

LENT 2022

Wellington

today



WELLINGTON
COLLEGE





CONTENTS

- 04 From the Editor**
A termly overview.
- 06 Oxbridge Success**
Wellington students are offered places by Oxford and Cambridge Universities.
- 07 The 16th Annual Wellington Heads of College Conference**
The conference brought together a diverse collection of student leaders to celebrate and discuss leadership.
- 08 Naomi and Olly Launch National Chemistry Competition**
Two young chemists devise a competition to help young scientists from around the UK.
- 09 Georgiana and Cindy represent Berkshire at COP26**
"Their contributions to the sustainability programme have always been outstanding."
- 10 Oxford Organ Scholar**
Benedict has been awarded an organ scholarship to Worcester College, Oxford.
- Pulling Out All the Stops!**
Yejoon has been awarded Associateship of the Royal College of Organists.
- 11 Locky Completes the London Marathon**
Locky raised an incredible £2,112 for the charity Autistica.
- 12 Wellington College Afghan Allies Appeal**
The Wellington College Community came together to help those affected by the unprecedented humanitarian crisis.
- 14 Remembrance Week**
Pupils reflect upon the sacrifice of Old Wellingtonians.
- 16 It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas**
"The judges loved her depiction of a snowy Chapel scene..."
- 17 The Cerebral Palsy Trust Charity Dinner at Twickenham Stadium**
A star-studded charity dinner to support the Cerebral Palsy Trust.
- 18 Sport Round-up**
Sporting highlights of the term.
- 20 Success for Annabella**
Annabella has been crowned the leading young dressage rider in the world.
- 21 Ismey Makes a Splash**
Ismey has been selected for the England Under 16 Water Polo squad.
- International Honours for Amelia**
Amelia has just won Bronze with the GB Junior TeamGym team at the recent European Championships in Guimaraes, Portugal.
- 22 Wellington vs Sedbergh**
"A simply stunning game of rugby."
- 24 House Dance 2021**
House Dance is an opportunity for every student to get involved in dance.
- 25 Arts Festival 2021**
The very best of Wellington College Arts.
- 28 The Dance Show: Against the Grain**
With over 20 dance routines, this year's Dance Show, showcased an eclectic mix of talent across multiple dance styles.
- 29 Rutter's Requiem Comes to Crowthorne**
A full-scale concert hall, with a choir of 150, a 50-strong orchestra and an audience keen to enjoy a fantastic evening of music.
- 30 Pride and Prejudice**
A fine production, and one perfectly fitted to mark the return of live theatre.
- 32 Junior Concert**
This term's Junior Concert showcased the skill and dedication of the lower school musicians.
- 33 A Celebration of Music**
Performances by Camerata, Chamber Choir, the Wellingtons and Symphony Orchestra.
- 34 End of Term Concert**
A true mix of musical styles with something for everyone.
- 35 Winter Fair**
Thursday 2 December saw Princes' Quad transformed into a Wonderland.
- Chapel Choir at Carlton Club**
The Chapel Choir were back, singing five carol services over the Christmas period!
- 36 Fireside Talks**
Another series of brilliant speakers, with excellent attendance both in Great School and online.
- 37 Migrants: Chancers or Victims?**
A Fireside Talk exploring the issues and disinformation that surrounds this current hot topic.
- 38 Summer School Day at Wellington**
Wellington delivered catch-up summer schools for local secondary schools.
- 39 Giving Week 2021**
Thanks to all of you, we are now able to offer 11 more young people a Prince Albert Scholarship.
- 40 Our Children's Schools Fund**
A new donation scheme run by College supporting other schools.
- 42 Golf in the Community**
Introducing young pupils to the beautiful game of golf.
- 44 The Wellington Community**
Inspiring and supporting College pupils as well as being part of a wonderful social and professional network.
- 46 Wellington College International to Open in India**
Wellington has partnered with Unison Group to deliver its first international school in Pune, India.





“Wellington is not just a place where we learn - but a community where all pupils give freely to each other.”

A Message From the Editor

'No – don't stop the carnival: you'll never find a better way to sing and dance and play!' It was hard not to think of Alan Price's legendary lyrics as the sun gently set on the College Carnival, the annual celebration of all things co-curricular at Wellington that kicks off each new school year with such vibrant intensity. It felt extra special this September, marking as it did the return to nearly normal school, with the stringent restrictions imposed by Covid a thing of the past. Wellington was fully open again with year and house groups mixing and a full programme of music and art, of drama and dance, of sports and service, all adding to the always excellent academic offering.

It proved a term of many highlights: new student-led societies sprang up; House Dance back in all its glory; Remembrance Week marked with heart-felt solemnity; inter-school matches for one and all; plays and shows, Christmas fairs and carols. For both the Third and Fourth Form it was their first taste of Welly 'proper', for the older year groups a wonderful reminder of what this school is all about. At the start of term the Master urged the whole community to get back to basics and to reconnect: by the final assembly he was able to look back on a term where all that and more had happened. Wellington is not just a place where we learn – but a community where all pupils give freely to each other: it is, as he said, *“An incredible school, a school full of busyness, a school with a purpose.”*



Oxbridge Success

For the twenty Wellington College students who have just been offered places by Oxford and Cambridge Universities, 2022 has certainly dawned brightly.

These offers, due reward for the excellence of their academic studies, are the culmination of many years of hard work – and point to the resilience and mental agility of this cohort who have had to navigate the unfamiliar waters of disrupted schooling and online learning.

As befits a truly coeducational school the places were shared equally, with ten girls and ten boys now looking forward to an Oxbridge future. Strong Oxbridge success will always be a hallmark of a serious academic establishment, so it is equally pleasing that Wellington has achieved more places this year than last, bucking the national trend of declining offers in the independent sector.

This talented group of Wellingtonians represent thirteen out of our seventeen houses and will be studying a variety of subjects including Biology, Physics, Earth Sciences, Psychological and Behavioural Sciences, English, Classics, Modern Languages, History, PPE, Music, Philosophy, Geography and Arabic & Middle Eastern Studies. Many congratulations to Benedict K (U6, Bn) who has been awarded an organ scholarship to Worcester College, Oxford.

