checkpoint Charlie and the Culture Brewery to find out about everyday life in the former East Germany. We did a lot of walking, including walking along the site of the Berlin Wall.

There was also a trip to the Olympic Stadium and home ground of Hertha BSC. After all that walking students were able to go up the TV tower and have a 360° panorama view of the city.

We were really proud of our students, who demonstrated excellent behaviour at all times and were fantastic ambassadors for our school community.

Ms Collins



German Career Roadshow

On Wednesday 2nd November we took 15 students in Year 10 and Year 12 to the German Careers Roadshow at Manchester University.

Councillor Eamonn O'Brien opened the event, sponsored by the Goethe Institute. Our students attended seminars on intercultural awareness training, how to find a career and career opportunities with Lufthansa. In the afternoon our students met and spoke with representatives from Lufthansa, Bloomberg, DAAD and the University of Manchester to discuss the many opportunities available to them and how they could use their German skills in their future careers and studies. All of them came away with a greater awareness of how their language skills can help them in their future career choices and of course some freebies!

Ms Collins



French Exchange

We have been delighted to be able to run our French Exchange trip again this year. Our links with the school in Marcq-en-Baroeul have remained strong over the last few years, but we have of course had to cancel in-person trips due to the pandemic.

In March we welcomed our French friends to Wellington School and enjoyed a great week getting to know each other and showing off some of what Manchester and the surrounding areas have to offer. The French students loved learning all about the Beatles in Liverpool, taking a tour of The Theatre of Dreams at Old Trafford, and experiencing the Industrial Revolution at Quarry Bank Mill. It was really good to be able to host the French students and teachers in a number of lessons in school too, and I know that both sides learnt a lot from this.

In May, we returned to Marcq-en-Baroeul and spent a fantastic week with our partners. We visited Vimy and saw the impressive and somewhat emotional "Anneau de la Mémoire" with names of over 500,000 soldiers of all nationalities who lost their lives in World War I in the region Nord-Pas-De-Calais. We also visited Pairi Daiza Zoo in Belgium and took a trip to a chocolate museum in Bruges. All-in-all this has been an experience that our students will never forget and has given them lifelong skills, including improvements in their French language; understanding of other cultures; appreciation of differences; and tenacity in dealing with new challenges. We have also built lasting friendships that I hope will continue to be nurtured in the years to come. There really is nothing like an exchange!

Mrs Ramsuair



Portuguese

In March we welcomed Hannah Conway from the University of Manchester.

Hannah was in school during Monday lunchtimes for four weeks to teach students Portuguese. Hannah speaks Brazilian Portuguese, having spent her year abroad there and we were surprised as to how melodic the language is.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the four-week programme, which not only covered learning some basic language, but also culture. We learnt about the 'Pastel de nata', which is a traditional Portuguese pastry best described as an egg tart. The most famous place to eat pastel de nata in Lisbon is the Pastéis de Belém factory.

Ms Collins



Year 11 Barcelona Trip

In October 2022 38 Year 11 pupils travelled to Barcelona for four days.

Along with plenty of sightseeing the pupils spent two mornings in school practising their Spanish speaking skills with native teachers. Pupils visited a variety of different tourist attractions including Parc Guell, Plaça de Catalunya and the market la Boquería. All the sightseeing meant lots of walking and pupils enjoyed an evening sampling traditional Spanish tapas. We also enjoyed a guided tour around the magnificent Sagrada Familia cathedral. Our last full day of sightseeing was always going to be a highlight for many pupils as we took a tour around Camp Nou, the home of Barcelona FC and the biggest stadium in Europe.

The pupils were an absolute credit to the school and they all exemplified our value of community. Mr Walker



Primary World Day of Languages

On Friday 17th March, we welcomed pupils from St Vincent's, Navigation, The Willows and Cloverlea Primary Schools to share our love of languages!

Our very talented Wellington students taught them a little bit of a language they speak; many of which are home languages. These include Ukrainian, Albanian, Greek, Tamil, Cantonese and many more! We are so proud of our language 'teachers' and the way they prepared and produced resources and then delivered lovely lessons to our Year 4 friends. Everyone really enjoyed the day and our primary colleagues have commented on how mature and thoughtful Wellington pupils are.



Community is part of who we are! Mrs Ramsumair and Miss Purdy

GCHQ National Language Competition

In November 2022, 16 Year 9 students competed in GCHQ's National Language Competition.

The students were set 64 online challenges to complete from Monday 7th November until 5pm on Friday 11th November. These ranged in difficulty level and tested both their language skills and code breaking skills. The pupils have completed challenges in Afrikaans, Japanese, Arabic, Russian, Swedish and many other languages. The Wellington School winner was the team called Beautiful Delightful Butterfly who ranked 242 overall and scored a total of 3380 points.

Well done to all of the students who participated in this competition. Miss Purdy



Awards Evening

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the students who participated in the Awards Evening at the Bridgewater Hall on Tuesday, 20th September.

It was absolutely amazing. Despite only being in school for 2 weeks all the students involved managed to pull off the performances of the year!

A special thank you must go to our four soloists. Hannah, Michael, Seiji and Ellen who entertained the audience before the evening began.

Miss Lee and the Orchestra well and truly started the celebrations with an upbeat performance of an Abba Medley, followed by the Lower School Rock Band with their version of 'What Do I Know' by Ed Sheeran.

The brand new Year 7s did not disappoint with their performance of 'Love My Life' a song full of positive affirmations and messages of self-belief by Robbie Williams.

Our message of kindness and being a part of a caring community continued throughout the evening with the Year 10 Rock Band's performance of 'I'll Be There For You', the theme tune from Friends, and Sing's powerful rendition of 'You Will Be Found' from the musical Dear Evan Hansen.

As this was Mrs Copeland's final Awards Evening following her involvement for many years we thought a fitting tribute would be to assemble a choir of past students from the last 20 years and I was incredibly proud that the call to arms was heard. A huge thank you to all the students who came back to perform a beautiful version of 'You Raise Me Up'.

'Never Forget' was a fitting end to the evening where all our choirs, including the new Year 7s, sang their hearts out to ensure that there wasn't a dry eye in the house.

Mrs Moorhouse



Carol Service

On Wednesday 14th December we were finally back at Christ Church for our annual Carol Service and I fully agree with Mr Beeley that it was good to be back at the Church.

The students performed fantastically during the evening and I couldn't single out a performance by any of our amazing ensembles. A special mention however must be made for our Staff Choir who were led by Mr Ashfield, who also doubled up as our organist for the evening. Their rendition of 'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas' would not be out of place on the stage of the Bridgewater Hall at one of their Christmas concerts! Mrs Moorhouse



Music Alumni

We always love hearing about what our Music students are doing once they've moved on to pastures new. In the last year two of our Music alumni are relishing new musical opportunities.

It was an honour to be invited to the RNCM to watch the final degree recital of Katy Allan. Katy left us in 2015 in order to complete her A Levels at Chetham's School of Music and from there moved on to the RNCM. Katy is now the Hallé Children's Choir Assistant Director as well as working as a Singing and Dementia Specialist.



Forging a path in a very different musical style is Patrick Gibson who began his undergraduate degree in September at the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts and is currently playing bass in a band for a vocalist called Faye Donna Francis.

They were included on Radio Merseyside's BBC Introducing programme in March and have been involved in the Eurovision festivities in Liverpool during May.

Well done to both of you.

Mrs Moorhouse



Lantern Parade

It was good to be back performing for the community at a number of events in the run up to the Christmas period this year.

Our choirs Sing and Sing with 7s were invited by Altrincham BID to participate in the activities organised for the Altrincham Lantern Parade. The choir sang a 15 minute set of festive favourites and were very excited to find out that their performance had been beamed out onto the big screens in Altrincham Town Centre!

Mrs Moorhouse



Music Recitals

Nearly 200 students take advantage of our in house instrumental lessons and in July we were treated to a series of Summer Recitals from some of our instrumental students.

These recitals were planned as informal events where a small number of our instrumental and vocal students were given the opportunity to perform to an audience and allowed parents to hear what has been achieved in their child's instrumental or singing lesson.

The standard of the performances were excellent and covered nearly all musical genres and styles. A special thank you to our instrumental teachers for their hard work with the students.

Mrs Moorhouse



Netball

This year we were pleased to enter ten talented Netball teams across all year groups into the Trafford Netball league. The number of girls wanting to play for the school and consistently attending weekly training sessions has been reflected in the impressive placings all teams secured in the local Trafford league.

Our Year 11s started the year off strong, finishing in 3rd place at the Trafford Tournament in September. The Year 11s continued playing with strength, competing in the Sisters n Sport Schools competition, playing against some very strong sides. The majority of the Year 11 team went on to take Netball as one of their practical sports for GCSE, all scoring very respectably. The Year 11s finished off five strong years of school netball in May, playing their final fixture against BTH, coming away with an impressive win for one last time.

I was pleased once again to be able to enter A, B and C teams into the Trafford league for Year 7 and 8 as a result of high numbers attending training each week.

The Year 7A had an impressive first year in Trafford, finishing in 2nd place in their tough league group. This team have great versatility, with a number of students able to play in a variety of positions. This group gelled well from the start and are encouraging and supportive to one another whilst still developing their play. The girls had a great night at the end of season tournament and finished in 3rd place. The Year 7 B and C teams were filled with enthusiastic and committed students who were eager to develop and play competitive fixtures. Both teams showed huge amounts of progression throughout the year, all finding their favoured positions on the team. As well as the Trafford league, the A and B team also played friendly games throughout the year and were eager to jump at any given opportunity.

The Year 8A Netball team have shown huge amounts of progression in their play this year and have come up against numerous schools who have provided them with a challenge. The team breezed through both rounds of the Trafford league to be crowned Trafford Champions and also played in the Manchester league for the first time. Our Year 8s also played in the Sisters n Sport competition, making it through to one of the final rounds after lots of impressive wins against schools in the North. The B team dominated their league this year and were crowned Trafford Champions after two very high scoring rounds of league nights. This team work very well together and now have lots of players who have also decided to start playing outside of school, which is fantastic! The C team did well and showed lots of progression from their last season in the Trafford league, finishing in an impressive 2nd place in their league group.

The Year 9 Netball team have had a remarkable year of Netball, dominating the Trafford league, winning all their games with convincing scores. This team have also had success in the Manchester league, beating tough sides from St Bedes and Manchester High. As well as their success, this team support and encourage each other, making each fixture an enjoyable one to take. Our Year 9s also played in the Sister n Sport national competition and made it successfully through to one of the later rounds. A lot of the team's success and progression is a result of the dedication and commitment to training.



The girls finished off the season in an impressive 2nd place at the Trafford Netball tournament, scoring high in each game and unfortunately missing out on 1st place after a close lose to AGGS. The Year 9B team stuck together this year and were determined to maintain their crown as Trafford Champions, which they did. This team have lots of talent, which they were able to develop through their transferability of skills from other sports. The girls finished their season with a great night at the end of season tournament.

The Year 10 Netball team have had another good year in Trafford and have played in friendlies against Manchester High School for Girls. This team continue to develop their Netball skills and enjoy the competition against other strong teams in their division in Trafford. The Year 10s finished in 3rd place in their group at the Trafford Schools tournament, showcasing their talent and enjoyment for the sport. Well done girls!

This year we also welcomed England netball player, Laura Malcom who ran an impressive training session with a number of students in Year 7-10 who have represented the school teams. Laura was extremely impressed with the talent she saw and was able to give some great tips and coaching points.

Miss Kelly

Cross Country

Trafford Cross Country Championships

In February, 26 pupils from all years, headed to Crossford Bridge in Sale for the Cross Country Schools' Championships.

The pupils raced in very cold and muddy conditions and were still determined to finish the race strong! An extra well done to Emily Bushnell, Jess Jones, Jo Wiggan, Oscar Cooper and Lewis Neli who made it through to represent Trafford in the Greater Manchester Cross Country Championships.

Miss Crewe

Trafford Schools' Cross Country – Longford Park

Throughout the year we have had excellent numbers attend the Cross Country events at Longford Park where pupils compete in cold/muddy and this year very snowy conditions!

