



Wellington Today

2024/25







From the Editor

'Mens sana in corpore sano', a concept first established in the second century AD is as relevant today as it ever was. And where better to establish the principle of a healthy mind in a healthy body than at school?

This last year at Wellington has seen countless opportunities for pupils to find real balance in their lives. The ever evolving academic curriculum, as well as providing the foundations of exam success – and this year has been record breaking on that front - has also seen new courses introduced to inspire and stretch. Wellington sport, for boys and girls, has never been stronger, with school, national and international achievements sitting comfortably alongside provision for those who simply want to participate. The musicians, actors, singers and dancers have been in their element: mass participation in the House events saw the whole school on stage, and the Dance Show, Senior and Junior plays, the whole school musical Les Mis, and countless other extraordinary concerts and choral events are testament to the strength of the arts here. The CCF and Global Citizenship programmes maintain service as a cornerstone of what it is to be a Wellingtonian, and the pastoral needs of the pupils remain nourished by House life, their true 'home away from home'.

There truly is something for everyone at Wellington, as these pages show!

Academic Overview

Top 5

**UK boarding school by
academic performance**
in the Sunday Times Parent Power guide

35

**Weekly academic
extension clubs**

Over 50

Subject choices



72%

A Level & IB:
A*/A (A Level) & 7/6 (IB)

65%

GCSE:
graded 8 or 9

22

Oxbridge offers

687

Russell Group offers
averaging 4 per pupil

10

Ivy League offers

59

**Offers from North
American universities**

Early offers from Barnard College, Brown, Chapman,
Columbia, Duke, Harvard, McGill, NYU, UPenn and Stanford

18

Fireside Talks

including Soma Sara (activist and author) Tom Gaymor (sports broadcaster), Daniela Mohaupt (PFP Foundation Partnerships team, UNICEF, Switzerland) Professor Lewis Dartnell (British astrobiologist, presenter, and professor of science communication at the University of Westminster), Kate Ferry (Burberry CFO), Darcy Bourne (OW and England and GB hockey player), Morgan Lake (OW and GB Olympian), Lissy Macleod (OW and professional cricketer) and Giselle Ansley (England and GB hockey player).



Exam Success

Wellington, which offers Sixth Form students the choice between A levels or IB, has a deserved reputation as one of the UK's finest academic schools – and this year's public exam results are cause for celebration.

A Level and IB

Congratulations to this year's graduating class of Wellingtonians on their outstanding set of exam results this year. Adding to the success of the IB students, who secured brilliant results earlier this summer, the A level cohort received a similarly impressive set of excellent grades. With over 31% of A level grades at A* and 66% for combined A* and A grades, they have every reason to feel both proud and excited with the results they have achieved. When added to the IB results nearly 32% of grades were A* or 7s, with twenty A level students securing at least three A*s and eight IB students achieving the maximum 45 points. 72% of the grades were in the A* - A or 7 to 6 category, and all 22 Oxbridge offers were met.

James Dahl, Master of Wellington, had this to say: "I am quite simply thrilled by the outstanding results which this year's graduating Upper Sixth students have achieved in their IB and A level examinations. We should never forget that this cohort of learners lost a term of face-to-face schooling in both Years 9 and 10, yet they have worked tirelessly, against a backdrop of a full return to pre-pandemic standards of assessment and grade distribution, to secure some of the strongest outcomes in the College's history. At the same time, they produced West End quality drama and musical productions, performed at national levels across numerous sports, and were simply a delightful group of young people to live alongside. We wish them every health, happiness and success in their endeavours beyond Crowthorne and could not be prouder to call them Old Wellingtonians."





GCSE

Huge congratulations to the Wellington College GCSE students who achieved outstanding exam results this summer.

The most common grade received was a 9 with 38% of results coming back at the highest level, the best ever outcome for the College outside of the Covid-inflated years. Half of this talented year group of over 200 pupils scored an average grade of 8 or better, with the average grade across all pupils also being 8. Nearly two-thirds of grades awarded were 8 or 9 – broadly the equivalent of the old A* – proof, indeed, that a combination of intellectual curiosity and sheer hard work is a winning formula. Other headlines of note include the 18 pupils – almost 10% of the year group – who secured at least ten 9s and our Fourth Form ‘early takers’ who served notice that they, too, will be a force to be reckoned with having secured 90% of their grades at 9.

James Dahl, the Master of Wellington, commented: “Quite simply, these are an amazing set of results and we are so proud of our 2024 GCSE cohort. With almost 20% of the year group achieving nine 9s or better and 100 students securing an average GCSE score of 8 or higher, we could not have asked for more from this wonderful group of Wellingtonians. Like so many young people their age, it has not been a smooth journey over the past five years with a term of online learning in both Year 7 and Year 8 – such a formative time in any young person’s academic development. The resilience, character and intellectual curiosity they have shown in the years post-pandemic have been exemplary and they fully deserve these outstanding outcomes. We can’t wait to see what they are going to achieve in the Sixth Form!”