Deputy Head (Academic), Ben Evans, had this to say:

“Congratulations to the students who have gained offers to go on and study at Oxford and Cambridge; they have all shown genuine resilience, determination and academic excellence over their time at the College and thoroughly deserve their success.”

James Dahl, Master of Wellington College said:

“I’m extremely proud of all who applied to Oxbridge this year. A huge congratulations to the twenty Wellingtonians with offers – eleven to Oxford University and nine to Cambridge University. It’s wonderful to see our numbers rising year-on-year. On top of that fantastic achievement, congratulations are also in order for the two pupils who have gained early offers for places at Yale and Harvard. Well done everybody.”

The 16th Annual Wellington Heads of College Conference

“Character is a muscle that allows you to put your values into practice.”

Dr Ed Brooks, Executive Director of the Oxford Character Project

The 16th annual Wellington Heads of College Conference brought together a diverse collection of student leaders to celebrate and discuss leadership, with over 110 head girls and head boys joining from all over the UK including two students from Paris. This year's theme, “Unleashing Leadership”, emphasised the importance of sharing the leadership vision of an institution to ensure it can positively impact a wider community.

Fuelled by an abundance of coffee and snacks, our bright young people came together to share their ideas and aspirations for successful leadership of a school from a pupil perspective. There was a host of talks from external speakers, including Dr Ed Brooks, and various breakout

sessions where Heads of College got to meet their counterparts and learn from each other.

“It was an extremely fun event and a chance to meet conscientious, forward-thinking people. At the breakout sessions we talked about leadership, along with our hopes and dreams.”

We were so lucky that we had total freedom over what we wanted the day to look like. It was great that the school gave us the reins, but we are so grateful for Mrs Woolhouse for doing all the behind the scenes logistics and Mrs Bidston for her help throughout the process on the design for the themes of the day. It was a pleasure to host.”

Alice T (U6, C) and Freddie C (U6, T), Wellington College Heads of College





Naomi and Olly

LAUNCH NATIONAL CHEMISTRY COMPETITION

Naomi T (U6, Hg) and Olly T (U6, S) are two young chemists so passionate about their subject that they have spent their spare time devising a competition which, not only enriches the current academic offering, but will help young scientists from around the UK apply their knowledge to real world problems, making a tangible difference.

Naomi, who is currently studying for her A Levels and hopes to go on to read Chemistry at Oxford University or Imperial College London, struggled to find any competitions that were allowing students to apply their chemical knowledge to relevant, real-life, problems. Frustrated by this, Naomi and Olly, who also hopes to study Chemistry at Oxford, put their heads together and with the help of their teachers, the Royal Society of Chemistry Thames Valley Local Section, and the University of Leicester, devised a new competition that will challenge young scientists and give them the opportunity to help change the world.

The Wellington College Competition for Chemistry, run in partnership with the Royal Society of Chemistry Thames Valley Local Section and University of Leicester, called all Year 11 and 12 pupils aged between 15 and 17 to consider how chemistry is helping our world.

Students were asked to submit a 2,000-word essay tackling either *How has chemistry helped the way in which we have combatted the Covid-19 pandemic?* or *What is chemistry's most significant role in fighting climate change?* The winner will be given the coveted opportunity to undergo a work experience placement in a lab at the University of Leicester.

Underpinning everything we do at Wellington College is our desire to create a pioneering education that will allow our young people to serve and help shape a better world. In the creation of this competition, Naomi and Olly have embodied this aspiration, and we hope that their innovative idea will not only benefit their peers, but also have a far-reaching and long-term effect.

Underpinning everything we do at Wellington College is our desire to create a pioneering education that will allow our young people to serve and help shape a better world.

GEORGIANA & CINDY REPRESENT BERKSHIRE AT COP26



The implications of the decisions made at the recent COP26 conference in Glasgow will reverberate for years, and possibly centuries, to come. We are extremely proud that two Wellington pupils were part of that momentous occasion. Just before October half term, lower sixth students, Georgiana N and Cindy G (both O) were selected from over 200 applicants to form part of a team representing the UK Schools Sustainability Network (UKSSN).

Out of all the applicants at national level, 40 pupils were selected to form a team representing the UKSSN. Within that group, 20 were selected to create a youth delegation who travelled to Glasgow to participate and attend a series of events.

Georgiana and Cindy are vibrant members of the Wellington College sustainability programme. Their ideas and concepts about climate change have always been exceptional and this has been reflected in their successful applications with UKSSN to represent the Berkshire constituency. Georgiana was selected to be part of the youth delegation travelling to Glasgow.

Ana Romero, Head of Sustainability at Wellington College said:

"Georgiana and Cindy have been great students. Their contributions to the sustainability programme have always been outstanding, and they earned the title of sustainability ambassadors. They worked very hard in their application

to UKSSN, trying to achieve a place in one of the world's most crucial high-level conferences, and I believe this is an outstanding achievement, not only for the courage to apply but also for the significant commitment they are adopting before, during and after attending COP26."

Since their return they have been busy with numerous post-conference commitments. These include sharing their remarkable achievements by:

- Contributing to a UKSSN newsletter
- Taking part in post-COP discussions with other UKSSN students and staff
- Taking part in interviews with each other about COP26 to feature on the UKSSN website/socials etc.
- Taking part in a video report about school sustainability and highlights of COP26 for KS2-3 students
- Creating a general UKSSN poster for upcoming regional and national network events
- Creating artwork/images of the successful MP postcards from COP to raise awareness of the demands

Some of the students will also be hosting a UKSSN zoom meeting with the journalist and Guardian newspaper columnist, George Monbiot.

We look forward to learning more about their trip and the future of sustainability at Wellington.