Pupils race individually but also receive points if there is 3 or more from the same school competing. The first event of the year saw a great number of newcomers from Year 7 and a few of our regular competitors in Year 8 and 9.

To finish off the Cross Country season, Trafford Athletics host a relay race. Well done to Kate Joseph, Isobel Boasman and Maiko Fairbrother who won a silver medal placing 2nd! Elliot Batty, Josh Prince and Eddie Holt also won a bronze medal! Well done everyone! Miss Crewe



Basketball

Year 7

The team performed exceptionally throughout the season but unfortunately, we came up against some very good sides.

Our first game vs Ashton on Mersey set our season off to a great start. It was an end to end match but we managed to pull away and secure the victory. Our second game vs St Ambrose was very similar. The teams were evenly balanced but towards the end of the second half we held the ball for too long. This slowed our attack and gave an opportunity for them to take the fixture. Our remaining fixtures against AC, Sale Grammar and AGSB played out in the same vein. We worked tirelessly but couldn't convert enough of our chances. The attitude shown in fixtures and training from these lads has been amazing. It has been a great season and one I have fully enjoyed, I hope the lads keep persevering with the game in upcoming years.

Mr Gubbins



Year 8/9

The Year 8/9 Basketball team have had a fantastic season this year. The team finished in 2nd place in their league only losing 1 game.

Strong away wins at AGSB 24-22, St Ambrose 39-24 and AC 60-14 plus impressive home wins against Broadoak 43-19 and North Cestrian 69-8 meant the final league game away to Sale Grammar, was the league decider. Despite a spirited performance, we unfortunately lost meaning we finished the league in 2nd place. Qualifying for the semi-final against the winners of the other league, we hosted Stretford High School. In a tough game with injuries taking their toll, we lost 50-26. The team should be incredibly proud of their efforts this year and have produced some excellent performances.

Mr Higginson



Dodgeball

Year 7 Dodgeball

Year 7 Dodgeball Club was started to enter a team in the local 'Excite' competition – this was developed for students who had not previously represented the School at other sports.



The first session saw over 40 Year 7 students attend so to pick 2 teams of 8 was a difficult task. The students took on board the new rules – different from those used at school - and worked hard. One boys' team and one girls' team went to BTH to compete. The night consisted of playing 3 x 2-minute games against each



school. The pupils showed lots of enthusiasm, engagement and thoroughly enjoyed it. The girls' team, captained by Dilara Gencer, finished in 3rd place. The boys' team, captained and marshalled by Alex Proudlove, just got pipped by Ashton on Mersey finishing in 2nd place. Well done to all involved!

Dr Davidson

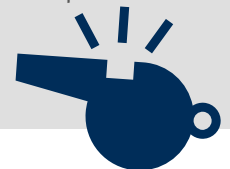


Year 8 Dodgeball Championships

We started a Dodgeball Club just after Christmas at the request of Kieran Smith (Year 9) who plays locally outside of school with some other peers.

Once we started it, more and more students came down to play in a mix of year groups 8-10. Little did we know at the time that we had been entered into the Year 8 Regional Dodgeball Championships at Eccles Sixth Form College, so the training took a more specific focus. The tournament was mixed so we took 5 girls and 5 boys to the event. We were drawn in a group against 5 other schools – all I can say at this point is WOW! Aply steered by Mikey Bailey the team comfortably beat all their opponents showing unique skill and tactics that other teams hadn't encountered before. That meant we finished top of our group and played Crompton House in the semi-final. Myself and Mrs Bailey were a bit concerned that the opposition were taller and more physical but we told the team to trust the process and the tactics. Well we needn't have worried as the team didn't lose a set in our victory. That set up a final against Little Lever from Bolton who were also unbeaten. The team just went from strength to strength in the final, growing in confidence and ability to become REGIONAL DODGEBALL CHAMPIONS! The national championships are in July, so keep a look out on the website.

Mr Tomlinson



Swimming

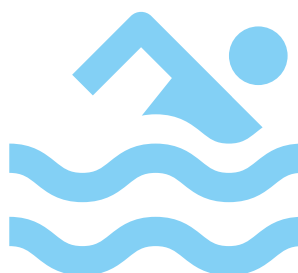
Girls Swimming

A Wellington Girls Swimming team attended the Trafford School Games Secondary School Swimming Gala at St Ambrose College.

The standard was exceptionally high but the girls swam with great spirit and heart. We had 2 winners with Amelie Greaves and Ruby Sims winning their respective free style races. Athena Tse was our only Year 7 representative so the Year 7 team did not place in the competition. The other teams finished as follows: Year 8 - 4th place, Year 9 - 6th place and Year 10 - 6th place.

Well done to all who took part.

Dr Davidson



Hockey

Hockey

This year has seen a huge increase in the number of events available for Hockey players. Wellington has taken the lead on Trafford hockey and there have been mini tournaments every two weeks for Year 7 and 8, end of season Trafford tournaments, plus entries into county for U13 and U14 girls, U13 and U14 boys, U14 boys North West and even England Hockey's first ever State Schools event in Nottingham.

The year started with over 70 students coming to training so Zoe Sinclair from Timperley Hockey Club came along to support us. A much-needed input and we were able to tailor the sessions to the needs of the group and those with upcoming matches. There have been 23 Year 7's, 19 Year 8's and 38 Year 9's training regularly as well as opportunities to umpire and manage teams for older and more experienced students.

The Year 7 girls have a very strong team with many playing outside of school. In their first mini tournament they won all 3 games in horizontal rain at St Bede's, setting their stall for upcoming fixtures as a force to be reckoned with. Orla Mawby and Isla Dugdale-Reed stood out in particular. They came 1st in their pool in their end of season Trafford tournament beating both AGGS and Loreto and some of them have even played for the U13 girls team in the GM tournament.

The Year 7 boys team have some very experienced players and some who are new to hockey. They have joined up well together and developed their stick and teamwork skills. They came 2nd in their end of season Trafford tournament, winning one and drawing the other. Toby Hornby showed off his skills really well and even impressed other schools.

The Year 8 girls fought against numerous injuries in their end of season tournament but faced tough opposition with a smile, coming joint 5th. During the year they played Loreto, Sale Grammar, AGGS and St Bede's. They were entered into the Greater Manchester U13 tournament where Emily Girdlestone (Year 8) and Orla Mawby (Year 7) held their own against strong counter attacks.

The Year 8 boys played mini tournaments against St Bede's, Knutsford and Lymm with mixed results. They came 4th in their end of season Trafford tournament and developed their skills well throughout the year. They were also entered into the U13 boys Cheshire tournament in March. Unfortunately, they faced well-drilled teams who clearly play outside of school frequently. Will Rodwell and Leon Hallmark received joint MOM and Josh Prince must be mentioned for his continuous enthusiasm! Zak Clarke and James Jackson also deserve a mention as they are the most reliable and train every single week.

The Year 9 girls played their first 11 a-side event at AGGS in October in lovely sunshine. They won one, lost one and drew one and Amelie Sutton received the girl of the tournament. Their end of season Trafford tournament resulted in a joint 3rd position. The girls fought hard throughout and Tilly Holland received girl of the tournament from Hannah Simms who managed the team. We also played friendly matches against Sale Grammar. We beat their Year 9 team 4-0 and their Year 9/10 team 5-0. A mention must go to Rachel Miles who has stepped in to play in goal a few times this year when Mae hasn't been available; she has done a superb job!

The Year 9 boys were entered into the Cheshire Tier 2 league where we played Cheadle Hulme School, Lymm and Kings of Macclesfield. There was plenty of action up and down the pitch and in both D's with Henry Hatfield making some super hand saves. The boys played really well in all matches, beating Lymm and losing the other two by just one goal; a fantastic experience against some very strong teams. We played St Bede's in two friendlies, winning 4-0 against their Year 9's and then drawing 1-1 against their U16 team. We also entered the U14 North West tournament at Timperley Hockey Club and came 2nd overall! A superb result! They then took part in the Trafford tournament and came 2nd with Oliver Edge receiving man of the tournament from Zac Bangee who kindly led the team.

England Hockey decided to run a state schools competition

and we were thrilled to be able to enter both the Year 9 boys and girls teams in this 7 a-side event. We went down to Nottingham and played games against schools from all over England. Both teams topped their pool but found trouble ahead. Everyone played fantastically well and showed great resilience when facing tough opponents and also compassion when playing those less experienced than ourselves. We even got to meet Ellie Rayner the England star! Amelie and Albie (boys captain) were on a mission to score more goals than each other but Amelie pipped him with 10 goals. The top scorer for the day was Joe Wiggan with 13 goals! It was a wonderful experience and we hope there will be some more events like this next year. Both teams performed brilliantly but Evie Scott (girls captain) must get a mention for her play making skills and Holly Simms who didn't stop running all day and even asked to go back on after she got a hit to the chin. Well done everyone!

I must also thank Dr Davidson, Mr Moss and Mr Wilkins who have supported the hockey this year. Miss Richards



Rugby

Year 7 Rugby

We had an unusually small squad of rugby players in Year 7 this year, with the majority new to this glorious game. Nevertheless, they trained with vigour and enthusiasm in those first few weeks before their coach (me) disappeared for 4 weeks to have a hip replacement (great advert for the sport!). On my return, I was eager to see them perform and looked forward to the next mini-tournament at Trafford MV Rugby Club (these tournaments were a staple of our season). I was delighted with the commitment and skill on show for what was largely a very inexperienced side, as they won or drew all their games. They had mixed fortunes in these tournaments but have undoubtedly built a foundation for future success and enjoyment. After Christmas, I decided to merge Year 7 training with Year 8 and this certainly benefited the boys as it required greater focus and physicality to compete with the older boys. As for next season, I hope we can entice a few more to join the squad and I will be working this term to compose a more comprehensive and varied fixture list. Thanks to the lads for their efforts and for entertaining me (definitely the giddiest bunch I've had at Wellington) and I look forward to going again in September.

The squad:

Ethan Blake; Zac Cheung; Jack Dolan; Nathan Elliot; Harrison Ewart; Alex Greenway; Jack Hickie; Kavelle Mason; Cullen O'Brien; Max Price; Ben Prince; Konnor Simmons.
Mr Beeley



In addition to this, they competed in the Cheshire Schools 7's finishing 4th. The team have also played Rugby League finishing 2nd in the Trafford Schools Rugby League tournament run by Salford Red Devils and are due to compete in another Trafford Schools qualifier for the National Schools Rugby League finals held in Summer. Mr Higginson

Year 8 Rugby

It's been another successful year for the Year 8 rugby team. They have won all 5 of the Trafford Schools Tournaments they participated in this year at Trafford Metrovicks RUFC. Friendly fixtures this season have seen wins against Knutsford, ACA and Stretford Grammar. In addition to this, they competed in the Cheshire Schools 7's finishing 4th. The team have also played Rugby League finishing 2nd in the Trafford Schools Rugby League tournament run by Salford Red Devils and are due to compete in another Trafford Schools qualifier for the National Schools Rugby League finals held in Summer. Mr Higginson

Year 9 Rugby

The Year 9 rugby team have again had a successful year and have developed nicely into a compact unit that have competed well against all opposition. The lads have participated in three Trafford Schools tournaments at Trafford Metrovicks RUFC and have won twice and have been runners up once.

The most outstanding performance this year albeit a loss by one try was against Saint Ambrose College who are a strong side but the Year 9s were more than a match and they gained great experience playing against a well drilled outfit.

Mr Burgess



Year 10 Rugby

Despite a lack of games for the Year 10 rugby team, they have continued to develop and improve over the season, adding more players to the squad and have maintained their high standards and success from the previous year. Big away wins against Knutsford 45-5 and ACA 50-10 showed what the team is capable of and demonstrated their high skill levels. A tough draw away to Stretford Grammar and a narrow loss to Sale Grammar also produced some excellent performances. The team finished the season competing in the Cheshire Schools 7's tournament. The team finished 6th overall which is a brilliant achievement having been entered in the main cup competition. The team's commitment this season has been fantastic and they should all be proud of their efforts.