Academic Achievements

Rain T and Rob J

Chemistry Olympiad Gold Awards

Iris C, Bill S, Danny Y and Kamil M

Physics Olympiad Gold Awards

Mary C-B and Anya H

Biology Olympiad Gold Awards

Iris C

Maths Olympiad Merit

Polina R, Marisa L, Stephanie O, Iris C,

Candi M S, Katie S and Yolanda Z

Maths Olympiad for Girls Distinction

Saski B and Amber D

Neuroscience Olympiad National Finalists

Lydia C-B

National Psychology Olympiad National Finalist

Carmela D

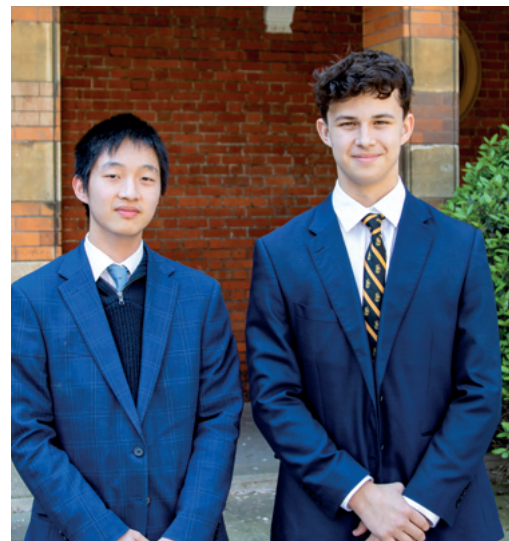
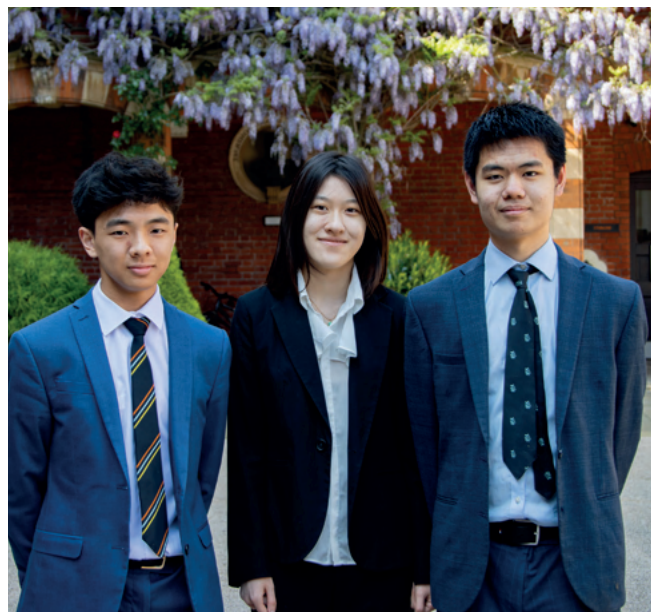
Senior Illumination Prize winner

Runner-up: Tilly E

Lydia C-B

Junior Illumination Prize winner

Runner-up: Ellie L





Polly D, Charlie M-H, Ishan V, Anton K and
Elisa Y

UKMT Merit awards

Lucia C

**Winner of the St Hugh's College,
Oxford's Mary Renault Prize**

Emily B

**Winner of the University of Exeter's
Psychology Essay Prize**

Anya H

**Winner of the University of Exeter
Natural Sciences Essay Competition**



Saffron E, James A, Leo S and Kiana M
**Institute of Economic Affairs Budget
Challenge**

Ruby O

Edward Thomas Fellowship Prize

Alex M-K and Elia G

**Finalists in the John Locke Philosophy
Essay Competition**



Caitlin H, Marwa M, James A, Bria W,
Amelie S and Emily W
**Finalists in the Northeastern University
Essay Competition**

Olivia R
Sir Trenchard Cox Scholarship (Art History)

Sophie L, Zoe S and Saski B
**Classics Association X Bloomsbury
Creative Writing Competition**

Marwa M
**Future Engineering Leaders Programme
Prize (Impetus Education)**

Sam G and Nicolas R
**Winners of the Cheltenham College
Spanish Debating Competition**

Nicholas D and Cressida M-C
**Selected to present at the Young
Philosophers' Conference**

Rufus S and Ella R
Presented at the Youth Forum Switzerland

Nefeli M
**Winner of the Peter Mallinson Prize for
Academic Extension**
Runners-up: Millie M, Andrew L and Tom H

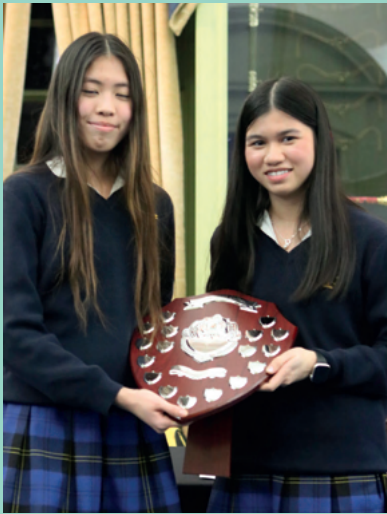
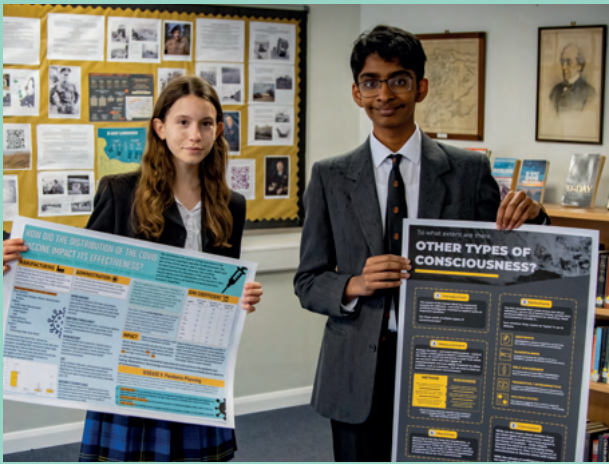
Polina R
**Winner of the Matt Oakman Prize for
Academic Extension**
Runner-up: Raghav R

Stephanie O and Marisa L
**Winners of the Peter Frankopan Prize for
Academic Extension**
Runners-up: Charlie P, Henry H, Felix Z and
Miles K

Anoushka H and Friedrich D
**Winners of the Klaus Dodds Prize for
Academic Extension**
Runners-up: Isby C and Anaya K; Rosie W
and Flo H; Sam S

Gabriella F and Sam G
**Best Actress and Best Actor
Hispanic Theatre Competition**
Pipa R, Duncan S, Nicolas R, Amy P,
Maddie C, Ariana D and Lucia S - best
Original Group Own Adaptation







Speech Day

It's been over ten years since Wellington first erected the Big Top for the annual Speech Day celebrations. A decision made in part to accommodate the growing size of the school, but mainly to reimagine what Speech Day might actually look like. Not everything was changed, of course: there were still Speeches – the Master's State of the Nation address and the Chairman of Governors' articulation of the school's direction – and prizes too, to acknowledge outstanding academic, cultural, and sporting achievement. But since 2013 Speech Day has been so much more, with the Big Top show reprising and celebrating many of the stand-out performances and events that help make Wellington years so special.