Oxford Organ Scholar

Many congratulations to Benedict K (U6, Bn) who has been awarded an organ scholarship to Worcester College, Oxford. Benedict began learning the viola when he was only four, and two years later joined the St Paul's Cathedral choir, where he also began piano lessons. On joining Wellington as a music scholar in 2018, Benedict started playing the organ, and it's more than fair to say that he is regarded by many as the face of Wellington music, such is his influence and versatility. An integral part of the a capella group, the Wellingtons, which he joined in the Fourth Form, Ben also plays in the Orchestra, performs in a variety of small groups and ensembles, and has now started to play the hymns during Chapel services; he's even composed a piece inspired by the Battle of Waterloo and more recently performed the Gershwin Piano Concerto, accompanied by a full orchestra.

When he starts at Oxford Benedict will play a significant role in the choral life of Worcester College, singing, taking rehearsals, conducting, and playing as well as studying music. After university Benedict hopes to either become a full-time composer or to be a cathedral Director of Music.

Pulling Out All the Stops!

Not that many teenagers play the organ, and even fewer play it to a professional level, but new Wellington pupil, Yejoon P (L6, Hg) has just been awarded Associateship of the Royal College of Organists (ARCO).

Yejoon only began playing the organ in January 2019, but her accomplished musicianship has already seen her win prestigious competitions like the Sawyer, Durrant and Lord St Audries prizes, the latter awarded to the candidate with the highest marks in the practical exam. She is a member of the Royal Academy of Music (Junior Department), and pays tribute to her teachers there, Anne Marsden Thomas and Frederick Stocken, who she says have been particularly influential in her burgeoning career.

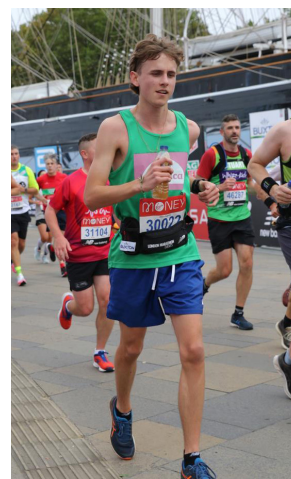
Yejoon, who joined Wellington in the Lower Sixth, is studying for the IB Diploma, majoring in Maths and the Sciences, but says that as well as having high academic ambitions, she hopes that in the future the organ will continue to play a central role in her life, and is already considering a professional career.

For now though, she is looking forward to all the opportunities that Wellington College has to offer, and in particular the chance to play regularly in the school Chapel, accompany rehearsals, and gain mentorship from the three College organists on the staff (all of whom are Fellows of the Royal College of Organists). We are all certainly looking forward to that and feel sure that she will make a magnificent contribution to the musical life of the school. As George de Voil (Assistant Director of Music, Chapel & Choral), commented:

"We are just thrilled to have an organist of Yejoon's calibre joining the excellent team of pupil organists at the College. She has a very bright future ahead!"



Locky Completes THE LONDON MARATHON



“My younger brother has ASD, so I understand how much of a difference their work can make in people’s lives.”

Those who have completed or even attempted to run a marathon will understand the sheer willpower needed to get you to the finish line. Some may think that a marathon is a 26 miles and 385 yards run, but really it's months of dedicated training.

Most runners of a marathon will have a strict training plan to ensure they are at their peak for race day, so imagine having to wait 889 days to put all that training into practice. Locky A (U6, S), did just that. After a cancelled event and postponement, 3 October would be the day Locky was given the chance to join 40,000 other runners in the capital to take part in the 2021 London Marathon.

The opportunity was well worth the wait as Locky crossed the finish line in a time of 4 hours, 44 minutes and 54 seconds. In doing so he raised £2,112 for Autistica a charity that invests in research into autism spectrum disorder and related issues. As well as being Stanley's house charity, Locky said, “My younger brother has ASD, so I understand how much of a difference their work can make in people’s lives.”

When asked about the experience, Locky said, “The atmosphere was amazing. There were people cheering on the side of the road for almost the entire race and a few of my friends and family came along to support as well.”

WELLINGTON COLLEGE AFGHAN ALLIES APPEAL

An unprecedented humanitarian crisis has unfolded in Afghanistan and in the aftermath of hurried evacuations, tens of thousands of Afghan families face a new life, forced to leave with nothing but the clothes on their back.



After being approached by a Wellingtonian family with a charitable relationship with the UK Special Forces, the Wellington College Community came together to donate, volunteer and create care packages providing clothing and starter kits full of everyday essentials.

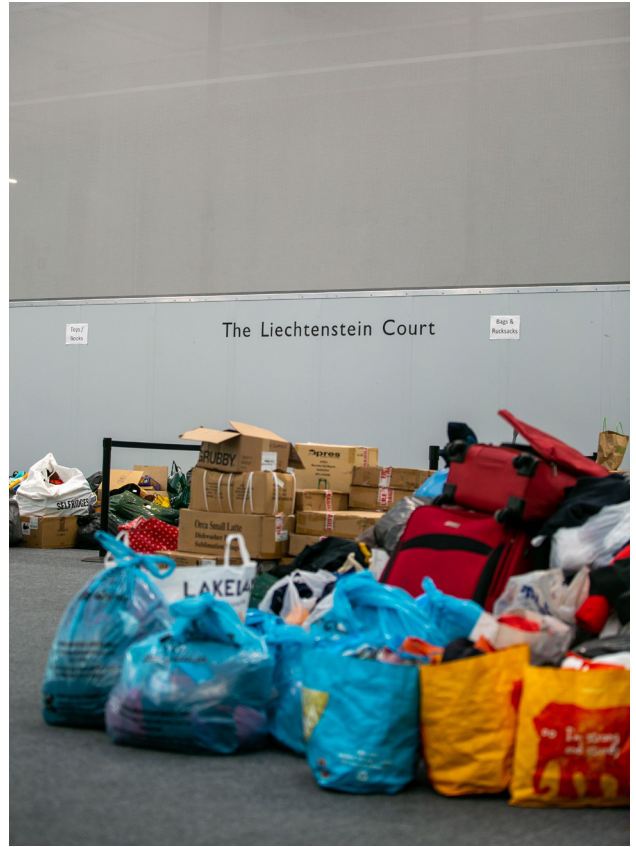
The Wellington Community filled the Robin Dyer Centre with a variety of items including clothes, food, electrical equipment and bedding to be placed into Welcome Care Packages.