Mr Higginson

Girls' Rugby

I have said it countless times before but coaching girls' rugby at Wellington is an absolute delight; they are attentive, keen to learn, have boundless enthusiasm and make me chuckle (a very different sense of humour and banter to the lads, I have to say).

Due to the absence of girls' rugby union in schools, the only 'competitive' rugby we've played has been a touch rugby league tournament at the A J Bell stadium under the auspices of Salford Red Devils. Both the Year 7/8 team and the Year 9/10 team performed exceptionally well. I made one 'schoolboy' error however; I promised the Year 9/10 girls I would treat them to McDonald's if they went undefeated in their tournament. They exceeded my (rather naïve) expectations and £59 later ... We have a repeat of these tournaments coming up shortly and I am hoping for 2 more great days out.

Well done and massive thanks to all the girls for turning up each Thursday to train (regularly around 20 in attendance) with such eagerness. Particular thanks to Harriet Thompson-Ogden in Year 10, who is not only a fine player in her own right but has also been my Assistant Coach all year (or actually, have I been hers?). A number of girls already play club rugby and it's been great to see others now giving this a go. Let's get more of you down to local clubs; you won't regret it! We will certainly be aiming for more school fixtures too next year.

Girls' rugby squad:

Arushi Bhatt; Bella Bieniasz; Ava Cockayne; Lucy Dalton; Isla Dugdale-Reed; Ava Gregory; Caitlin Gregory; Miyabi Hetherington; Jessica Horlock; Lily Jones; Emily Knight; Carys Morrow; Talia Mubanga; Zoe Pennington; Sophia Raji; Lola Scott; Grace Goto; Kate Joseph; Lucy Shepherd; Darcy Williamson; Annabelle Damms; Amelia-Belle Desai-Adams; Georgina Halliwell; Georgia Holmes; Adelaide Messer; Isla Sullivan; Jess Wilkins; Harriet Thompson-Ogden; Mia Vaughan; Olivia Soar.

Mr Beeley



Boys' Football

Year 7 Football

What an incredible year for the Year 7 Boys' Football team. Following a highly competitive set of trials over a series of weeks in September, the team started to take shape.

The year began positively, with comprehensive wins over North Cestrian and Ashton-on-Mersey B in the Trafford League. A tough result against Sale Grammar followed where they unfortunately rallied from 3-1 down to defeat us 4-3. This turned out to be pivotal in the title race in the Trafford League, with both schools going on to win every subsequent league match. Second place is a strong platform for us to build on next year.

In the Trafford Cup, we successfully navigated difficult conditions to beat Wellacre away, before coming up against a tough Ashton-on-Mersey A team. Having played an important match the night before, tired legs certainly had an impact and we were defeated.

The overwhelming success of the season revolved around the Greater Manchester Schools Cup. For the first time in the School's history, a boys' team won it. Wins over Co-op Academy North Manchester and Abraham Moss led to a cagey affair at Priestnall. In very tough away conditions, the game was balanced on a knife edge. Maxwell Allen provided two essential late goals to ensure that we progressed 3-1. A comfortable home win over BTH guaranteed a semi-final berth. Against Cheadle Hulme High, we encountered a rare situation, going behind in a match. Captain Fantastic, Will Moors, equalised to lift the mood just before half time, with us going on to win the game 2-1. The final itself was an incredible match. A physical Wright-Robinson were no match for the technical brilliance and outstanding work rate of the Wellington boys who triumphed 5-3. This included a hat-trick from Jax Paterson. All boys who made the trip to the final made vital contributions to both the match itself and the preceding rounds.

We are incredibly proud of you all. Mr Rispin



Year 8 Football

Success in Year 7 led to a more challenging year as the team were placed in the Trafford First Division.

The team has finished the league in third place with excellent wins over Sale Grammar, Sale High and BTH. The team had a good run in the Greater Manchester Cup with wins over Buille Hill and Audenshaw. At time of writing the team are still in the Trafford Cup following wins over Wellacre and BTH – the semi-final will take place against BTH in the last week of May. The team are a delight to coach, it has been a challenge with squad rotation but the boys have adapted in a positive way and understand that teams will always change as we develop through the school years.

The team has been led brilliantly by captain Samuel Neville, Oliver Ernill also gets a mention for his fantastic goal scoring record.

Will Rodwell, Eddie Holt, Matthew Burke, Matthew Cutler, Toby Dunn-Barrett Elliot Batty, Samuel Neville, Tim Wall, Alex Moore, Will Gadsby, Joe Tan, Jake Williams, Oliver Ernill, Archie Lawley, Kieran Bradbury, Rios Osborne-Reid

Mr Morgan



Year 9 Football

Another great season for these boys – Trafford League Champions for the second year running beating BTH, Sale Grammar, Urmston Grammar and Ashton on the journey to silverware.

Led by captain fantastic Jamie Spencer, the team scored some brilliant goals thanks to Jude Conyers, James Court, Jake Ninian, Matt Wallis, Joe Wiggan.

The team had two strong cup runs, in the Greater Manchester Cup they got to the last sixteen with good wins over Bury and East Manchester Academy, finally losing in a close game to Priestnall College. In the Trafford Cup they lost in the semi finals in an epic battle 2-1 to AC, the team will be looking to put this right next year.

I cannot praise the boys highly enough, it has been a pleasure to run the team this year.

Zak Thomson, Matthew Jones, Nathan Collinge, Charlie Hennessy, Alex Hotchin, Joe Wiggan, James Court, Jake Ninian, Jamie Spencer, George Albinson-Myers, Gabe Brown, Jude Conyers, Matthew Wallis, Luke Davies, Jack Flannigan

Mr Morgan



Boys' Football

Year 10 Football

Another 'maybe' season for the Year 10 lads.

Following the number of goals we conceded in Year 9, I made the decision to play 5 at the back. This has helped us massively regarding goals against but has then been a struggle to transition from back to front. As a result, we have not created many chances this year and this has hampered us.

This said, we have had many games where we are winning or drawing at half time only to end up losing come full time. We managed to beat Sale High 3-0 away from home. This was on a very boggy pitch and was a real struggle to get playing at times. The correct attitude was shown though and the lads persevered to grind out the result. We then lost our other 3 fixtures. We were beaten 2-1 away at Ashton. This was a very physically demanding match. The Ashton team had reached the quarter-final of the English Schools Cup competition the year before and are a very capable side. They have ended up winning the league. We did ourselves proud and worked for each other all over the pitch. We narrowly lost 4-3 at home to Urmston. This again was a physical game. We were pushing until the final seconds to grab the point but

unfortunately it was not to be. Finally, we also lost 4-2 to Sale Grammar. Given the score line last year this was progress but understandably, we were still not happy with the result.

Sport comes down to moments and at times we showed just what we are capable of in the league. Sadly, this was not consistent and it has meant we only managed a win rate of 25%. We did however have a better run in the Greater Manchester Plate, getting to the quarter-finals. We went 1-0 down in the first half which then woke us all up and allowed some nerves to settle. We were away at Our Lady's Manchester and it seemed like half the school came out to watch, it was a very rowdy atmosphere. Once we switched on we managed to score two excellent goals to go into half time winning 2-1. We had the momentum and balance of the game at this point and did not want the break to happen. Unfortunately, we did not come out sharp for the second half and within 10 minutes we were 3-2 down. We battled to snatch that 3rd goal but whilst pressing high they managed to nick another on a counter attack, a risk you always take when chasing for the goal.



Ultimately, as a season based on result, it was not a prosperous one. However, we have to look for the positives and look to improve our weaker areas. Even though we lost 4 games, the margin was one goal in three of those matches. This is a huge improvement from last year and shows the progress that they are making. Yes, it is still not the result we want but we need to highlight progress too. I sat down with the lads after our last match and asked them what they wanted to do moving into Year 11. It was unanimous, all of them wanted to go again next year. We have even recruited a few new players into the squad. Let's see if this last year can be OUR year.

Mr Gubbins

Year 11 Football

Following the league and cup double last year (yes, I had to get it in again), this year saw the lads take on more urgent priorities in their academic journey.

However, we set our sights just as high following last year. Following our success, we knew we would be the team to beat each and every game in Division 1. We started against Urmston Grammar (the cup finalists we defeated last year) in what was usually a close battle. The team were simply outstanding in an 8-1 victory, we just didn't allow the opposition to play and enforced ourselves on the game. We then came up against our usual rivals for the league title in Sale High. Always a close game, a fiercely contested contest between two good teams. Sale took a first half lead but we pegged them back with a stunner from Henry Shaw. In a game of few chances it was decided by an error, an under hit back-pass was seized on and put into our net for the game to finish 2-1 to Sale, which would ultimately cost us the league by 1 goal as a draw would have won it for us on goal difference. The fine margins of football! Our game against BTH had to be abandoned due to a serious injury for an opponent and we beat Ashton on Mersey in the final game 3-2 to finish second on the result vs Sale High. Still a top season and great performances from the boys. It has been an absolute pleasure taking you on our football journey since the start of Year 8, watching you come closer together as a team and mates has been great to observe. I've fully enjoyed every minute, from playing at Hyde United under the floodlights to playing at Carrington to winning the double – great memories. At the time of writing the boys are into the semi-final of the Trafford Cup so hope still remains for a trophy this season.

Squad – Will Wakefield, Raurie Day, Harry Waddell, Alex McKee, Joe Beaumont, Joe McCarthy, Harry Cotton, Sam Davies, Henry Shaw, Oscar Cooper, Vlad Shtyhlian, Lewis Neli, Oscar Woddward, Romain Lheritier-Knowles, Isaac Darling, Josh Ernill, Kyle Gellatly

Mr Tomlinson



Girls' Football

Year 7 Girls' Football

At the start of the season we discussed the prospect of bringing the girls football competition in line with current league structure for the boys.

The discussions were successful and the girls have played more football fixtures than ever before at Wellington. We have had over 25 girls attend the football session in school on a regular basis - the atmosphere is excellent.

The first game of the newly formed Year 7 Girls' Trafford Football league saw us visit Ashton on Mersey. With a few training sessions held, a team meeting on expectations and a 9 a side formation sorted we were ready to go. A fabulous performance saw us 4-0 victors. Our next fixture came away at Flixton Girls Schools, our energy, dynamism and general play saw us win 5-1 and on to face BTH. Quite a few of the girls knew the players from BTH so it was going to be a tough one. Even more so as we were 2-0 after 5 minutes from some silly errors. We fought back to 2-2 and couldn't quite squeeze a winner in, but remained undefeated. A solid victory against Sale High at home saw us finish for the winter unbeaten. In between our league fixtures we played an English Schools game against Crompton House, a fiercely contested game (where we were again 2-0 down quite early) finished 3-2 to Crompton House. We just couldn't deal with a corner into our box and they were on hand to score late on.

Our league campaign resumed with a league fixture against North Cestrian, where we dominated in a 12-0 victory. That meant avoiding defeat in our final game (some schools had to drop out or were late entering) against Sale Grammar would mean the league title. The girls were great on an energy sapping day, we went 2-0 up in the game and felt comfortable until two lapses in concentration allowed Sale to get back in the game. The game had more drama as we hit the post with the ball rolling across the line but wouldn't just go over; meaning the game finished 2-2 and in our first season together saw us as LEAGUE CHAMPIONS.

A fabulous achievement for a great season – well deserved girls.



Squad – Maisy Buckley, Emma Sutcliffe, Paige Fanshawe, Rosa Lyle, Taya Clachar, Alyce Linney, Isla Dugdale-Reed, Olivia Squire, Emma Baker, Mabel Bryce-Kisby, Nia Roberts, Bella Bieniasz, Ruby Vigers, Poppy Knight, Jessica Kirkup

Mr Tomlinson



Year 8/9 Girls' Football

The Year 8/9 girls football team have had a fantastic season to say the least.

With the new Trafford League up and running for this season, the girls were itching to get going with more fixtures organised than ever before! The first game of the season saw us host St Anthony's.