This year's Speech Day certainly lived up to its billing as the most exciting day in the school's calendar. From the moment the jazz orchestra took to the stage for Friday evening's concert through to the last overs of the OW cricket

match on Saturday, all the best Wellington traditions were impeccably observed as the whole community came together for 24 hours of celebration. Saturday morning dawned to cloudless skies and sparkling breakfasts for this year's Sixth Formers before Chapel Services reminded us all that Wellington College is a Royal and Religious Foundation. The performers in the Big Top excelled, with the final spine-tingling rendition from the cast of Les Mis a perfect aperitif for the House lunches in the marquees that girdled Turf. Art and DT exhibitions, sports matches, cavalry charges and the Field Gunners added spice to the afternoon before valedictory speeches from this year's Heads of College and that most iconic of all Speech Day traditions, the Master's Callover, brought the curtain down on a day that will live long in the memory.



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Graduation

On a sunny Friday, we came to the end of the year and said goodbye to our wonderful Upper Sixth. With happy faces and quite impressive tans, the class of 2024 filed into Chapel, with hats and caps tucked under arms. In Chapel, along with the rousing singing of Jerusalem and I Vow to Thee My Country, we heard a reminiscent speech from our Valedictorians, Amy P. and Seb L. There were moments of laughter, but also moments of real gratitude and respect for the institution of Wellington which has supported them through the last five, four, or two years. As Seb remembered his Matriculation, and the nervous handshake with Mr Dahl, Amy reflected on those times during Covid, and the hours of support offered by their HMs. They ended with a thank you to the teachers, some advice to the Lower Sixth, and the last words, a quote from Winnie the Pooh: 'How lucky am I to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard to do'.

After that moment of reflection and nostalgia, the students left the Chapel to thunderous applause, led out by the mighty bagpiping of Dan P. After Chapel, and a lovely lunch, we all made our way over to the GWA for the Graduation itself. Mr Dahl started us off, with a hilarious speech where all students were reminded of their Third Form selves. The memories and the joy were abundant in the theatre, as the Master encouraged all the students to think about how far they had come from that first day at Wellington, and to imagine how their lives might pan out from this point on. Mrs Moore-Bridger then spoke about how she hoped that all of the Upper Sixth would have adventures, would make mistakes, and that they would achieve anything that they put their minds to.

The toasts from the HMs are always a highlight of graduation, with many a giggle and many an in-joke from Houses, but most of all, the sense of care and the depth of the relationships between HMs, students, and their housemates, was evident. Rapturous applause finished this ceremony, and the excitement as all departed to get ready for the Ball was palpable.

Come 7 o'clock, the glamorous Upper Sixth made their way down to South Front, where the mighty marquee stood waiting. The atmosphere was radiant, and glittering gowns and smart DJs were all that could be seen under the fairy lights that spread out across the patio, all the way to the shimmering dancefloor within. Students, parents, and teachers all toasted the success of the year group, and with the help of magnificent catering and a stellar band, the night was danced away.

This year's Graduation truly was one to remember, just like the group of students themselves. We wish all of our leavers every success in the future to come, and remember, once a Wellingtonian, always a Wellingtonian.





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The Arts Overview

As hundreds of Wellingtonians clamoured to sign up for clubs and societies at the College Carnival, the co-curricular event that kick starts the new academic year, it quickly became apparent that this would be a bumper year for the Arts at Wellington. And so it has proved with sold-out performances in the GWA and CLT, concerts of the highest class at venues in and beyond College, mass participation in House Singing and House Dance competitions, and 635 pupils taking individual instrumental or speech and drama lessons, with over 900 lessons attended this year. Wellington is proud of the all-round education it provides for its pupils, and even prouder that exposure to and participation in the arts are arguably the most valuable feature of a Wellingtonian’s experience of the school.





Music

'Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything' and nowhere is this truer than at Wellington. Once again music has found its way into every corner of the school with an astonishing range of orchestras, ensembles, masterclasses, collaborations with local schools, recitals, choir performances and singer-songwriter evenings. Whether classical refinement, foot-tapping jazz, choral and concerto concerts, heavy rock, techno mastery, musical theatre, or individual brilliance in the Montgomery competitions, Wellington's musicians have performed with distinction across all genres – and in a dizzying and ever-expanding range of locations. Wellington College is literally alive with the sound of music, and this year has been a special one indeed for our many, many music makers.





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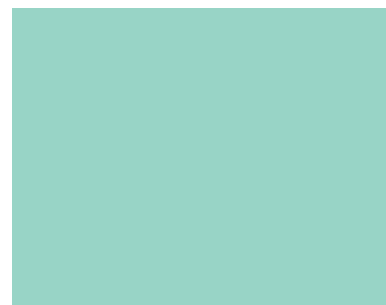
Dance

'The Quad, the Chapel, and the Dorm', this year's December dance show, not only showcased the skills of 110 Wellington dancers, but also symbolised that for Wellingtonians dance is woven into the very fabric of school life, its rhythms everywhere to be found.

The House Dance competition, always eagerly anticipated, confirmed the whole school's love of dance, and congratulations to the Combermere and the Picton, winners of the large and small group categories. The Curriculum Dance Show allowed our academic dancers to show off their choreographic and performance skills, while the Street Crew Battle attracted a large and vocal crowd to South Front.

Focused workshops, careers advice from dance professionals, visits to the Royal Ballet, and inspirational sets from the daredevil Acro team helped complete another stunning year for Wellington Dance.