Our staff, parents and pupils joined forces to create a staggering 1,250 packages, which have now been distributed to Afghan refugees starting their new lives in the UK. This means almost a quarter of the 5,000 Afghan refugee families now in the UK have received help from Wellington College, itself a school originally founded to care for those affected by war.

James Dahl, Master, said:

"Through the Afghan Allies Appeal, Wellington College is trying to do its utmost to help those most in need. An important part of a Wellington College education is a commitment to service and helping others. Over the last seven days, this has been exemplified by the number of donations received and the volunteers that have worked tirelessly to help the Afghan families who have arrived in the UK and who have lost so much. At Wellington, we try to ensure our young people are learning wherever possible that they should serve and help shape a better world."





Remembrance Week



AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN

Remembrance Week once again proved a poignant and fitting week-long memorial to the fallen. Candlelit readings in Great School; the presentation of wreaths and the two minute silence on the 11th; a drumhead service for the CCF on the Wednesday; Sunday services and the Act of Remembrance in Front Quad all combined to give an air of great solemnity.

Much gratitude goes to the CCF, responsible for delivering the military face of Remembrance and keeping the heritage and lineage of Wellington College. This came in the form of the Colour Party carrying the standards for the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force, while the Drum Corps and Bugle Platoon provided fitting accompaniments.

The College Chaplain, Father Adrian had this to say: *"This was my first time marking Remembrance in the full Wellington way. I was deeply impressed by our community and the dignified way in which it conducted the various events that took place. It is especially fitting, given our foundation, that our College gathers to remember those killed or wounded in conflict, while always looking to the next generation to serve others in the hope of building a world of peace."*



It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas



“The judges loved her depiction
of a snowy Chapel scene...”

Helen C (4, Hn) has been painting, drawing and sculpting for as long as she can remember, taking every opportunity to be creative and using whatever comes to hand – her snow sculptures from last winter's lockdown are a case in point. So, when she heard about the annual College Christmas Card Competition it came as no surprise to see her reaching for her paints. The judges loved her depiction of a snowy Chapel scene and had no hesitation in selecting it as this season's card, especially when they discovered

it had had to be redone after one of Helen's friends unfortunately ruined her first attempt with a carelessly spilt cup of cocoa!

Helen, who joined Wellington in 2020 as a music scholar – she is a Grade 8 violinist and an equally talented singer, as well as being an accomplished fencer – hopes that one day she will become an architect. Judging by her card it's not hard to see her realising that ambition.



The Cerebral Palsy Trust

CHARITY DINNER AT TWICKENHAM STADIUM

To say that the CPT event at Twickenham was the 'best night of my life' and that David Lofthouse is 'the most inspirational person I have ever met', are two huge understatements. The overwhelming pride and enjoyment I get from being part of this project is hugely special and something I will be able to treasure for the rest of my life.

For those of you who aren't aware, the CPT was set up January 2019 to fund a life-changing surgery for a child; reducing spasticity and increasing mobility for a child with cerebral palsy. Our inspiration and one of the founding fathers of the CPT is David Lofthouse, who for many including myself, as highlighted above, is the most inspirational person that they have ever met. Born with cerebral palsy spastic diplegia, David was lucky enough to have selective dorsal rhizotomy at the age of four. This changed his life hugely for the better and is the reason he's able to prove the doctors who said he would never be able to walk and talk, wrong.

Two years later, we have raised over £200,000. David has completed the Kingsley's in just under 10 hours, and we hosted a charity event at Twickenham Stadium on the night of November 18. This evening included a celebrity panel with the likes of James Haskell and Jason Carl Fox ('Foxy') speaking about their stories, the former cast of 'Les Misérables' performing a 15-minute performance and arguably the most special moment when David and Nicolas Hamilton shared their stories of living with CP. Due to the generous support of those who attended and gave auction items, we were lucky enough to raise a staggering £104,133 from this evening alone. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity for both me and the boys, and an evening where our dreams really did come true.

As the end of chapter one begins to close on the story of the CPT, we welcome the opportunity to hopefully be able to change at least seven lives. The funds we have raised

are all going to fund surgeries at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital. This will be the beginning of a new chapter, where we hope to become a nationwide charity able to help the 30,000 children in the UK with CP at the moment, sharing their stories and giving support to those who desperately need it.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of myself and the CPT to thank all of you. No matter how big or small the support you have given us, know that you have helped change a child's life for the better.

As this term begins to close, the story of the CPT continues ever more, with our next big event already in the works to be something truly special.

- Written by Jasper K (5, Pn)



SPORT ROUND-UP

This term saw the return of full-scale inter-school competitive sport. 18 different sports have allowed 70 Wellington teams to play in 359 fixtures or events, recording nearly 200 victories. To put that into perspective, the whole of last year only saw just over 100 matches, but more important than that it has been so pleasing to see the smiling faces of pupils able to engage and enjoy their sport in full once again.

Team highlights have been the rugby fixtures against Sedbergh at Broadstreet RFC, often regarded as the pinnacle of the English schools' rugby year; such is the quality of rugby on display. Staying with rugby, congratulations to the Junior Colts A team victorious at the Langley Festival, and progressing well through the early rounds of the National Cup, whilst the 1st XV finished 3rd at the St Joseph's Festival.

It has been a good term on the hockey pitches: congratulations to the Under 14 Girls for securing their place in the nationals having progressed successfully through county and regional tournaments, and to the Under 18s who are still in the national mix: well done too to the Under 15As and Under 14Cs for their unbeaten seasons!

Netball goes from strength to strength: the Under 14s came second in the county tournament, while the Under 16s and Under 18s were both crowned County Champions: all three teams now progress to the regionals.

Lastly, the English Schools Long Range Target Shooting Championships saw 24 Wellingtonians take part, with wins in the Junior Pairs and Fours.