With only a few training sessions in, the girls were hungry for the win and with a fantastic performance secured the win, 11-0. Our next fixture was against Urmston Grammar, which was so close! The girls fought until the end but just lost out 5-4. Next up was Ashton on Mersey. The girls actually know some of the players from this team so they were well up for it, which was evident and showed through their performance coming away with a massive 5-1 win. Our last game before the Christmas holidays was Broadoak away. The girls went into this game very comfortable and confident securing a 13-0 win to put us in a good position going into the new year. Our race title resumed in February with a fixture against Stretford Grammar where we dominated the game throughout and were victorious with an 8-1. The girls had amazing energy after this game and knew that if they kept the winning streak up a league title may be on the horizon. The penultimate game of the season was against North Cestrian, which finished with a win 6-3. The girls knew they had to win if they wanted to be in with a chance of winning the league! The final game arrived, end of the season against Sale Grammar. The biggest game yet! Even I was nervous! The girls knew most of the girls who play for Sale. The game was eventful, in the first half the nerves got the better of them, which ended 2-1. The girls came together at half time, got their heads together and went back into the second half with a bang! The game was tense and so so close! The game was full of drama but I am pleased to say the girls pulled it back to win 5-4 but this also meant that the girls were TRAFFORD LEAGUE CHAMPIONS! I am so proud of all the girls who have played for the 8/9 team throughout the season. You deserve it so much!

Miss Crewe



Year 10/11 Girls' Football

The Year 10/11 Girls football season started brightly with a 5 team Trafford League plus cup games promising a busy season.

The first game against St Antony's gave the team a positive winning start. Unfortunately, this became the highlight of a very shortened and frustrating season. The next League game came against a strong Flixton side away and despite an Abbie Greaves goal, the result went against us 2-1.

Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control some fixtures were cancelled and the season ended early due to other schools not having an U16 team.

Dr Davidson

Girls' Football

Year 9 Girls' Football

The girls started the season strong with a number of wins in the Trafford League. Alongside this they also were in the Greater Manchester Cup, which they made it to the semi final in last year.

This year they were determined to get to the semi final again, if not to the final, and that is just what they did! The girls started off in the first round against Laurus Cheadle Hulme, securing the win with a fantastic and comfortable 10-2 victory. After this we drew Fred Longworth coming away with a 9-1 win. This meant that the girls were then through to the quarter-final against Cheadle Hulme High School which they won very comfortably again 13-1! Through to the semi-final, the nerves started to creep in. The girls drew Crompton House, who they actually were defeated by last year so they knew they were going to have a tough game on their hands. However, I knew the girls wanted revenge, and wow did they get that coming away with an 8-2 win securing a well deserved place in the final!

In the final they were up against a very strong, Wright Robinson. The game was played on neutral ground in mid April. The girls unfortunately were defeated, but put up a great fight. I am honestly so proud of this team. They have come so far, as a whole and individually. Well done girls on a FANTASTIC season!

Miss Crewe



Indoor Athletics

Indoor Athletics

To kick off the athletics season, the Year 10s travelled to Sportcity, for the Greater Manchester Indoor Athletics Competition.

Pupils competed in a range of different events throughout the afternoon; 60M, 200M, high jump and long jump to name a few. The standard at the competition was very high with athletes from different clubs all over Manchester. Our pupils were outstanding. They represented Wellington in an excellent manner and showed determination and endeavour in their events. Well done to Emily Bushnell, Tom Moloney and Harvey Banks who all won medals in their events! Next up we had the Year 8/9 athletics team, who also had a very successful afternoon at the stadium!

Well done to Cerys Smith who won a silver medal in the 200M, Jess Wilkins who also won silver in the shot putt, and Jude Conyers who won bronze in the 60M.

Well done to everyone who competed! To conclude the indoor athletics season, we took the 12 very talented Year 7s to the indoor competition. They had a great afternoon out experiencing their first professional competition on an indoor track at the Etihad stadium! The standard was very high at the event. A number just missed out on medals but fought so well! Well done to all involved throughout the competitions!

Miss Crewe



Lessons from Auschwitz Project

We were fortunate this year to be awarded two places for our Sixth Form pupils (Ava Conyers and Abi Court) to be part of the Lessons from Auschwitz Project.



This is a project offered by the Holocaust Educational Trust that enables pupils to learn more about the history of the Jewish people, Antisemitism and indeed, the Holocaust itself. Here is a short synopsis of the visit to Auschwitz that occurred earlier this month from one of the participants, Ava Conyers:

“To say that it was upsetting would be an understatement. I don’t think I’ll ever experience anything close to how harrowing it was. It exceeded all my expectations and learning about it in school and seeing it in real life, are two very different things. I think when you learn about it and see images of what happened, your brain can’t quite comprehend it. You hear statistics of ‘6 million’ people losing their lives and that number is so huge, it takes away the fact that each one of those is a person. You forget that they had a life just like you and I and this experience is important because it gives us a chance to rehumanise those victims. They aren’t just faceless numbers and statistics; they are a reminder that we must never forget what happened in places like Auschwitz. Very ordinary people did extraordinarily horrific things. Antisemitism still exists today and there are even some people that deny that the Holocaust ever happened. It is vital that we come together to ensure that acts of discrimination and prejudice like this never happen again.”

Ava and Abi have been fantastic ambassadors for the project this year and have helped to share their experiences with other pupils. We hope that we will be able to send more pupils in years to come and continue to help to facilitate a fantastic opportunity for our pupils.

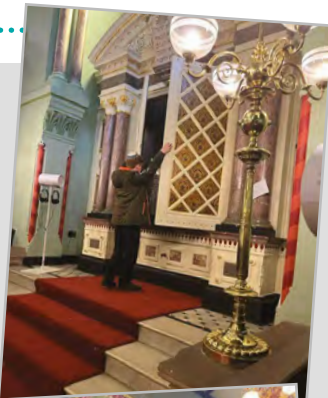
Mr Harrison

Jewish History Museum

70 Year 8 students visited the Jewish History Museum as part of their unit of work on Jewish beliefs and practices.

During the day, students explored the beautiful synagogue and handled artefacts. Later, students learned about the significance of food during Jewish festivals and even had a go at baking their own delicious challah bread!

Miss Crump



Year 7 Final Projects

In July 2022, Year 7 students presented their final projects.

With a choice of topics to choose from across Religion, Ethics and Philosophy, students explored big questions such as ‘should the death penalty be reinstated?’ and ‘would the world be a better place if everyone was vegan?’ Students are given free rein on how they can present their projects.

Miss Crump



Christ Church Visit

Year 11 Full Course students went on the short walk to Christ Church where Father Steve walked them through a mock baptism and communion to help with their Full Course studies.

As part of this session, the pupils were given the opportunity to 'quiz the priest' on a variety of different things that the pupils study. It has to be said that many of the questions were fantastic and Father Steve explained some very tricky topics to our pupils. At one stage, we even had a plastic baby to illustrate the process of Baptism fully!

Mr Brown



Visit to Hale and Altrincham Mosque

The REP department continues to forge stronger links with local places of worship to enrich the learning of our pupils.



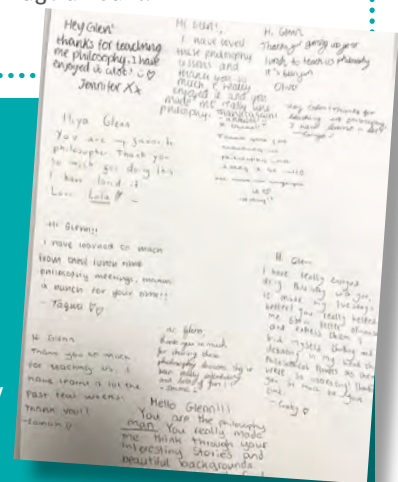
Mr Brown, Miss Crump and Miss Hulme, alongside 44 Year 8 students, went to the Altrincham and Hale Mosque (after a little walk in the rain). Whilst there they learnt more about the Five Pillars of Islam and how to write their own names in Arabic. Big thanks to Altrincham and Hale Mosque for having us - our pupils absolutely loved a taste of what it actually means to be a Muslim and learnt a huge amount.

Mr Harrison

Introductory Course in Philosophy

15 Year 9 students completed an introductory course in philosophy, awarded by the Royal Institute of Philosophy in London.

Students attended a Zoom workshop every week where they explored big questions such as 'what is reality?', 'can we justify eating animals?' and the ethics of organ donation. Pictured is a card composed by students to the course host, Glenn, which speaks for itself in terms of how much the students enjoyed the course. Miss Crump



International Women's Day

The REP department took part in a multi-school webinar for International Women's Day, hosted by the Interfaith Forum.



20 students across Year 9 and 10 heard from a diverse group of female speakers who discussed their own personal experiences of being a woman within their faith or belief, whether that be Catholicism, Sikhism, Hinduism or Humanism. Students asked some fantastic questions, including 'how do you reconcile sexist features within holy texts with your faith?' and 'what do you think can be done to overcome gender inequality within the world today?' Watch this space for our next webinar for Earth Day.

Miss Crump



Faith and Belief Forum

Full course GCSE REP students took part in an online workshop through the Faith and Belief Forum in December.



Students had the opportunity to listen to Muslim, Christian and Humanist speakers and to ask questions about their worldviews. The quality of the questions asked were fantastic, which ranged from 'what are your views on LGBTQ+ rights?' to 'why does God allow evil to exist?'

The volunteer speakers commented on just how challenging and thought provoking the questions were. Miss Crump

Interfaith Forum

Year 13 A Level Religion, Ethics and Philosophy students attended a Zoom dialogue hosted by the Interfaith Forum.

We heard from Ben, a Zen Buddhist, and Micah, a secondary school teacher who identifies as both Catholic and Jewish. Students asked some fantastic questions, such as 'how does meditation benefit you?', 'do you lean more towards one faith than another?' and 'how do you find working in a Catholic school as someone who identifies at LGBTQ+?'

Students will be able to apply this knowledge in their upcoming Religious Studies exams. Miss Crump

NHS Careers- Pathology and Biomedical Science Workshop

This event was an opportunity to promote the importance of Pathologists in the study of disease, their essential role in diagnosis as well as to highlight the roles of other scientists that they work with such as Biomedical Scientists, Microbiologists and Oncologists.

We were lucky to be able to host a team of professionals that took time away from their day-to-day work; Dr James Bolton, Consultant Histopathologist, Mr Chinta Chisambo, Advanced Biomedical Scientist and Ms Sam Holden, National Histopathology Training Manager to come into Wellington School and deliver a workshop for Year 10 Triple Scientists and Year 12 A Level Biologists.

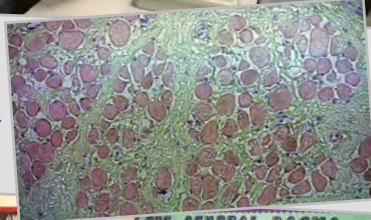
Students were introduced to the science of cancer which led into a case study of a patient presenting to their GP with tiredness and weight loss. This was followed by looking at the patient's clinical history and then at ways that tissues are collected by various biopsy procedures. Students then followed a carousel of practical activities, one in which they observed real animal organs, and "fixed" organs, as well as observing an expert dissection and demonstration by Dr James Bolton.

In another activity there was an opportunity for students to experience the role of Biomedical Scientist by preparing microscope slides of the biopsy tissue and use advanced staining techniques to make cell structures visible. Students finished by using microscopy to look at slides of the tissues they'd prepared and compare their healthy tissue with images of potentially malignant tissues.

The workshop concluded with some information about career pathways into medicine and other lesser-known science-based roles within the NHS, such as Microbiology and Biochemistry.

Our Year 10 and 12 students really did us proud with their biological knowledge, enthusiasm and practical skills, all students managing to produce visible tissues! Our visitors were suitably impressed and gave our students excellent feedback.

Thank you to all involved in the day; the students for applying their knowledge and working so hard; Wellington science staff, particularly Dr Lane, Miss Flett and Mr Brownbill and Emma Lee, Biomedical Scientist at Manchester Royal Infirmary who helped put together many aspects of the session before the day. Mr Stafford



Year 13 Biology Field Trip

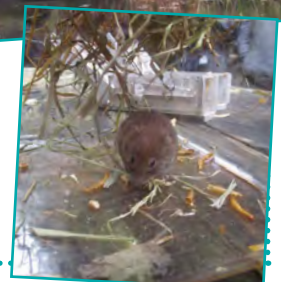
With the weather looking a little foreboding, we set off on a Monday morning back in October for the annual Year 13 A-Level Biology field trip to FSC Castle Head in Grange-over-Sands.