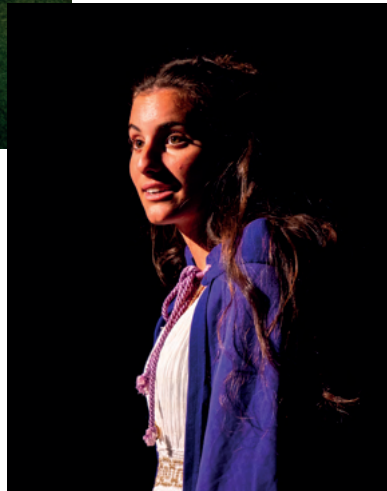




Drama

While Jack Absolute Flies Again, Les Misérables, and Lionboy have been the stand-out productions, they don't begin to tell half the story of this year's dramatic offering at Wellington. Three student written and directed plays – The Severans, Blood of My Father, and Dionysa – the Third Form's Bits from the Bard, a Limelight Evening with Matthew Macfadyen and Keeley Hawes, 12 masterclasses, the WellingTony's awards evening, the House Fives house drama competition and a new Outreach programme for Senior Scholars have all had key roles to play. Throw in the Contemporary Monologue Evening and a sell-out Evening of Musical Theatre and it's clear that for Wellington pupils all the school's a stage.





Art

Throughout the academic year, the Art Department has witnessed a surge of energy and inspiration among its pupils, who have demonstrated remarkable ambition and dedication to their creative endeavours. Under the guidance of artist Ian Murphy, over 150 pupils participated in workshops focused on drawing and painting, honing their skills and exploring new techniques.

Excursions to iconic art destinations such as Watts Gallery, Charleston Farmhouse and the V&A museum provided pupils with invaluable experiences, enriching their understanding of art history and contemporary practice.

The academic achievements of our Upper Sixth leavers are a testament to their hard work and determination, with 100% of them securing offers from their preferred universities, including UAL, Edinburgh and Cambridge, a remarkable accomplishment.

The Art Department also welcomed esteemed guest speakers, including ceramicist Connor Coulston and OW Alex Wilson, whose insights and expertise added depth and diversity to our pupils' learning experiences. The Creative Industries Networking event in London was a unique opportunity for our artists in the Sixth Form to connect with like-minded professionals and expand their network, meeting some of the most influential professionals across the industry.

Our end of year Speech Day Exhibition celebrates the achievements of all GCSE, A Level and IB artists. We are extremely proud of the range of talent; it has been a vibrant and successful year for the Art Department, marked by creativity, learning and achievement.







Sport Overview

Wellington College can justifiably claim to be one of the very best schools for sport in the UK. With 26 different sports on offer, outstanding provision and facilities available to elite athletes or for those who simply enjoy participating, there is literally something for everyone at every level. From rugby to rackets, golf to gymnastics, or tennis to triathlon, Wellingtonians have enjoyed a bumper sporting year in 2023/24, with many team and individual successes at both national and international level. Here are just a few of the highlights.

137
teams

25
sports on offer

1200
fixtures

22
teams or individuals
in National Finals

27
individuals involved
in National level sport



Sporting Success

Badminton

Girls' team: 2nd in the Regional Finals

Golf

Winners of the Gerald Micklem Trophy
2nd overall at the Swifts Schools Strokeplay

Hockey

U15 Girls: runners-up in the Independent Schools Hockey Cup
U16 Girls: winners at National Finals
U16 Boys: reached National Finals
Indoor U16 Girls: runners-up at Regionals; U18 Girls: 5th at Nationals

Netball

1st VII: semi-finalists in the Independent Schools Netball Cup
U14s: 3rd at Regional Finals
U16s: 5th at National Finals
U18s: 3rd at National Finals

Polo

Jock G, Louis H, Aramaya S, Leo S and Emily W: winners of the Copenhagen Cup

Rackets

Seb E won the Renny Cup and Georgia Toosey U16 National Championships Singles winner.

Real Tennis

Sam S won the B event National Handicap Singles and Reuben K the A event. Lydia C-B won the Ladies Real Tennis Association U21 National Handicap title.

Rugby

J Colts: winners of the Langley Festival
1st XV: winners of the Bowl at the St Joseph's Festival

Running

U19 Boys: 2nd at the Berkshire Schools Cross Country Championships





Shooting

A team: 3rd at English Long Range Championships
British School Small-bore Rifle Association Winter National Competition: 2nd in the Junior and Senior Pairs, 1st in the Fours, and 2nd in the Eights; Natalia S S was the top 14-year-old shot; Tuppy H was the top 16-year-old

10 members of the Shooting team have been selected to represent England's A, B, C and D teams against the other home countries

Skiing

British Schoolboys' Ski Races: A team finished 3rd; B team finished 7th; U18 Giant Slalom: Sebastian T finished 2nd; U18 Slalom: Sebastian T finished 3rd; U21 Slalom: Oscar O'C finished 2nd; U14 non-registered Slalom: Hadrian D finished 3rd
British Schoolgirls' Ski Races: A team of Emily T, Lucy O'C and Kitty B finished 2nd in Giant Slalom, 1st in Slalom and for the second year in a row were the best overall school, winning the Lilywhite Trophy; U18 Giant Slalom, Slalom and overall winner: Emily T; U14 Slalom: Kitty B finished 3rd; U18 non-registered Slalom and overall: Georgia H finished 3rd

Swimming

Senior Girls: 1st place in the freestyle and mixed medley relay at the ESSA County Relays.
Girls' team: 8th out of 72 schools in the medley relay at the Bath Cup.

Tennis

Junior Girls: 4th place at Regional Finals

Rackets

Seb E won the Renny Cup and Georgia Toosey U16 National Championships Singles winner.

Real Tennis

Sam S won the B event National Handicap Singles and Reuben K the A event. Lydia C-B won the Ladies Real Tennis Association U21 National Handicap title.



Highlights of the Year by Rufus and Annabel

Rufus and Annabel look back over the year from the pupils' perspective.

Even by Wellington's standard, this year has been a whirlwind. With resounding successes in sports, arts and academics, all the achievements of the year are hard to summarise, but we have compiled a few of our highlights.

We began the year with the customary whole school events of the College Carnival and Jimmy Higham run, leaving everyone sufficiently settled in, but expectedly exhausted by the end of week 2!