The term has also seen some incredible individual achievements. Congratulations to:

- **Amelia C (3, W) who was part of the GB Junior TeamGym team who placed Bronze at the European Championships**
- **Marina H (L6, A) for winning the Ladies Real Tennis Association Handicap Tournament**
- **Karina V (L6, Hg) for winning the Romanian National U20 Fencing Competition and also collecting three gold medals at Senior, Junior (U20) and Cadet (U17) level**
- **Ismey H (5, Hn), who is part of the U17 England national squad for water polo**
- **Annabella P (L6, W) who was crowned the number one young dressage rider in the world, a truly outstanding achievement**
- **Sophie H (U6, W) and Natasha M (U6, A) for being selected for the GB U19s rifle team**
- **Emily T (3, Ap) and Sebastian T (3, Bn) who have both been nominated for the Team GB Children's Ski Team this season.**

And finally, good luck to all the senior pupils we support as they pursue top US and UK university places for hockey and golf, to our netball franchise players and to those seeking professional rugby contracts.

Whatever the level, this term has been a great advertisement for Wellington's 'Sport for All' programme.



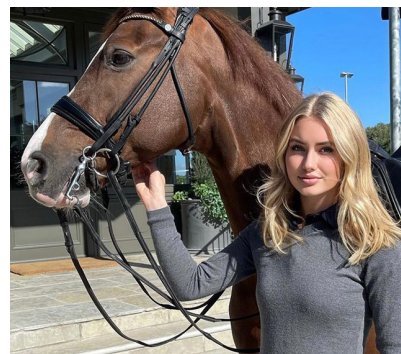


Success FOR ANNABELLA

For Wellington pupil Annabella P (L6,W), 2021 ended in fine style as she was crowned the leading young dressage rider in the world.

Annabella, who has been riding since she was only three, made her international debut in 2017. Aged 12, she gave notice of her talent by scoring a hat-trick of victories at Hickstead CD! She enjoyed a stellar pony career, competing regularly on the international stage, before graduating to the Junior ranks in 2020. More success followed, and Annabella made history by winning two individual silver medals at the 2021 Junior European Dressage Championships in Spain, the first British rider to podium. She followed this up with winning the National Under 21 title and is regarded by shrewd judges in the equestrian world as a future Olympian.

Annabella, who turned 17 before Christmas, trains every day, spending no less than 45 minutes with each of the four horses she is involved with, each session vital in developing the unique connection between horse and rider that is so necessary in what many see as the ultimate team sport. As well as keeping up to date with her IB studies (how does she find the time?!), 2022 promises to be just as exciting, with the European Under 21 Championships firmly on the agenda. Congratulations on all your achievements thus far, Annabella, and all best wishes for the future.



Annabella, who has been riding since she was only three, made her international debut in 2017.

Ismey Makes a Splash

Congratulations to Ismey H (5, Hn) who has been selected for the England Under 16 Water Polo squad. Ismey first took up the sport in Year 6, when she was a pupil at Handcross Park School: a strong swimmer with the Mid Sussex Marlins club, she was invited to join the water polo squad, and soon began to excel as their goalkeeper, a position she says she is ideally suited to owing to her height and stamina. She soon progressed through the ranks, and was selected for the south-east regional team, which she represented at Under 14 and Under 16 level, before successfully attending National Academy trials in Northampton.

Disappointingly the frustrations of Covid put a temporary halt to proceedings in 2020, but when competitive sport resumed, Ismey was soon back in the swim of things, and a 5-day summer camp at Millfield saw her cement her place in the national squad. With the European Championships in March on the horizon, Ismey is training hard: pool work and S&C sessions here at Wellington, and club, regional and national training and fixtures at regular intervals. It's a wonder she finds time to fit in any schoolwork at all, but her discipline and excellent time-management skills are allowing her to make excellent progress in both pool and classroom. We wish her well for the Europeans and are full of hope that one day soon she will make her Olympic dream come true.



International Honours for Amelia

Congratulations to Amelia C (3,W) who has just won Bronze with the GB Junior TeamGym team at the recent European Championships in Guimaraes, Portugal. Amelia first began gymnastics when she was only four, and by the time she was eight regularly spent eight hours a week training at the local Bracknell Gymnastics Club: her training load is now 15 hours a week, so competing at international level is not only testament to her skill but also her commitment.

TeamGym, which involves Floor, Trampoline and Tumbling, places considerable demands on the competitors, requiring strength, stamina and agility from all members of the team. At just 13 years old, Amelia was by far the youngest in the team (it was an Under 17 event) but has already learnt the importance of time management and resilience: during the lockdown periods last year she had to train on her own and submit regular video updates of that training, in order to ensure her selection for the squad.

When asked about her ambitions, Amelia said, "It was a great thrill to podium at the Euros, and I hope we can do even better in Luxembourg next year. I just want to be the best I can be, stay in the team, and who knows, one day I might even get to compete at the Olympics!"



Wellington vs Sedbergh



On 24 November Wellington College and Sedbergh rugby teams met on mutual ground at the Broadstreet Rugby Club in Coventry to play the most prestigious game in schoolboy rugby.

The Wellington Rugby 1st XV played a strong match, with Rory Taylor (L6, HI) levelling the game in the final few minutes to finish on a 32-32 draw. The game was described by nextgenxv.com as *"A simply stunning game of rugby. All over the pitch there were superstars, but in Ayton (U6, HI) and Wright, both sides had a man that anyone would want to follow. A showcase of everything that is good about school rugby."*

The boys' Rugby 2nd XV also did not disappoint with their magnificent performance against Sedbergh resulting in a resounding 32-15 victory. All 21 members of the squad displayed incredible prowess, with the quality of play and sheer determination both exemplary. It was a showcase of teamwork and first-rate decision making.

Every year this game seems to get more and more gloriously dramatic, and we look forward to watching these two outstanding sides play again in 2022.



HOUSE DANCE 2021



House Dance at Wellington College is an opportunity for every student to get involved in dance. This much-loved event last took place in 2019, but it certainly returned in all its glory to the GWA this year.

During the lead-up to the event there had been a buzz around College as the houses worked together across all ages and abilities to create their unique routines. This year's theme was 'Fantasies and Fairy Tales', and from *Aladdin* to *The Lion King*, the chosen songs added to the atmosphere and had the whole theatre wanting to get up and join in.