With luck though, the weather held for the first two days and the waterproofs were only required on the final day.

The Year 13 biologists spent the next three days learning and performing many ecological sampling techniques in wonderfully scenic surroundings and using their new skills to complete two of the A-Level required practicals.

The techniques they practised included methods of sampling and studying both motile and non-motile organisms. Random sampling using quadrats and grids along with systematic sampling using belt transects were both employed to study the plants and fungi in the grounds around the site. To investigate the nocturnal wildlife, students used electronic bat detectors to listen to the ultrasonic sounds which the bats use to locate their prey in the darkness. Camera traps were placed in the woodland which caught a badger foraging for food in the leaf litter. Small mammal traps were placed by students in locations which they thought may be home to small rodents, which turned out to be very productive trapping both wood mice and field voles. Students also sampled aquatic organisms and were surprised by the diversity of different organisms and how big some of them were!

The students conducted themselves excellently making brilliant ambassadors for the school, the centre staff commented on how efficient Wellington pupils were at designing their own investigations and gathering their data. Mr Brownbill & Mrs Hoogenberg



Youth STEM Secondary School Showdown

This year was the first time Wellington students took part in the Youth STEM Secondary School Showdown Quiz as part of the Norwich Science festival.

All students performed very well but a particular well done to Ben Mudd, Oscar Robinson, Daniel Chadwick, Bernard Kwong and Felix Medford who came 4th out of 28 teams!

Miss Tierney

Science Club

This year our Science Clubbers have been keener than ever!

Our Year 7 and 8 students have been attending every Wednesday at lunchtime and have taken part in various themed activities throughout the year. At Halloween we explored spooky scenes with Chemistry, the students formed reactions with gaseous products to go with their beautiful displays of ghosts and pumpkins! At Christmas we discussed the Science behind the gunpowder that gives us the 'crack' in our crackers and made some cracker designs of our own. We are also trying to

keep things eco-friendly and so this Spring we grew sunflowers in our own hand-made compostable flower pots made using Origami techniques. This links nicely with our Year 8 topic of plants.

We have been playing with fire during our amazing combustion demonstrations carried out by our very own experts. We then had a go at making some soda snakes by igniting our chemicals in ethanol, the students watched in amazement as black tendrils emerged and grew at their desks. If that wasn't enough, our Scientists made their own fire extinguishers out of a chemical reaction to mimic a real-life foam extinguisher and related this to our fire triangle. They then used these to put out real fires in the lab. Don't try this at home!

Through our love of Science and Engineering we have also been getting creative this year. The students have carefully designed rafts, parachutes, spaghetti towers and balloon cars! These have all been tried and tested vigorously by our experts! Prizes have been given out for best aesthetic design and also most successful design. We look forward to finishing off the year carrying out murder mysteries, elephant's toothpaste and a spot of pond dipping as the weather improves through the summer term.

Mr Ashfield, Ms Ayub, Dr Lane, Dr Glass and Ms Moussallati



Chester Zoo

On Friday 10th March we took almost the whole of Year 7 to Chester Zoo, and despite the cold weather they had an amazing experience!

We set off on three double-decker coaches and managed to get all of the students in by half past 10, even those who had made an illicit 'detour' through the gift shop on the way to the ticket barriers!

The teachers reported impeccable behaviour from the students that they saw during the day and passed on many lovely comments from the zoo staff about the politeness shown by the students that they spoke to.

At the end of the day, the students managed themselves exceptionally well to get to the entrance at 1:30 and lined up like they were at a military drill square. We got back to school in good time and everyone got to go home on the bell. What a day!

Despite the extra work involved it was great to have the whole year group involved this year, as we have previously only opened this opportunity to around 120 students. Having access to experiencing such a broad range of animals, plants, and habitats is such a privilege and it was clear that the students were buzzing from all the different furry/feathery/wrinkly/scaly faces that they met during the day.

For now, we will look forward to warmer weather so that we can take the Science Club out to explore the denizens of the school's shrubs and wildlife pond!

Mr Ashfield & Ms Ayub



Jodrell Bank Visit

In December, 30 Year 11 students visited Jodrell Bank Observatory.

The visit was fascinating, and they were able to show off their Astrophysics knowledge whilst learning more about astronomical objects such as pulsars and black holes during talks on the work being done at Jodrell Bank. Hopefully this has inspired some of the students to take Physics to A level and one day work at somewhere like Jodrell Bank!

Miss Tierney

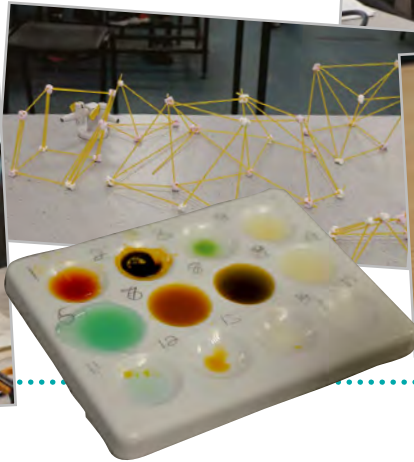


STEM Day

In February, Year 9 were off timetable doing a STEM day on the theme of 'sustainability'.

Activities included building re-usable rockets, testing different biofuels, foods of the future (including trying different insect proteins!), water pollution, making bio-polymers, and constructing structures with limited resources. Students then heard from industry experts about this growing sector as a potential career option.

Miss Tierney



Faraday Challenge

In January, 36 Year 8 students competed in the Faraday Engineering Challenge.

The students had to design, make and



present a prototype of a device to be fitted to a drone. Well done to Mikey Bailey, Ellie England, Eesha Nair, Elizabeth Leigh-Valero, Tobey Prince and Leah Saward who came first with 80/100 marks. The competition was very close with the second teams receiving 79 points. The assessor commented in particular about what a lovely group of students the 36 students were, they worked hard all day and were a credit to Wellington, well done all!

Miss Tierney

SOCIAL SCIENCES News

Psychology - Blast from the past!

A lovely visit from our past student – Lekki Howell this March.

Lekki is currently completing her Doctorate in Clinical Psychology; splitting her time between working as a Trainee Clinical Psychologist within the NHS and University. Lekki delivered a fascinating talk to our Year 12 and 13 students about her path to Clinical Psychology which started with her GCSE and A-level Psychology qualifications at Wellington. Our current students listened to and asked questions about all aspects of University life: the timetable, the accommodation, the course, the societies, the partying (!) as well as Lekki's current research and case studies. All in all – fascinating! Our current students agreed it was really inspiring to hear from a past student and the possibilities that are out there!

Miss Swords



Zulekha Howell

The Life of a Student BSc in Psychology with Clinical Psychology

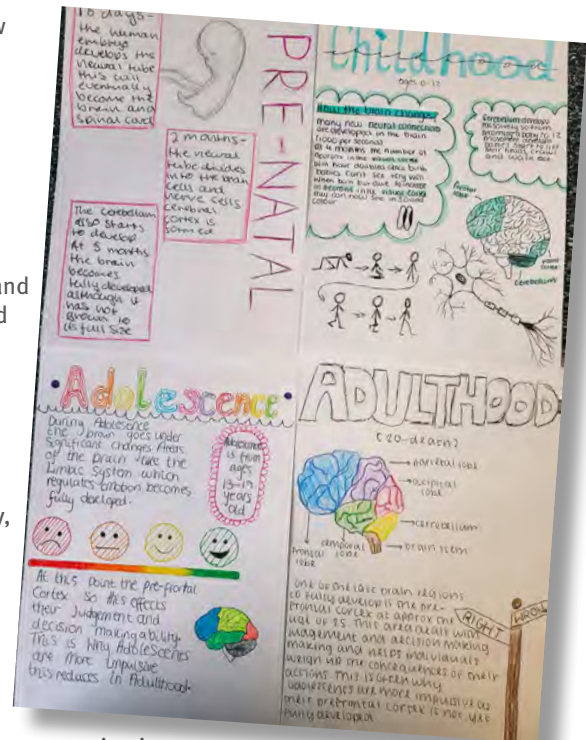


Year 10 Psychology

Year 10 are enjoying their Psychology journey!

Picking a brand-new subject at GCSE can be daunting but the classes are already impressing us with their range of new vocabulary and knowledge of Psychological methods, theories and research. We started off the year with Research Methods (yes, yawn! But you have to build those foundations!) then moved onto Criminal Psychology, Developmental Psychology and, our most recent, a topic on Mental Health. Within each topic there is a neurological element so students are growing in confidence so students are growing in confidence with naming parts of the brain, functions and behavioural links; as you can see from a selection of posters students produced within the Development topic. Well done Year 10 – a great start to Psychology!

Miss Swords, Mrs Taylor-Crooke and Miss Doggett





Social Sciences trip to Edinburgh

Back in July 2022, the Social Science Department had the pleasure of taking 43 Year 10 students to Edinburgh.

We spent 3 days sight-seeing, had the pleasure of listening to a lecture about sleep cycles, an aspect of our Psychology GCSE, and even visited Edinburgh Zoo for some animal Psychology!

7am and the students were at the front gate raring to go (or possibly raring to get back to sleep on the coach), we drove down to Edinburgh where our first stop was our sleep lecture which was held by a fantastic psychologist in his field. After a walk back to the hotel to check in, we had some food and headed back out for our Witchery Ghosts & Gore tour down the Royal Mile – a few frights and jump scares here!

On day two, we jumped back on to the coach and spent the day at Edinburgh Zoo, learning all about animal behaviour and got a few cute shots of some meerkats. We left for food and then had some wind-down time at a local bowling alley where the students really got competitive!

On our final day, we had a stroll down to the Edinburgh dungeons where the students (and even the staff) were held accountable for their terrible and tragic crimes before spending some time in the sun and heading home.

Overall, it really was a fantastic trip, even in the 34-degree heat! The Social Science students were an absolute credit to the Wellington Community and we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. A massive thank you to Mrs Clarke, Miss Swords and Mr Hatchell, without them the trip wouldn't have been possible.

Miss Doggett



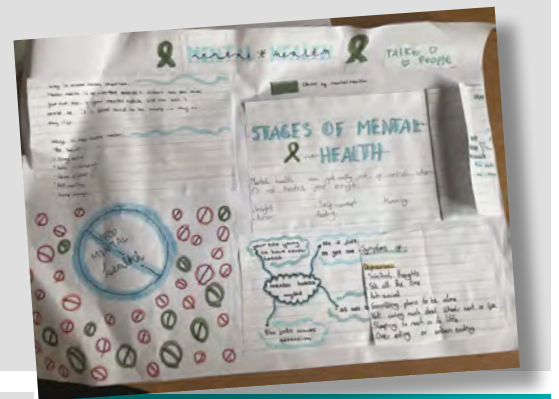
PSHE

There has been some fantastic work done in PSHE this year from Key Stage 3.

With a new curriculum focussed on three key themes: Health & Well-Being, Relationships & Living in the Wider World; students have had the opportunity to learn and explore a variety of different topics about themselves, others and the real world! These three themed structures have also been implemented with the Curriculum for Life extended tutor sessions for both Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5. Thus, ensuring our pupils are set up and prepared to face a world beyond Wellington.

A big well done to all of the students and their phenomenal work within PSHE this year.

Mrs Taylor-Crooke, Miss Swords and Miss Doggett



Sociology - Christmas Hampers

On Thursday 15th December 2022, our Year 10 Sociology students delivered an incredible 95 Christmas Hampers to Wyncourt Nursing Home and Timperley Nursing Home.

These students had spent several weeks collecting and producing these hampers in order to spread a little Christmas cheer around the community! Of course, it wouldn't have been possible without our wonderful Wellington Community donating hundreds and hundreds of goodies for them – so a big thank you!

Year 10 had a fantastic morning and we are already looking forward to prepping for 2023's delivery!

Miss Doggett



Sociology - Altrincham Research

At the start of Year 10 our new Sociologists were just getting to grips with what Sociology is and how Sociologists go about conducting their research.