Soon after, we enjoyed hosting the annual Heads of School Conference. This provided a unique and exciting opportunity to connect with over 100 peers from many different backgrounds all with powerful ideas about leadership. We designed the day around the theme of connection and aimed to inspire heads of schools to recognise the importance of connection with themselves, with others and with their role as student leaders.





As ever, house events served as a reminder of the incredible talent held by so many members of the school, and we hope our changes to House Dance become a yearly tradition. For those who weren't there, we ended this competition with a prefect-led whole school 'just dance' in the GWA. The prefects' lack of rhythm was more than made up for by the enthusiasm that the school participated with.



We got into the festive spirit with the traditional and highly popular 12 Days of Christmas competition and our new version of the Christmas Tree Games. We loved seeing the competitive engagement with high-speed, torch-lit, chases of 'human trees' across campus.



The notoriously dark and cold days of the start of the Lent Term were brightened by Kindness Week in February. The week included uplifting bulletins and a valuable chance to express gratitude and appreciation for people we otherwise might not often thank through an internal postcard system.



It was also a stellar year for charity events, with multiple entertaining non-uniform days and impressive student-led initiatives from cycle rides to book drives. A particularly popular fundraiser was the Blucher Quad Rave. Whilst the idea of a silent disco in Front Quad might seem questionable, it provided a fun opportunity to let off some steam.

The Quad Rave marked the end of possibly the busiest day of the year following the annual Street-Crew Dance Battle and the Duke's Games final. The Duke's Games is a competition that aims to bring the school together through a series of rounds culminating in a tense 25-man spectated elimination match for the coveted Duke's Games trophy.

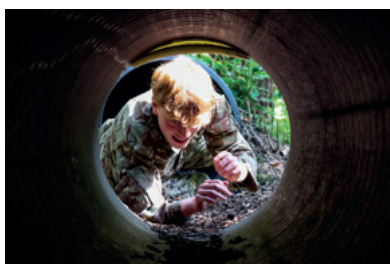


Now it's Summer Term again and as Fifth Form and Upper Sixth begin to tick off their exams, Speech Day provides a welcome break to celebrate all these successes and many more. Our thanks must go to the whole College community who have participated in and supported everything we have done this year. We've loved being Heads of College and are so proud of everything that everyone has achieved.

CCF

It has been an incredibly busy year for Wellington's CCF Contingent. A huge spotlight has been placed on the Royal Marines (RM), who are celebrating 360 years of the Corps. Our very own RM cadets have been at the forefront of these celebrations. They visited the Tower of London to help escort a barrel of wine to the Constable, a service dating back to 1381, where King Richard issued a grant that required every galley passing the Tower to present 'two roundlets of wyne' to the Constable. Still today, whenever a Royal Naval vessel moors on the Wharf, the Captain must present the Constable with a barrel of wine (the 'Dues'). Our RM section have also been fortunate enough to be flag bearers at Twickenham for the annual Army vs Navy rugby derby. It wasn't just our RM cadets who joined in with military ceremony: the Honourable Artillery Company, one of the oldest military organisations in the world, invited several Wellington Army cadets to dinner, at the start of the year, and presented Wellington with a silver-plated artillery shell fired at His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh's funeral.

As enjoyable as these events have been, the Contingent's main work is the delivery of experiences that bring joy and challenge to our cadets. Our RAF section have gone on several gliding trips, the Cavalry competed in the HAC cadet riding competition (Brooke finishing in 4th place), the Royal Marine cadets placed 6th at the national Pringle Trophy competition, Remembrance week saw the largest ever Colour Party present the College Banners, senior cadets from the Royal Navy and RAF worked with Eagle House, for the first time in our schools' history, delivering exciting field craft and first aid lessons to Year 4 pupils, and the Salamanca Shield has been the closest fought competition to date.







Trips

'Wherever you go becomes a part of you somehow' and at Wellington learning extends far beyond the classroom walls. Our range of trips and excursions has been eclectic and exciting with charity initiatives, music and sports tours, academic excursions and US university fact-finding missions to name but a few of the opportunities open to Wellingtonians this year.





Student community work

The Global Citizenship programme gives pupils the opportunity to interact with a wide range of different communities. Fifth Form pupils have been visiting a Bagshot care home each week, providing companionship and running social activities for residents, including an afternoon event back at the College site. This year is the tenth anniversary of the weekly friendship activities undertaken by pupils in the Stanley and the Orange with Carwarden House Community School. Featuring joint projects and even work experience, the Wellington-Carwarden House partnership has been promoted as an exemplar by the Independent Schools Council. The Refugee Partnership is another long-term initiative, this year students have been supporting both Syrian and Ukrainian children with their studies and integration in the UK. The team also undertook an overnight static cycle ride covering a huge distance equivalent to that between Wellington and Kyiv, raising funds for equipment for the children and a further donation to UNICEF.



House fundraising combines good times with great causes. The Hopetoun raised £1,000 at their annual fete for Allegra's Ambition, a charity supporting disadvantaged youngsters in Hampshire with outdoor learning and equestrianism. The Hill's dodgeball tournament raised more than £1,500 for youth mental health charity, Seb's Foundation; and the Murray raised £17,000 for the Alzheimer's Society by pitting the boys against teachers and a local team in a charity football tournament. Over at the Picton, £20,000 was raised to help Great Ormond Street Hospital perform transformational surgery for children with cerebral palsy when six pupils were sponsored to walk the full 63.7km from the hospital back to Wellington, where a celebratory fundraising event was waiting for them.





Inclusion

This was the second year in which 34 students volunteered to be Inclusion Ambassadors, drivers of an inclusive culture throughout Wellington. They were challenged to inform and support students on crucial topics such as racism, neurodiversity and gender equity. Our EDI student committee has been working with a professional collective of diversity and inclusion experts to consider and amplify student voices on intersectional issues.

Highlights of our Visiting Speakers programme include a social justice session led by acclaimed slam poet Harry Baker, offering fresh perspectives on gender, stereotypes, and identity. We also enjoyed a Women’s Sport panel, delivered by OWs sharing what it takes to become an elite athlete.