The energy, skill, emotion, fun and teamwork displayed by every pupil was true testament to the Wellington

Community and a fantastic display of the Wellington spirit. The quality of all the performances was extremely high, so huge congratulations to Talbot and Apsley for being crowned small and big dance winners.

Head of Dance, Ms Kenworthy said: *"I am so incredibly proud of the way the pupils challenged themselves in House Dance this year. They pushed themselves a little out of their comfort zones to produce some fun, inclusive, exciting and really moving work. The winners combined incredible skill, daring acrobatics, spatial design and rhythm with fun and entertainment. A special well done to Apsley and Talbot, our winning houses. It was a wonderful evening of dance."*

Mr Dahl tweeted: *"What. An. Event! After 20 months of dust gathering in the GWA, tonight's House Dance Competition was just superb. Electric atmosphere, incredible performances, & amazing for the @WellingtonUK community to come back together for such a terrific terpsichorean tournament!"*

"...a fantastic display of the Wellington spirit."

Arts Festival 2021



On Monday 18 October the day dawned with the most spectacular red sky, and although this is generally believed to herald bad weather, it felt like the most inspiring start to welcome back the Wellington College Arts Festival to once again brighten up our lives.





“The evening had a wonderful vibe filled with the most uplifting musicality from our young, yet very accomplished performers.”



The live events spanned across all genres of the arts, lining up street dance workshops, acting masterclasses, live drawing and live music performances. It was wonderful to welcome Cambridge art historian and BAFTA-nominated broadcaster Dr James Fox to College, who launched the festival with a fascinating talk on the history of colour, compèred brilliantly by Ned C (U6, Pn). In celebration of this talk and the festival launch the trees outside the GWA were illuminated in red ochre, lapis lazuli and Tyrian purple.

As part of the street dance workshops Josh G (U6, T), Andres B (L6, T) and Ravi C-V (L6, T) taught third form pupils some new dance

moves. The pupils had great fun and learnt some skills from these inspiring and positive role models.

Another highlight was the Old Gym being transformed into a jazz hall for Late Night Tales of Jazz. The evening had a wonderful vibe filled with the most uplifting musicality from our young, yet very accomplished performers. There was a full house, all raising money for the Wellington College Arts Fund. Mr Dahl summed this event up perfectly:

“Tonight @WellingtonUK the Old Gym was turned into Ronnie Scott’s for an evening of Jazz. Standing room only on Day 2 of this year’s ArtsFest. Stunning evening of jazz last night. Well done @WellyArts! @Welly_Music

& all Wellingtonians involved. Thanks also to our amazing parents who helped organise, decorate & provide refreshments of all varieties. We are so blessed to have such a wonderful group of supporters.”

The festival culminated in a showcase concert featuring our Symphony Orchestra playing live for the first time in almost two years. Collaborating with a number of local schools, Wellington College Orchestra and other ensembles performed music from the screen, whether from films, TV or video games. All money raised was in aid of the Wellington College Arts Fund, supporting arts projects in local schools.

The Dance Show:

AGAINST THE GRAIN

With over 20 dance routines by 95 dancers, this year's Dance Show 'Against the Grain', showcased an eclectic mix of talent across multiple dance styles. It took the audience on a visually spectacular roller coaster, with dramatic twists and turns in its tone, musicality and movement.

The Lower Sixth Commercial Group impressed us with some 60s inspired dance moves to the punk classic *Teenage Kicks* by The Undertones, whilst the Senior Dance Company portrayed the impact of the Suffragette movement with a striking ensemble piece, and the Junior Dance Company dramatically closed the show as they performed to The Prodigy's *Fire Starter*.

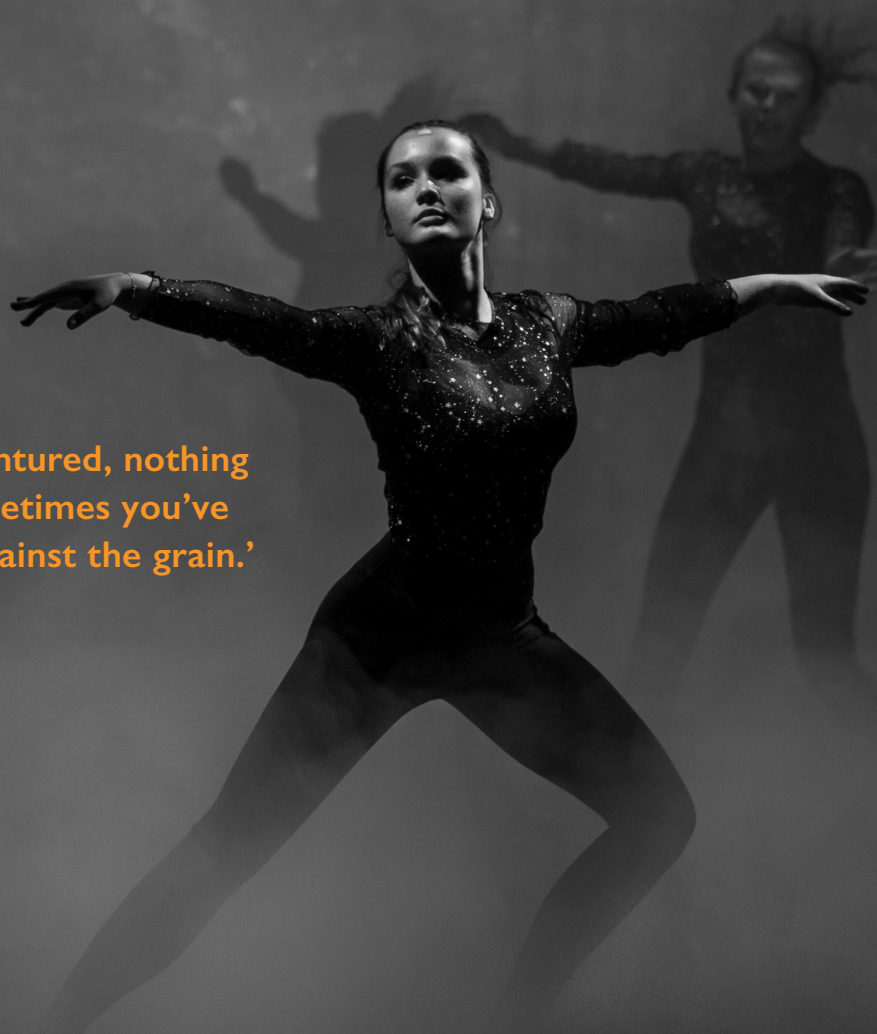
There were some brilliant solo performances. Marina H (L6, A) performed an awe-inspiring solo rendition of choreographer Christopher Bruce's *Ghost Dances*. Her seamless performance brought to life the story of Chilean human rights activist Joan Jara, whose husband, Victor, a