So, we set them off with their own research project! In groups of 2 or 3, students spent a few days doing a little background research on division of labour in the household and were interested to see if we saw the same pattern in Altrincham. They created their own research questionnaires asking about roles in the house, who participants lived with and what jobs they undertook; and off we went into Altrincham centre. Students had the opportunity to first hand conduct their own sociological research and what fantastic research it was. Every student was involved and thoroughly enjoyed doing a bit of learning in the real world!

Miss Doggett

Careers

The careers provision at Wellington has been enhanced this year by the adoption of the Unifrog careers platform. All students have received workshops on how to create their online account and get the best out of this 'one-stop-careers-shop'. Students are actively using Unifrog to search for college and university places, research careers, take personality tests and build their CVs. Students will have access to their Unifrog accounts throughout their time at School. Visit unifrog.org/sign-in today!

Our Skills for Life programme, which is delivered during tutor time, focuses on careers education through all key stages and as well as this, students have enjoyed a host of personalised and bespoke experiences throughout the year. In January, Years 11-13 benefitted from a seminar on Apprenticeships and in February Year 9 attended a week of special assemblies geared towards preparing them for their KS4 option choices – local employers were joined by staff from The Manchester College and Trafford College to outline potential pathways and opportunities after students have completed their GCSEs.

Perhaps our largest event of the year took place in October as we welcomed businesses and colleges to our careers fair. Year 11 students and sixth formers spent the day at a range of workshops before visiting 34 stalls which had been erected in the Adhead Hall. A wide range of industries such as hospitality, healthcare, education, sport & leisure and finance were represented.

Back in December we welcomed the BBC as part of their Share Your Story centenary celebration. Years 7-10 were treated to a talk from CBBC and Strictly runner-up Rhys Stephenson about his career in front of the camera as well as the opportunities which exist behind the camera within the broadcasting and wider media industries.

Year 10 learned how to complete an application form in preparation for their practice interviews which took place in April. We were lucky enough to welcome over fifty employers from companies as diverse as Sellafield, KPMG, Barclays and Microsoft who put our students under just the right amount of pressure on the big day!

As well as in-school opportunities, we have also run a large number of off-site visits to Universities, colleges and businesses this year. The National Apprenticeship Show at Bolton Arena and The UK Higher Education Exhibition at Old Trafford kept a few hundred older students busy while smaller, targeted groups of younger students enjoyed visits to UA92 for the Cyber Girls conference led by Microsoft and to EY at their Manchester headquarters.

In addition to all of the above, however, the strength of our careers programme lies within the delivery of our curriculum. Visiting speakers and school trips, and lunchtime clubs and activities, invariably open students to new experiences and ideas beyond the classroom. We are always happy to hear from parents and members of the wider community who are able to enhance our careers provision in whatever ways they can!

Mr Holt



Duke of Edinburgh Award

2022/3 has been an incredibly busy year with Wellington's delivery of the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme. Interest in the scheme continues to grow to record levels and we have been working hard, with the DofE, to 'mop up' the complications that followed Covid 19. This affected so many of our students over recent years but I'm pleased to say we are getting there!

We have had our own expedition kit for several years now but this year we have been adding to our inventory. Increasing the number of staff tents, upgrading our compasses and obtaining large refillable water bottles so we can remove single use plastic from our expedition drinking water supplies are some recent additions. Another initiative has been to introduce group colour coded rucksack covers. These proved to be a massive success adding yet a further level of safety and control. Wellington has also invested in a large quantity of rucksacks and now offer these for rent to those who do not immediately want to invest in this expensive piece of kit. Many of our rucksacks are 'slim Jim' size which offer a better fit for most of our participants than the standard sizes usually supplied.

The expedition action started when 37 of our Year 11 students went on their Silver assessed expedition over the last few days of September. This is very unusual but was necessary because their DofE stalled when their Bronze expedition was curtailed at the last minute due to Government lock-down. Miss Challinor worked tirelessly to try to squeeze this expedition in before she commenced her maternity leave but ultimately this proved impossible. The team here at Wellington rallied round and delivered the expedition at this more challenging time of the year.

It was unusual for our Silver expedition to take place in the Rivington area but to meet the standards we went a little longer, higher and wilder than we typically do. To add further to the challenge, we stayed at a 'pop up' campsite that, whilst not quite wild camping, came pretty close. I remember Miss Challinor messaging us on her due date to check 'all the participants were having the best possible time'. Not only were they having a great time but they were also making their way through a significant quantity of toasted marshmallow having watched the sun set over their very own lake!

Soon after we returned we launched our new Bronze season. This commenced with two open evenings and interest was incredible. As a result, a record 173 students have just completed their Bronze expeditions after extensive training and practising their navigation skills using the orienteering facilities in Wythenshawe Park. For reasons of safety and to limit the impact on the local community in the expedition area we decided we needed to split this cohort in two. As a result, staff ran two practice walks, nine training sessions and two assessed expeditions for the first time ever.

At the time of writing this our Bronze expeditions have just been completed and we are now busy getting ready for this year's Silver expeditions. We have 41 participants signed up and working on their Silver sections. Expedition training has begun in preparation for the practice expedition which will take place in the Ashworth Valley during the last week of the school year. During the first week back in September the same participants will be assessed on expedition in the Hope Valley.

When they return we will go straight into launching next year's Bronze season but somewhere in between we are working hard to squeeze in an award ceremony when we will present the certificates and badges to all those who have completed their awards and have waited so long. More on these arrangements will follow soon.

Internal delivery of DofE at Wellington is an epic undertaking. This is only possible because of the sheer dedication to the cause of my colleagues and our senior leaders. The 30 colleagues involved this year all do this as volunteers so a massive thank you to them all. Extra special thanks must go to Dr Lane who has been absolutely key to the success of this year's delivery. Thanks also to Mr Ashfield who is our qualified expedition assessor and continues to deliver this crucial role. Mr Fenwick also joins the DofE team behind the scenes as our award verifier after successfully completing the necessary training.

Thanks also to our partners GRIP Adventure and Sam Sykes Ltd who help us deliver our Silver expeditions. Thanks also to our colleagues in Bolton Mountain Rescue Team some of whom joined us on expedition to sample Wellington Staff camp hospitality.

Most of all thank you to you all for your support. Those kind emails and particularly the ones confirming your charges had had a great time on expedition, despite the challenge, make it all worthwhile.

A massive well done to all our participants on Bronze and Silver awards. Without exception you did yourselves and Wellington School proud so keep it up.

DofE is simply about personal challenge and is accessible to everyone. You do not need to cover a certain distance, be first back to camp or be a perfect navigator. As long as you are challenged and you step up to that challenge then we and you have done our jobs. Those who found the challenge the most difficult will get the most out of the experience so once the aching stops and the blisters heal always remember how you did it on expedition. Remember how close you got to giving up and crucially how you found the resilience to carry on. This is a life skill that will stick with you forever. Remember it and use it again and again.

Mr Eckersley



Another busy year for the 6th Form!

July saw our Year 12 Review and Reward Day. We spent the morning reflecting on the past year and planning for the next, from the position of the halfway point. Mr Cropper led some sessions on Personal Learning Checklists, university applications, UCAS personal statements and student finance. We also welcomed a guest speaker from the NHS to deliver a workshop on physical, sexual and personal health care. The day was topped off with a traditional sports day on the field - very entertaining three-legged, wheelbarrow, egg and spoon and sack races. We also had some sprinting (including a staff 100m dash!) and a tutor team relay. Students enjoyed the opportunity to relax in the sunshine and the events themselves caused much hilarity. Mr Terry's ice cream van also turned up to take the edge off the sweltering heat and we were all treated to 99s with sprinkles!

In September, all of our new Year 12s and the Sixth Form team boarded the coach for Leeds where we spent the day at Leeds Beckett University. Students took part in a carousel of activities including presentations from university staff and undergraduate ambassadors on the topics of 'Choosing a Course and Choosing a University', 'Student Life' and 'Finance & Budgeting' (the weekly budget task was eye opening for many when asked to guesstimate their average weekly spend on food and bills!) They also completed a team building challenge to see who could build the longest bridge from minimal resources (paper, juice cartons and paper clips no less). Not only did the bridge have to be as long as possible but also had to meet a specific height and had to be able to support a roll of Sellotape. Needless to say, there were a number of collapsing bridges! Students worked brilliantly together and it was great to hear the discussions, laughter and competitive spirit. Over lunch, we were treated to a delicious meal in one of the campus refectories and students were then sent off in teams to dash about campus in an orienteering style tour – they were asked to take selfies at various checkpoints including the campus letter box which took some finding! A hugely enjoyable day. Leeds Beckett staff and students were really welcoming and we loved seeing the more historic parts of the campus as well as the new £45 million sports facility; it was stunning. State of the art lecture theatres, fitness suites, physio treatment rooms and sports nutrition kitchens – all very impressive. Even though our Year 12s were just at the start of their A Level journey, the aim of the day was to whet

their appetite and encourage them to start thinking about what their exciting next steps might be post-18. We also wanted them to enjoy getting to know one another and the staff in a more relaxed setting away from Sixth Form. We think the day achieved just that.

Also in September, the Sixth Form held their own coffee morning event and raised a wonderful £147.89 for 'Macmillan'. It was fantastic to see so many delicious treats baked by our 6th Formers and so many students wearing green to show their support. Thank you to everyone for their participation and generosity. There was a lovely atmosphere in the common room (and that wasn't just down to the delightful aroma of chocolate). Special thanks must go to all our star bakers for their contributions and the Year 13 team who helped to plan and co-ordinate the event (Katie T, Abi H, Abi C and Ria K). A huge 'well done'!

Curriculum Enrichment continued this year with a chance to have a weekly unwind from the academic and join a range of activities offered including the gym, sport, enterprise and work placement. The students love the opportunity to use their gym membership and the work placement has helped those who want to enter teaching, medicine or veterinary science get the experience they need for applying for university courses. The Extended Project Qualification also runs as part of the Curriculum Enrichment programme. This is a qualification like no other at A Level and demands a high level of independence and self-motivation. Students are tasked with devising a question on a topic area of their choosing, researching their chosen topic and writing a 5,000-word essay/producing an artefact to answer their question. Topic choices were as diverse as ever including machine learning technology, the fungal genus *Ophiocordyceps*, Meghan Markle's representation in the British tabloid press, image recognition neural networks and NHS physiotherapy treatments for stroke patients. Along the way, students are responsible for selecting appropriate and reliable books, journals and other sources of information, editing, re-drafting and referencing. All this under the watchful eye of a staff supervisor to guide and support but, ultimately, the student is in charge. Students are also required to keep a detailed 'Production Log' which outlines their EPQ journey - pitfalls, obstacles, successes and all. The course concludes with our students' presentations to an audience of fellow students and staff. Every single one of the students should feel very proud of their efforts.





On Tuesday, 9th November all Year 12 attended the Greater Manchester 'Safe Drive Stay Alive' event at The Middleton Arena. This project was launched by the emergency services in an effort to reduce the number of young people killed and seriously injured on our roads. Their aim is to raise road safety awareness among young people and give them a hard-hitting insight into the dangers of driving. The performance lasted 90 minutes during which time the students watched a series of short films tracing the events leading up to a crash and then following the actions of the emergency services dealing with the incident. The films were interspersed at appropriate moments by police, ambulance, fire and rescue and accident and emergency staff speaking about their real life experiences at the scene of a collision. Volunteer members of the public also took to the stage to recount personal stories about how their lives had been affected by a fatal or serious collision. A sombre and thought-provoking morning but extremely worthwhile and important for all young drivers and responsible passengers. Year 12 were unanimous in their praise of the event. Students were invited to complete pre- and post-event questionnaires. They were also asked to make a driving 'pledge' on Instagram and Twitter in light of their experience at SDSA. All the pledges were put into a prize draw and, amazingly, one of our students, Zoe T, was the lucky winner. She received £350 of Apple vouchers presented to her in school by the event organiser, Ros Hopkins.