The return of the Big Gold Box provided pupils with immersive experiences to deepen their understanding of people and places, promoting empathy and intercultural understanding through transformational conversations. We connected with South Africa, Rwanda, Barbados and the USA amongst others, discussing EDI themes as well as climate change, displacement, genocide and understanding through storytelling.

The Random Acts of Kindness week in February saw a flurry of kind thoughts and actions delivered across the College, and the launch of a thought-provoking Inclusive Art Competition at Eagle House saw our pupils connecting with our wider community.

Sustainability

Eight Fifth Form and Lower Sixth pupils have earned a certification in carbon literacy as part of a partnership programme with the Carbon Literacy Trust, based on their individual projects to reduce climate-related behaviours and a group project to establish a mock COP conference for young people. We also headed to the real COP 28, the UN Climate Change conference and key policy event of the year. Our pupil Sustainability and Climate Ambassador spent two days at the talks in Dubai, including presenting a sustainability manifesto developed by Wellington pupils in conjunction with colleagues at local schools.

Also new this year, our Third Form pupils were able to access a brand-new course on sustainability; and in partnership with schools in Wales, Greece and Poland, we created a joint project called Seeds for the Future, which was runner-up in the Connecting Schools strand of the EU UK Youth Stronger Together programme promoted by the British Council.

The College itself continues to improve on its sustainability credentials, with a professional team developing a long-term decarbonisation strategy for the College estate. The strategy will ensure that planned interventions in our existing buildings and new developments align with a cohesive vision towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions.





Equity of opportunity

Our approach to helping to improve the equity of opportunity for young people includes assisting pupils at state schools to reach their academic potential and to try new things.

Our flagship initiative, the Wheeler Programme, has welcomed its seventh cohort of 24 pupils, who will attend the College regularly for the next five years for an intense programme of supplementary education and skills building, to help them to determine their future. Reaching more widely, the Wellington College Student Alliance delivered events for more than 2,500 pupils from across our network of 28 partner schools. This includes sessions focused on STEM subjects, and a new collaboration with the housebuilder Taylor Wimpey that enabled us to invite 56 students to a special workshop to inspire girls to consider a career in the construction industry. Another new partnership, with the Oakwood Activity Centre, meant that every Year 7 pupil in eight local schools was able to spend a full day at the climbing and high ropes centre with their new form group, engaged in team building and adventure activities to help ease their transition into secondary school.

Teachers from partner schools have also learned with us, through participating in the Wellington College Teaching Alliance events that explore the most pressing challenges in education, such as managing behaviour. Once again, the College has sponsored 2,000 free tickets to enable state schoolteachers to attend the Festival of Education in July, one of the key events of the year for education professionals.

Our grant-making to local schools has expanded this year to include a substantial £100,000 award to fund a project with the potential to transform an aspect of one school's teaching and learning. This is in addition to nine smaller awards of £20,000 or £40,000 each. The Arts Fund, which disburses the revenue from ticket sales to Wellington's wide programme of arts events, has been able to fund 34 schools since September with an average of £1,000 each to augment their music, drama, dance or art provision. The Refugee Fund that we established at Bracknell Council continues to support the most under-resourced pupils in the local area with school uniform, transport, clubs and educational equipment.

The Wellington Community

The Community team provides support to students during and after their time at Wellington. We deliver this support through the Life Beyond Wellington careers programme and 'Welly Connect', our global professional networking site www.wellingtonconnectglobal.com. Currently, 'Welly Connect' has a network of 6000 parents and OWs offering career support and work experience opportunities to our Sixth Form pupils. The Life Beyond Wellington careers and life skills programme provides support, advice, and guidance to pupils from the Third Form, through university, first jobs and beyond.

In recent months we have run networking events for a number of sectors including Law, Finance, Insurance, Politics, Government and International Affairs, The Arts, Media, Marketing, Advertising and Film. Furthermore, our annual Entrepreneurs' Exchange, hosted by Wellington teacher Olly Rigby (Pn 99) and Hugo Tilmouth (R13, OW Industry Leader) provided a fantastic opportunity for not only networking but some pitches from attendees as well as current pupils! We have also hosted two hugely popular Careers Speed Networking sessions at College for all year groups. Both sessions had 30 parent and OW volunteers in attendance representing a range of industries with over 100 pupils attending. We have been overwhelmed with the support from parents and OWs who were willing to share their experiences and advice with our pupils.

In September we held our fifth annual Giving Week, raising funds for our Prince Albert Foundation Scholarship Programme, our flagship initiative to widen access to the amazing opportunity that a Wellington education provides. Thanks to the incredible efforts and support from the parent body during this week we were able to offer 16 more young people a sixth form Prince Albert Foundation Scholarship, which is truly remarkable. Not only was the amount raised astonishing, but the participation levels were incredible. A truly wonderful endorsement of your belief in, and support for, the programme.

Thank you for your continued support.









The Bridge

In the first few months of its embryonic growth, The Bridge has already brought the Great Teaching Toolkit and a close working relationship with Evidence Based Education to the schools in the Wellington family.



Many teachers have found immediate benefit to the refinement of their own teaching practice, working at the cutting edge using the best and most practical evidence-informed tool available in the sector. The National Professional Qualifications (NPQs) have been brought to Wellington by The Bridge in conjunction with The Forest Learning Alliance and Wellington College International. Delivery of some of our current strength in CPD has grown with further increases in Leadership and Coaching. Wellington College China has announced the launch of The Bridge (China) in September 2024, with the Wellingtons in Pune and Bangkok poised to follow suit in due course.

Being at the forefront of the educational conversation is part of The Bridge's remit. Opportunities to speak at or to headline conferences have promoted The Bridge as a thought-leader and connector. Providing a clarifying route through misinformation and misrepresentation is a priority, exemplified by bringing the world-famous Dr Jim Knight to the UK for an Instructional Coaching Summit.

Development of the first educational research initiative is underway with a study of possibilities for teacher workload reduction using AI, in conjunction with our partner schools locally. This has the potential to help large parts of the Education sector with an increasingly worrying workload, wellbeing, recruitment and retention crisis.