singer, poet and theatre director, was tortured to death during Pinochet's regime. Another powerful solo piece was performed by Alex M (5, Pn), who depicted the story of Malcolm X, immersing the viewer into the activist's fight for equality. David W (4, M) and Sofiya Y (3, T), performed a dramatic and passionate paso doble which captivated the audience. In a demonstration of incredible bravery, Mary C-B (5, C), Maddie C (5, O), Saffron E (4, C) and Mirabelle F (4, Hn) performed beautifully on the bungee. It was extremely impressive to watch them move in such a way and at such height.

All year groups performed an array of different styles, including ballet, contemporary, acro and commercial dance. Each routine was inspired by the expression 'against the grain', which was interpreted in both literal and abstract ways. Not only did this show entertain at a professional standard but also provided a powerful retrospective of some of the most influential activists across history.

'Nothing ventured, nothing gained. Sometimes you've got to go against the grain.'

— Garth Brooks



Rutter's Requiem Comes to Crowthorne

Friday 19 November saw the GWA transformed into a full-scale concert hall, with a choir of 150, a 50-strong orchestra and an audience keen to enjoy once again the best that Wellington music can offer in the annual Crowthorne Choral Society autumn concert.

Founded in 1967 as a means of connecting the College with the local population through the medium of music, the Crowthorne Choral Society continues to thrive, and this first live concert since the start of the pandemic saw them joined by the Wellington Parent Singers and the College Chamber Choir in a glorious celebration of orchestral and choral music.

The programme opened with Malcolm Arnold's *Little Suite*, before the massed choir performed two short Rutter pieces. However, this was merely the prelude to the first half's main event, Gershwin's *Piano Concerto*, featuring soloist Benedict K (U6, Bn). Benedict, recently awarded an organ scholarship at Worcester College, Oxford, displayed true virtuosity in a performance that mixed technical excellence with a smouldering sassiness that evoked the jazz halls of 1920s downtown Manhattan.

The second half saw the Chorus take centre stage with a compelling rendition of Rutter's *Requiem*. The piece features two haunting, yet

daunting solos for cello and soprano, and Yi-Ann Y (5, A) and Alice F (U6, A) were more than a match for these parts with their exquisitely tuned and timed performances.

Many congratulations to soloists, choir and orchestra, and also to Simon Williamson, Director of Music at College, under whose leadership the Choral Society – and indeed all music at Wellington – continues to flourish.



PRIDE & PREJUDICE

“...a fine production, and one
perfectly fitted to mark the
return of live theatre”





It is a truth universally acknowledged that a school in possession of promising actors must be in want of a proper play to allow their talents to flourish – and this year's Upper School production of *Pride and Prejudice* provided the perfect vehicle to do just that.

Characterised throughout by lightness of touch and gentle yet stiletto sharp satire, Jane Austen's novel lays bare the affectations of upper class C18th society, while also chronicling the highs and lows of a love story for all ages. Miss Brayton's effervescent production of the stage adaptation sparkled throughout, from the opening scene with the stage flooded by officers and society belles, to the final moments of tenderness and triumph. Like the novel itself, Wellington's version of *Pride and Prejudice* (and how fascinating to realise that it was published just two years before Waterloo) proceeded at breakneck pace, its many vignettes effortlessly and ingeniously announced by members of the ensemble, chronicling a brilliant portrait of Regency England with all its hopes, fears and absurdities.

Amelie B (U6, Hg) was a superb Mrs Bennet, her 'nerves' not only her husband's (played with supreme understatement by Hal B (U6, Bd)) constant companion but also a rich source of comedy throughout the evening. Lucy S (U6, Hg), Laetitia J (L6, O) and Kitty B (U6, W) portrayed the younger

Bennet sisters with real aplomb, and Charlie H-M's (U6, O) fine performance outlined the stark choices that faced young women in that era. Ravi C-V (L6, T) played the egregiously seductive Mr Wickham with style, and Dylan B (U6, R) was a cringingly accurate Mr Collins, blissfully unaware of his own absurdities. While it may be true that the course of true love never runs entirely smoothly, it was left to Freddie C (U6, T) and Amelia L (L6, W) to provide the chief romantic interest of the evening: while their compelling performances outlined both pride and prejudice, the electricity engendered by their burgeoning relationship was never far from the surface.

This was a fine production, and one perfectly fitted to mark the return of live theatre to the Wellington stage. Congratulations to one and all for three wonderful evenings, and in particular to Miss Brayton, for whom this was a final production, and a fitting conclusion to her outstanding Wellington career.

JUNIOR CONCERT

This term's Junior Concert showcased the skill and dedication of the lower school musicians.

The String Ensemble opened the concert with a powerful rendition of the Game of Thrones theme and the Street Band closed with some jazz and funk numbers. The Fourth Form bands performed several numbers including a beautiful rendition of Ed Sheeran's *The A Team* sung by Miles B (4, S) instrumental scholars showcased technical skill – Helen C (4, Hn) on violin, Stephanie O (3, Ap), piano, Jemima F (3, W) on trumpet and Linda Z (4, Ap), bassoon, all performed solos ranging from Brahms to Bartok. It was good to see so much support for parents and students filling the venue.





“A varied programme with a hint of Christmas music from Camerata and the choral items in the first half with a different theme in the second!”



A CELEBRATION OF MUSIC

It has been so exciting to get back on stage performing and on Friday 10 December in the GWA we did just that with our second large-scale concert of the term: ‘A Celebration of Music’.