December saw our (now annual) Staff & Sixth Form Christmas Jumper Day. Once more, staff and Sixth Formers did us proud in their festive/sparkly/woolly knits. We also had a Christmas pudding bobble hat, light-up earrings and a Christmas tree tie! We raised over £200 for 'Cash for Kids: Mission Christmas' (£200.83 to be exact in terms of donations to school but we're also aware that lots of people made donations directly to the charity via the website). We were very grateful for everyone's donations to a really amazing cause.

In what has become another annual December event, Miss Grey and a group of Sixth Formers coordinated a collection for the Trussell Trust Foodbank. 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 deliver. Huge thanks to Mr Woolley from our team of site staff who helped with the delivery and to all the parents and students who donated.

Our fundraising highlight is always the Sponsored Walk and this year was no exception! Having missed it dreadfully for the last couple of years, the 3rd March saw the Sixth Form pull out all the stops with their incredible fancy dress costumes. We had super heroes, birds, nuns, the Mario brothers and workmen in hard hats and hi-vis jackets walking the length and breadth of Timperley's streets with collection buckets, making a sizeable contribution to the grand total.

Next steps are never far from our thoughts as the 2 years in Sixth Form always fly by and we know what a crucial stepping stone A Levels are for higher level study/employment. March was a busy month for our Year 12 students who attended the UCAS Higher Education Exhibition at Manchester Central and the UK University & Apprenticeship Search Fair at Old Trafford. Throughout the year the tutor team offer support and advice on next steps and we have dedicated time spent on drafting Personal Statements and CVs and researching possible degree courses and apprenticeships. This year we had access to Unifrog to help with post-18 opportunities and it has proven to be an excellent tool to help students make some critical decisions about their post-Sixth Form pathway.

This year we also launched our Curriculum for Life (C4L) programme in the extended tutor period on Tuesday mornings. This scheme of work gives students a broad range of life skills and understanding of issues beyond the academic curriculum. Key topics have included Eating well, Finance, Healthy relationships and Mental Health. Students also engage in tutor group discussions on current affairs on Thursdays and we have the much anticipated quiz to end each week on Fridays. The league table is the subject of much scrutiny in a bid to come top of the table!

So, what else has been going on? We have a range of mentors who work with lower school students in the LRC engaging in homework support. A large number of our students are wellbeing ambassadors, anti-bullying ambassadors or anti-racism ambassadors. Our students have shown visitors around the school, been involved in our community celebrations for Eid and Chinese New Year and Year 12 have been working hard to secure their work placements for June... and this, dear reader, is just the tip of the iceberg! Hope you have enjoyed our whistle stop tour of some of the activities and events of the past year.

Miss Grey and Mrs Wilson

Warhammer Club

Warhammer Club is an inclusive club dedicated to bringing the wonderful hobby of miniature wargaming, painting, and crafting to Wellington students of all ages. We have now built up a diverse collection of (mostly Warhammer) literature, painting supplies, terrain features, and even entire club armies for students to play games with.

The club has continued to go from strength to strength over the last couple of years, developing a very strong core of committed members, and over the course of this year alone myself, Mr Brownbill, and Mr Crabbe have loved every minute of providing an exciting and welcoming space for well over 30 students to build, paint, game, and just be with friends.

One of the biggest changes this year has been the launch of Tuesday Battle Hour, headed initially by Mr Brownbill, which has now evolved into a fully blown Combat Patrol league, hosting weekly games after school for four students and the three teachers!

Students earn points by holding certain objectives on the battle mat each turn, capturing the enemy leader, having a well-presented army, and showing good sportsmanship. This has really encouraged some of the players to take the time to get their models painted, and even pushed some out of their comfort zone as they experimented with the club's basing materials. The majority of armies in the league are now fully painted and look amazing on the tabletop!

The effect of this regular opportunity to focus on strategy, friendly competition and self-reflection has been amazing to watch, as the four young generals have come on such a long way in terms of their own understanding of the game and how to embrace the highs and lows of competing with others in a friendly tournament!



On a Thursday lunchtime, Mr Crabbe's classroom is open to anyone who wants to come in and lose themselves for half an hour using the club paints, crafting new scenery, or getting stuck into intro games. Although we see a new face every couple of weeks, we definitely have a strong core of members who we can rely on to turn up! In addition to Warhammer 40K the club has been using a free community-developed ruleset called One Page Rules which streamlines the mental load for new players, and we always have friendly Tuesday veterans on hand to help out new visitors with their first paintjob or skirmish.

During Children's Mental Health week we were proud to be one of the many clubs to open our doors to students that fancied taking their mind off the pressures of the school day. We really underestimated how many would take up our offer and the one table we had set aside turned into three as students spent their lunchtime chatting and painting up funny little figures. We even got to meet a keen player from the Hive who came to show off his Age of Sigmar collection.



We are hoping to run another campaign for Wellyfest this year which could be even more ambitious than the last one, given that we have so many young hobbyists who are familiar with the rules now. A special mention goes out to Colum Parker, Cadence Williamson, Jasper Welton, Joseph Stockley, Luka Davies, and Daniel Harding, who have been absolute stalwarts of the club this year! Many other students have contributed to our little community over the last few months and left their mark, whether it has been painting up a club model, making us a piece of scenery, or appearing in that week's newsletter.

Make sure to stay up to date with our weekly newsletter to see who's been dropping in and check the positions in the league table. Here's to another year of the wargaming community at Wellington!

Mr Ashfield

Attendance

FFT Education collects daily attendance data from over 10,500 schools in England. This data helps schools track, monitor and compare their attendance against the Regional and National picture.

In January 2023 our school received an attendance award from the FFT Data Lab for our Autumn Term attendance.

Wellington School were in the top 10% of all the Schools on their database (10,500 Schools).

This excellent achievement continued into the Spring Term with our school attendance consistently being above the National Average. Unfortunately, no awards have been issued for Spring attendance due to the teacher strike days impacting schools differently. However, our above National Average attendance achievement remains the same.

Well done to all our students and our parents and carers who support us with our high expectations around attendance.

The Inclusion Team



KEY STAGE 3 News

Key Stage 3

We continue to be impressed with the personal and academic development of our Key Stage 3 students.

We have developed a very bespoke tutor programme that involves tackling different issues surrounding 'period poverty', 'changes in society with the use of pronouns', 'inappropriate colloquialisms' and 'toxic masculinity'. These have been covered alongside 'how to keep safe online', 'what leadership looks like', 'am I a resilient learner?', 'how to revise', 'acts of kindness' and 'how to show my initiative in situations'.

Our vertical assemblies (mixed year groups) continue to be a driving force in establishing a solid community built on honesty and fairness whilst rewarding our endeavour in lessons. We have covered topics such as 'what is outstanding?', 'usual emotions in adversity', 'acceptance in society', as well as many topics surrounding resilience, motivation and being yourself.

Currently, our Key Stage 3 cohort are behaving at a 95% positive behaviour ratio. This is just extraordinary and the students never fail to amaze me with their attitude and effort towards their lessons. We have raised our badge thresholds this year to challenge our young people. At the time of writing 62% of our Key Stage 3 students have achieved their bronze badge already this year, with 27% having gone past the silver threshold already and two of our students have surpassed gold already. With more badges due out over the next few weeks this figure is sure to rise quite dramatically.

Also, this year a small number of Key Stage 3 students have completed a Scholars programme with our local university. It involves students firstly getting a taste of what life is like at university. Secondly, the students worked through a topic and developed their study skills and essay writing to apply this knowledge into their school learning.

We are looking for our Key Stage 3 students to take opportunities when they arise and try to push themselves out of their comfort zone. Life is sometimes difficult but as a team we will deal with those testing times and look how to move forward.

Mr Tomlinson



Year 10

Taking over the year group as they start their Key Stage 4 journey has shown me the level of resilience the pupils have. They have had a very disjointed Key Stage 3, due to the pandemic, but they have demonstrated an ability to adapt in such a short time frame signifying maturity beyond their years.

I am proud of the way they have conducted themselves this year with what is a very challenging and demanding one on top of them starting their GCSE's. We have had guest speakers in school to discuss community issues such as knife crime. The level of engagement through these events, the questions being raised and the appreciation afterwards just again demonstrates the maturity within the year group.

We have had a revamped morning period on a Tuesday called 'Curriculum 4 Life'. This aims to bring awareness and education to cultural topics such as vaping or relationships. The feedback from tutors, as well as observations from the KS4 team, has been very positive.

More recently, the pupils have undergone a very successful set of practice interviews. We ask industries to come in to school and provide an interview scenario for our pupils. This allows them to experience what it would be like for college, sixth form, a job etc. It also gives opportunity for feedback and gives time for the pupils to hone their skills. The feedback from the event has been overwhelmingly positive, from pupils and industry representatives. It was great to see pupils pulling together in the preparation room and offering support to each other before going in. This epitomised the sense of community we have been trying to build within the year group. This again was highlighted by not only the attendance but the level of money raised during the school's annual sponsored walk. The behaviour on that day too was impeccable.

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'. These sessions have supported the pupils with their preparation for the recent mock exams. Our Key Stage ethos is 'Attitude is Everything'. This truly was the case during these exams. The behaviour, punctuality, level of preparation, focus etc. shown by the pupils was amazing.

We aim to celebrate success where we can, from a quick congratulations to pizza parties. We have endeavoured to make sure the pupils are rewarded for their correct attitude and try to instil the ethos within the year group.

We are both very proud of our year group and the culture we are trying to create. We are looking forward to what Year 11 brings.

Mr Gubbins and Mrs Firth



Year 11

As the year groups time is coming to a close we could not be prouder of how they have thrived in their years at Wellington, specifically during this very challenging year.

Recently, they were given another taste of an intense mock examination period. It was a sample of what will take place for real in their GCSE examinations. Many of the students coped very well with the 2nd mock exams and should be proud of the effort they put into them - well done!

In addition, to make it as close to the real thing as possible, the year group have also experienced a 'results day' style morning where teachers made an honest prediction about pupils' GCSEs based upon present performance and work rate. This again gave the students another flavour of what is to come in the summer.

We have been working hard all year to provide the pupils with the necessary skills to succeed in their upcoming GCSEs. The students have just completed a very successful Easter school fortnight which saw a record number of pupils attend. Their attitude, focus and behaviour were exemplary and many colleagues have said how impressed they have been with them. Our GCSE Preparation Evening was equally well attended, with nearly 450 pupils and parents in attendance. In addition, the 'buy-in' for the intervention sessions has been amazing. These have run before school, over lunch and after school; all of which have been very well attended. This is clearly demonstrating the collective efforts of all and the importance of triangular communication between home, staff and pupil. We are in a position now where we can see real focus and motivation from the year group and I know this will allow them to fulfil their true potential.

In May, there is still over a 1/5 of pupils without a single negative in the year group. This is a remarkable achievement and one they should be very proud of. In addition to this, there is a similar number of pupils that have attained over 100 positive referrals. Within the year they, and others, have really epitomised the school values of excellence, endeavour, fairness, honesty and community.

It may have only been a year but it has been an absolute pleasure being part of this year group and seeing them making the most of the opportunities available to them at Wellington. Thank you, as ever, to all the parents/carers for your continued support and contributing towards making this year a positive one.

We'd like to wish the Year 11 students the very best of luck for their exams!

Mr Gubbins and Mrs Thomson

**GOOD
LUCK
IN
YOUR
EXAMS**



Year 7 ‘Make Home ‘Work’’ Project Day

October saw the project-phase of our Year 7 ‘Make Home ‘Work’’ Scheme. Every department had supported pupils with advice and skills from organising their planner to researching a project.

Over two weeks, pupils chose a subject brief to complete in one of five subjects: DT, Geography, History, REP and Science. All of the briefs were linked to the School value, Community.

This culminated in a project day all day in the Adshead Hall where pupils spent the morning finalising their projects and supporting their team mates to ensure their work had the WOW factor. During Period 5, pupils made a showcase of their tutor team’s work ready to show-off to parents and staff after school.

Each tutor group had volunteers to present on behalf of their class mates and staff were massively impressed by not just the quality of work but the eloquence of the pupils speaking to them who are now sporting their badges and certificates for completing the scheme!