The Bridge has also already been pivotal to the successful launch of the inaugural Festivals of Education in Washington DC and at Wellington College International School, Bangkok, as well as in supporting the China Festival of Education at Wellington College International Shanghai, and the original Festival at Wellington College in Crowthorne.

The Bridge welcomes Jaime Barrett, Office Manager and Karen Taylor, Head of Educational Research, who will together form the launch team in the autumn of 2024 alongside Iain Henderson, Director of The Bridge. The next stage of the evolution of The Bridge will be the conversion of existing offices in the middle of College into state-of-the-art training, recording, collaboration and communications spaces, which will hopefully be ready during autumn 2025.

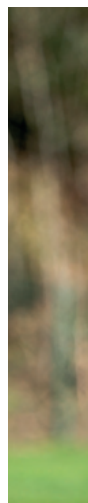
Wellington College Prep

What a busy and fun year we have had at Eagle House. Ed Venables (previously Director of Admissions at Wellington College) joined as Head in September. He has loved getting to know the pupils, be it by wandering around the classrooms, having lunch with small groups or by inviting tutor groups to his office. He has discovered that getting Year 1 pupils engaged in exciting conversation is a lot easier than calming them down afterwards!

Over the course of this year a new strategy has been written (with substantial guidance from Sir Chris Tickell, Chair of the Eagle House Committee) and approved by Governors. This revolves around a wholly proactive approach to pastoral care, academic curiosity (including digital learning and AI), growing numbers – especially in Years 7 and 8 – and developing the school site. Every day we work more closely with Wellington and exciting plans lie ahead on this front too.

The most significant change to the school this year has been the trial opening of 'Wellbeing Hubs' in the junior and upper school. These have enabled our brilliant pastoral staff to provide very early-stage interventions for children who aren't feeling fully happy at any stage. This has changed the school in such a positive way, and we are now starting to seek planning permission for a purpose-built building to house a permanent well-being space.

On the sporting front, it has been a year to match Wellington's success! The Eagle House U13 boys' 1st XI football team won the national IAPS championships beating many strong teams along the way. This was a phenomenal achievement and testament to top teamwork. Additionally, our U11 girls' hockey team came third in their national IAPS tournament. There were many other successes across all year groups and all sports, including strong individual performances on the national stage from sports as diverse as showjumping and skiing.





“Every day we work more closely with Wellington and exciting plans lie ahead on this front too.”

Drama at Eagle House has continued to be fantastic. We have had nativity plays, a Year 6 Aladdin, a Year 5 Wind in the Willows and The Addams Family from Years 7 and 8. Music is also of the highest quality, and we have loved many informal concerts as well as our usual instrumental and singing competitions.

Other highlights of the year have included Make a Difference day (where the whole school tried new experiences ranging from holding a snake to eating crickets!), a hugely successful Literature Festival, World Book Day, Golden Eagle trips, watching Wellington CCF working with our Year 4 pupils and seeing the Early Years children visiting the Secret Garden.

In July we say goodbye to a wonderful group of Year 8 girls and boys (and a few Year 6 children) and we know that they will represent Eagle House brilliantly at their future schools – we wish them the best of luck.

Eagle House School was formally renamed Wellington College Prep in September 2024.



Wellington College International

Wellington College International shares the purpose of Wellington College, UK to pioneer in education to serve and help shape a better world. WCI is committed to building a network of schools where each additional school increases the possibilities and potential for all our partners, staff, parents, and students.

The Wellington College Education family now educates globally over 7,800 students across eight premium quality co-educational campuses. In the summer of 2023, we saw the resumption of the Wellington College Family Summer School with 176 Year 8 students from across our family of schools visiting the College for two weeks and enjoying an action-packed daily schedule that blended academic learning with teambuilding activities and cultural exploration. WCI has continued in the last 12 months to facilitate collaboration through student and teacher exchange programmes, teacher secondments, joint projects and competitions, and knowledge and expertise sharing opportunities across the group's network. In July 2024 we hold our inaugural Wellington College Education conference with all Partners and Masters attending from around the globe as we move to be truly 'network positive'.

In September 2023 we were proud to open, with our regional partners, the first Wellington College International school in India on a beautiful riverside campus designed to educate 800 students in Pune, Maharashtra. This year we also announced the addition, in September 2024, of Wellington College International Jakarta to the group which will initially serve 400 Reception to Year 4 students in a prestigious new development in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Internationally, all our schools continue to work with their local communities and join regional education networks to support teaching quality, alongside education debate and advancement across their regions while simultaneously building greater cultural dialogue, respect and understanding within all our schools.

I hope you enjoy, as I have done, to read here how Wellingtonians across our schools have contributed to the Wellington purpose to serve and help shape a better world. They are supported and educated to do so by an outstanding international cohort of Wellington academic and support staff of whom we are very proud.

Scott Bryan, WCI Managing Director





Summer School

In July, Wellington College UK welcomed nearly two hundred Year 8 students and staff from our International schools for two weeks of fun packed activities and excursions. Based in the Talbot, Beresford, Anglesey and Apsley the Wellington Family Summer School incorporates lessons taught by TWC staff and gives our International students a feel of what it is like to be based in the UK and board at Wellington College. As well as visiting Oxford, London and Bath the students had the chance to experience the low ropes course, indoor climbing wall, a rafting challenge at nearby Horseshoe Lake and experience the unique sport of 'Real tennis'.

David Wilson, International Academic Director said, "It was great to see so many young people from Wellington Colleges around the world get to meet each other, share experiences and make new friends". Students travelled from Shanghai, Tianjin, Nantong, Hangzhou and Bangkok to be here. It is hoped that next year we will also have representatives from Pune in India.

International Exchanges

In October, Year 10 students Rupert (Pn) and Izzy (C) flew to Bangkok to be hosted by Thai families and be immersed in Wellington College International Bangkok for two weeks. The planning started in Year 9 when they put themselves forward for a student exchange and were paired with exchange students from Wellington Bangkok. Rupert and Izzy had begun getting to know Chevan and Gaemyui firstly by email and then by online Teams calls for a few months. Their parents were also connected and were invited to some of the online calls but October was the first time they had met in person.