What a day, Year 7 - you were phenomenal! Miss Hitchens



Mental Health and Wellbeing

Welly World Mental Health Day 10th October 2022

From all of us at Wellington School, we just wanted to say a huge thank you for supporting our YoungMinds #HelloYellow day held on 10th October 2022 for World Mental Health Day.



More young people than ever before are seeking out mental health support and most aren’t getting the help they need. The past year saw the highest number of referrals to mental health support services for young people since records began. We wanted to do something about this, and together we have.

By joining thousands of schools, offices and communities across the UK in wearing yellow, we have done a little thing to make a big difference to young people’s mental health. We raised over £400 for YoungMinds.

With three children in every classroom living with a mental health problem, YoungMinds is leading the fight to see a future where all young people can get the mental health support they need, when they need it, no matter what.

Thank you so much for your support.

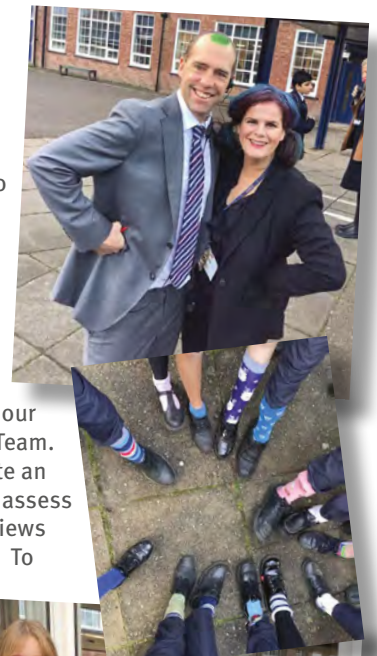
Mrs Taylor-Crooke and the Sixth Form Leadership Team

Anti-Bullying Week 14th- 18th November 2022

Wellington Wacky Hair and Odd Socks Day

Wacky Hair and Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It’s an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique! It takes place within the National Anti-Bullying week in schools. We take the issue of bullying very seriously at Wellington. Students benefited from a tutor takeover session from our fabulous Sixth Form Management Team. We also got all students to complete an online bullying survey so we could assess the climate and get the students’ views (student voice is paramount to us). To mark the end of Anti-Bullying week, students and staff at Wellington embraced the challenge, whacky hair and odd socks were donned by many to help raise awareness. It was so lovely to see everybody involved.

Mrs Taylor-Crooke



Mental Health & Wellbeing Day

On Monday the 4th July 2022, Year 7 (now Year 8) spent the day off timetable focussing on their mental health and wellbeing.

The entire day was dedicated to raising awareness about mental health but most importantly about providing the students with a variety of opportunities to explore strategies they can use to help maintain mental health. Some of the activities included music, art, yoga, fitness, mindfulness and relaxation techniques such as breathing exercises and meditation. The students also got the opportunity to talk with our retiring and current Sixth Form Leaderships Teams about transitions through school life, how to manage mental health, and where to go for support. They were also invited to help plan for the future of Wellington. A fab day had by all. Here are some of the tutor groups quotes below:

“It was great to have a day where we can focus on us and how we feel, away from school work.”

“Mental health matters just as much as physical health and there are different ways to help with both don't sit in silence talk to someone.”

“Mental health is important. We had a fun day experiencing different ways we can help ourselves.”

Mrs L Taylor-Crooke



Retiring Sixth Form Leadership Team

What an amazing and inspirational team of young people!

I have been truly blessed to have worked with this team this past year. They have achieved so much in such a short space of time (everything you read about regarding Wellbeing, they have been at the forefront). Their selflessness and dedication to help promote wellbeing across Wellington despite studying for their A Levels has been admirable, and I know they will go on to achieve amazing things in their future (whatever they choose to pursue). The new team (yet to be recruited) have very big shoes to fill but I am confident with the modelling of such compassion from these guys, the future is safe at Welly! Mrs Taylor-Crooke



Children's Mental Health Week - 6th-10th Feb 2023

Well, what a fabulous week this was. Students had tutor takeover assemblies by the Sixth Form Leadership Team and Kooth.

Staff hosted numerous lunchtime activities promoting wellbeing from mindfulness colouring, crafting and meditation to yoga and dance. It was a lovely week to end a busy half term. A huge thank you to all who managed to donate for Own Clothes Day, it is so lovely to see so many smiles around school. We raised a whopping £2300 with contributions and the proceeds from the magnificent Cake Sale. This again could not have been done without the amazing generosity of our community. Mrs L Taylor-Crooke



Mental Health Week May 15th – 21st 2023

The theme for this year's mental health week was 'Anxiety'.

Ironically timed around the embarkment of the exam season. Students had a tutor takeover session about anxiety, what it is, the causes, and how to maintain a healthy balance.

A 'Go Green' uniform substitute was held in line with the national event to try to raise awareness about the importance of keeping our mental health as a high priority! Mrs Taylor-Crooke



World Teacher Day - 5th Oct

Since 1994, World Teachers' Day (also known as International Teachers' Day) has been celebrated annually on the 5th of October across the world.



The event was launched by the United Nations Organisation for Education, Science and Culture (UNESCO) to celebrate the anniversary of the adoption of the 1966 ILO/ UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers. This was when governments unanimously recognised how important it is that society contains competent, qualified and motivated teachers.

Kindness and gratitude have long been proven to be linked to overall Wellbeing and good mental health. We are so fortunate at Wellington to have such an amazing team of teachers and this was recognised and celebrated by so many of our students. Students took the time to write thank you cards to staff around school. These cards were collated and delivered by the fabulous Sixth Form Management Team (along with a little sugary treat). Mrs Taylor-Crooke



Wyddfa Challenge

Following the student Sponsored Walk, a team of 36 staff members will be embarking on the Wyddfa (formally known as Mount Snowdon) challenge.



They too will aim to raise as much money as possible for our School's chosen mental health charity this year- Papyrus. Not only will this benefit the cause, it will be a fantastic bonding activity for staff and we all know exercise is good for your health. Wish us luck!

Mrs Taylor-Crooke

#Beewell Manchester University Young Researcher Programme

I am super excited that 5 of our Year 10 Psychology students, Amelie Tan, Elodie Jourdain, Isla Rebbeck, Leila Bieniasz and Evie



Caddens are lucky enough to be involved with this once in a lifetime research programme at such a young age.

#BeeWell is a programme led by the University of Manchester, the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and the Anna Freud Centre that seeks to measure young people's wellbeing and, in collaboration with schools and partner organisations, deliver positive change as a result. The #BeeWell survey will help to embed long-term improvements in wellbeing by finding the right way to support young people's wellbeing across Greater Manchester.

The Young Researchers Programme is a five-part course that introduced Year 10 pupils to the world of academic research, with a focus on wellbeing. The course introduced pupils to key concepts and equipped them with basic skills in measurement and statistical analysis. The course also gave pupils the opportunity to get hands on with the #BeeWell data analysis – interrogating the results and shaping future research carried out by the University of Manchester team.

The sessions took part out of school hours, so this really is a testament to their commitment, not only to Psychology but the greater good of the cause. I am super proud. The future of Psychology and the Wellbeing of our Wellington Community is most certainly in good hands.

Mrs Taylor-Crooke

Wellington Wellbeing Leaders/Kooth Champions

On Monday 30th January we had the launch of our new Wellington Wellbeing Leaders/Kooth Champion Scheme.



It is our vision that the young people will be the voice of the School. The team will meet with myself and Kooth once per term to share concerns around mental health but will most importantly play a vital role in disseminating key information across the school about mental health and wellbeing. As a team they will generate a 'Wellie Wellbeing' newsletter. This will answer any questions students have asked, will share key information from Kooth and will be a general source of information. Our representative from Kooth, who attended our first session, was overwhelmed by the maturity and enthusiasm of our new leaders. I am so excited to be part of this journey with them. Let's do our best to raise awareness and help our whole school community. We will be making our first ever newsletter dedicated to Wellbeing ready for the Summer holidays. If anybody has any ideas/recommendations for what they might like to be included in our first issue, please get in touch.

Mrs Taylor-Crooke

The HIVE

The HIVE opened up in September 2022. We are a small specialist support class offering support to pupils with a diagnosis of Autism and other additional needs. Pupils in the HIVE access a blended timetable, which includes core subjects in the mainstream and preparing for adulthood skills within the HIVE.

Mini Enterprise

The pupils in the HIVE take part in a weekly mini enterprise session. This involves us creating new ideas each term to sell to staff and pupils. Items made have included sweet treats and ornaments, all designed by the pupils. We have raised over £185 over the course of the year for a range of charities including CAFT (Children's Adventure Farm Trust) and Papyrus. Well done to all pupils involved and thank you to the staff, pupils and parents who have attended our markets.

Guinea Pigs

We now have 3 furry friends in the HIVE! Meet Bumble, Rascal and Smudge. These have been a wonderful addition to the HIVE and pupils are involved in feeding, cleaning and caring for them which supports our ethos of preparing for adulthood. Special thanks to Neve Rawden who is dedicated to caring for the Guinea Pigs and cleans them out every week, well done!



Our Aims

We hope all students in the Hive will. . .

- Have access to a varied timetable that will support their needs
- Feel safe and understood within an educational environment
- Build positive relationships with staff and students
- Access engaging lessons that are supportive to their needs
- Learn how to act and engage appropriately within the community (social skills)
- Build skills for life to support their future outside of education



Art Project

Miss Grey (Head of Art) kindly offered a fortnightly session to the pupils in the HIVE who have interests in Art. The pupils have made some wonderful art work to display in the HIVE. We would all like to thank Miss Grey for her support this term, the pupils have thoroughly enjoyed their sessions.

Community Access

The pupils in the HIVE have been supporting the local community by litter picking the local area on a weekly basis. The members of the public have been so pleased to see the HIVE doing their bit to support the community. Well done to all pupils involved this year. In the summer term, pupils have been accessing the local shops to buy food for the HIVE. The staff are incredibly impressed by the pupil's road safety and impeccable manners with the public.

September 2023

We will be welcoming a new cohort of pupils in September. We look forward to meeting new faces and expanding our team further. The HIVE will welcome Mrs Hancock as our new teacher and a range of TAs to support alongside both teachers in the HIVE.

We wish our Year 6 pupils good luck with their final weeks at primary school and we are excited to support you all with your journey into high school.

Miss Wilkins

Parent Feedback

"Many thanks for all of your hard work - please can you pass on my thanks to the rest of the team too. My son is like a different person - his anxiety is noticeably less and he's heading to school quite happily, it's so nice to know he's found a place he can at last belong and not feel alone and left out. Fingers crossed he continues to grow and develop and find confidence in himself - I'm sure he will now he's at the Hive and being looked after so well"

"We really do appreciate what an amazing job you have all done - getting the hive up and running and making the transition such a success. Across the board I have been so impressed by the enthusiasm and kindness of all the Wellington staff team!"

"I am sure there will be little bumps but with such a kind and supportive team/teacher around him I am sure he will continue to enjoy school & make progress. We feel so lucky to be part of the Hive"

"I know its early days but my son leapt out of bed this morning. He is so excited about being in the Hive and starting at Wellington. The Bee badge has given him a real sense of identity and belonging and he is so proud to wear it. He showed it to everyone he could last night. we are delighted to hear that he is making a good start. He went to bed tonight shouting "I can't wait to go to Wellington tomorrow!" Music to my ears"

Young Interpreters Scheme

With the wonderful range of languages spoken by our School community, 100 Year 7- 10 pupils were keen to train as Young Interpreters with myself, Mrs Soldiew and Miss Tijani in March.

Pupils completed four training sessions which explored empathising with pupils who speak English as an additional language, learning how to be a buddy for new pupils and coming up with ideas for how we can further enhance the Wellington experience for our pupils.



All pupils involved earned a certificate, pencil and badge at 'graduation'; what was particularly lovely though was to hear the anecdotes of how so many pupils have helped others this year as well as the hotly-contested competition in the room as to who could speak the most languages! Can you believe we have some pupils who can speak SEVEN?!

I look forward to working with this team of pupils in the future! Miss Hitchens



Please scan here to view our School Prospectus



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