The return visit was held in May and the UK families were keen to give them a warm welcome.

UK students shared their experiences of the exchange on DukeBox radio on Jetstream episode #10.



Internships in Pune

Jess Stephen (OW) and Harman Sangha (OW) decided that after finishing their exams they were set on taking a gap year. Having applied for an internship at Wellington Pune in September they jetted off to India to be the first OWs to visit the newly opened school. Wellington College International Pune had opened in August 2023 with a small number of students and teachers from all over the world. In the six months they were there, Jess and Harman were able to have a huge impact helping both in the Junior School and on the sports field and providing a tangible link back to Wellington College in the UK.

Anouschka Hartley (OW) and Finn Walder (OW) travelled to Pune in the second half of the year to replace them. Anouschka had been working temporarily to raise some money for travelling in her gap year and Finn had already been travelling in Australia. Both also had the opportunity to visit Wellington Jakarta as

ambassadors for the College at the launch ceremony. Wellington College International Jakarta is due to open in September 2024 and we hope will provide the opportunity for more OWs to be part of the Internship programme. Jess and Harman shared their experiences of 'OW Interns in Pune' on DukeBox radio on Jetstream episode #6.

David Wilson, Academic Director, International Partnership Programmes



Pune

Wellington College International Pune (WCI Pune) opened in September 2023 and has enjoyed an outstanding foundational year. Our exceptional facilities for teaching and learning have been enhanced, as the year has passed, by the introduction of new facilities, such as our world class FINA approved indoor swimming pool and outstanding all-weather football field.

The founding pupils, from Pre-Nursery to Year 9 in the opening year, have blossomed under the tutelage of remarkable practitioners and it has been wonderful to behold the academic progression in 2023-2024. This is perhaps best exemplified by the willingness of our staff to host academic events such as the Literary Festival in April 2024 and the Science Week in May – both were resounding successes and enjoyed by pupils and parents alike. As WCI Pune introduces its first Year 10, IGCSE, cohort in August 2024 and then the IB Diploma Programme in the following year, there are clearly very exciting academic times ahead. We hope to achieve COBIS accreditation early in our second operational year too.

Of course, establishing and embedding the cultural values in any new school is so important, especially one with such a rich Wellington heritage and global partnership, and WCI Pune has focused intently on this throughout the

opening year. All members of the community have embraced this facet of school life, typified in aspects such as the evolving spirit and involvement of our Friends of Wellington parental organisation and even the bustling atmosphere of our very own V & A Café.

A core component of a holistic Wellington education must involve the CCA and sporting programme, and it has been a most successful year in this regard in Pune. A vibrant co-curricular schedule has been established across the year groups tailored for the 40 degree temperature in the summer term! Competitive sporting fixtures have been created with fellow international schools in Pune in sports such as tennis, football and swimming. Similarly, the performing arts have featured strongly in school life, with dance, drama and music all having real opportunities to shine (not least in our Music / Arts & Dance Festival (MAD) in Term 2). The outstanding school auditorium, inaugurated in Term 3, will prove to be a splendid stage for outstanding individual and school performances in 2024-2025.

2023- 2024 has been an academic year showing real promise and potential in Pune.

“Establishing and embedding the cultural values in any new school is so important, especially one with such a rich Wellington heritage and global partnership, and WCI Pune has focused intently on this throughout the opening year.

China

It was an exceptional year group-wide for Wellington College China. Graduates from our Tianjin and Shanghai schools recieved offers from excellent universities such as Cambridge, Oxford, Imperial College London, University College London, University of Toronto and New York University. These offers are a resounding testament to the power of holistic education, the hard work of our pupils and the dedication of our higher education teams.

Four Wellington Shanghai pupils placed third in the global finals of this year's Diamond Business Challenge. Organised by the University of Delaware, the competition sees budding entrepreneurs developing and pitching a business idea for funding or further support of their higher education aspirations. This was the first year that a team from China placed in the top three.

Just in time for its fifth anniversary, Wellington Hangzhou celebrated its first cohort of graduating pupils as well. The school's future graduates also made a tremendous showing,

earning A* and A grades on their IGCSEs. One pupil even achieved the highest IGCSE science score in China.

Huili Shanghai pupils achieved remarkable IGCSE results this year too, with 75% of the school's first grade 10 cohort earning 75% A/A*. Pupils also received high honours for their ongoing charity initiatives like the Loutang project and the Huili Education Farm.

At Huili Nantong, the newest addition to the Wellington College China family, pupils shone brightly at this year's National Economic Challenge, the Australian Mathematics Competition and the national-level Super Dancer competition. One pupil even represented Huili in the US and won two national robotics awards.





Bangkok

It has been another exciting year at Wellington Bangkok. There has been so much going on in all areas of the school – whatever the age and stage.

In our beautiful new state-of-the-art Skylight building the Senior School has continued to thrive. We have opened the final floors now and with them comes a suite of new Science labs, five Art and Design rooms and numerous new classrooms, libraries, Harkness rooms and relaxation areas. This building is the envy of all – and it will soon be joined by the new Crowthorne Building. Work has already started to be completed for its grand opening in August 2025.

Our Year 11 students are the first cohort to take their IGCSEs at Wellington. They are pioneers in so many ways and we know they will make us very proud. Furthermore, in August these students and new starters will form the very first Sixth Form here. They will be supported by a fantastic, inspiring teaching team to become Wellington Bangkok's first graduates.

Elsewhere in school our teams across all sports including football, basketball, swimming, golf have had huge successes. We've challenged strong school teams across Bangkok and Asia and our teams will go forward with confidence to be even better next year.

The summer term has seen the production of Dragon Days in Junior School and Little Shop of Horrors in Senior School involving talented student actors, singers, musicians, and technicians from across the school cohort. We've also hosted Scholars Musical Recitals and heard from passionate performers in all disciplines.

It has been a fantastic year.



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Realise
your **potential**