The concert included performances by Camerata, Chamber Choir (Third, Fourth & Fifth formers) the Wellingtons and Symphony Orchestra: a varied programme with a hint of Christmas music from Camerata and the choral items in the first half with a different theme in the second! Here we heard some iconic film themes and the evening concluded with a performance of *Danzon No.2* by Marquez. The conductor Natalia Luis-Bassa in full Latin American flow, as effervescent and flamboyant as ever!



END OF TERM CONCERT

The End of Term Concert on Tuesday 14 December in the GWA showcased the Concert Band, Brass Ensemble, Guitar Ensemble, Wind Quintet, Wellyphones and the Big Band: a true mix of musical styles with something for everyone and the final concert of a very musically busy term. We are delighted to have seen over 300 students engaged with music-making this term – bravo everyone!



Winter Fair

Thursday 2 December saw Princes' Quad transformed into a Wonderland as our first ever Welly Winter Fair attracted hundreds of excited pupils. The event, the brainchild of four lower sixth formers, saw over £2,500 raised for a variety of charities and really got the College buzzing with Christmas spirit.

Inspired by the College Carnival, Oslo A (L), Alicia R-T, (O), Anya S (Hg) and Zak K (HI) began planning the event back in September, and quickly decided on a house-based format, with each house responsible for providing Christmas games stalls that would not only attract plenty of punters but also raise funds for their specific house charity. Throw in the College Jazz Band playing seasonal numbers, delicious take away food, a cake-bake competition (well played the Murray bakers!), floodlights and outdoor heaters and you had all the ingredients for a spectacular evening of fun and games.

Many thanks to Dr Gardner for overseeing the event so calmly and efficiently – and congratulations to all involved for creating an event that is surely destined to become as much a Wellington Christmas tradition as carol singing in the quad!



CHAPEL CHOIR AT CARLTON CLUB

After a quiet Christmas in 2020, the Chapel Choir (along with the newly formed Chamber Choir) were back with a vengeance this year, singing five carol services over the Christmas period! One of the highlights of the season was a trip to Mayfair to sing the service of 9 Lessons & Carols at the beautiful St James's Church, Piccadilly. An appreciative congregation of 200 enjoyed choral pieces by William Mathias, John Rutter and Cecilia McDowall, alongside a lesser-performed Norwegian carol by Ola Gjeilo. A convivial reception followed for parents, OWs, students and staff at the Carlton Club on St James's Street.



FIRESIDE TALKS

“We ventured outside of the normal school curriculum to encourage students to tackle a broad range of topics...”

It has been a fantastic term of Fireside Talks with excellent attendance both in Great School and over MS Teams. We ventured outside of the normal school curriculum to encourage students to tackle a broad range of topics, including some challenging issues, such as the impact of living in a fractured society, the migrant crisis, and addressing the climate crisis.

In one talk 'Neuromarketing: how companies tap into and control your subconscious consumer mind', Dr Serwinski encouraged students to reflect on the use of psychology in marketing and consider how marketers use colour and memory to evoke certain emotions. Hopefully it has made our students savvier consumers.

Students' eyes were opened to different backgrounds and experiences in Australian Poetry Slam Champion, Zohab Zee Khan's 'Poetry – A Vehicle for Change'. We learned important lessons on resilience and success with Chief Sports Reporter at *The Times*, Owen Slot, in 'The Talent Lab: how to turn potential into world-beating success'.

Looking ahead to next term, among our highlights will be talks on infectious diseases, life in Westminster, the Cold War, and the impact of law.



**“Many more tuned into the live broadcast...
emphasising the open, diverse and accessible
nature of our Monday evening Fireside Talks.”**

Migrants: **Chancers or Victims?**

Emmanuelle Kunigk, Communications Officer for the UN Global Action against People Trafficking, opened this year's Fireside Talks programme with a passionate and timely presentation on migration, exploring the issues and disinformation that surrounds this current hot topic. A packed Great School (and how good it was, once again to have the talks back in person in front of a live audience) listened attentively as she explained the difference between smuggling and trafficking, warned of the ineffectiveness of campaigns against the dangers of smuggling, and emphasised that while no migrant is illegal, they are often extremely vulnerable to all kinds of exploitation.

Emmi, who is a Wellington parent herself, then hosted a lively question and answer session, fielding a variety of passionate questions from the floor: credit goes to fourth former Quentin F (T) who bravely and eloquently got the discussion going, and there were also excellent contributions from Allegra N (U6, O), Ned C (U6, Pn) and Alex W G (U6, Pn). As well as those physically present, many more tuned into the live broadcast, including a significant number of parents, emphasising the open, diverse and accessible nature of our Monday evening Fireside Talks.

Thank you, Emmi, for giving up your valuable time – and for highlighting so knowledgeably and compassionately this important issue for our times.

Summer School Day at Wellington

In August 2021, we helped five local secondary schools to put on the transition summer schools required by the Government as part of the Covid-19 response in education. Around 700 pupils moving from primary to secondary school attended the Wellington College site for one day each. The purpose was to provide the fun, team-building and outdoor adventures that children have been denied under lockdown and to help build excitement around their return to schooling in September. The day was provided to each school by Wellington at no charge.

The activities staged included dance, yoga, a design & technology challenge, low ropes climbing and team games. All the participating schools felt the benefit for their new pupils. One headteacher was *"blown away by how wonderful the summer school was. Everything from the organisation to the activities themselves were fabulous"*. Brackenhale School told how its pupils had *"a super-exciting and busy day, getting to do lots of things that really challenged their thinking, teamwork skills, communication skills and resilience."* Another teacher fed back that the opportunity to meet and observe their new pupils before the term had started meant that they'd be better prepared for the classroom on day one.

The Wellington College staff and pupils who delivered the programme also found it rewarding. More than twenty of our sixth formers volunteered to spend these days of their summer holiday working with the children, taking them between the activities, encouraging them to participate, enjoy and challenge themselves. John Craig, Head of Wellington College third form and Summer School Course Director commented: *"I am so proud of our sixth form volunteers, the warmth, the kindness, the energy and the enthusiasm they displayed for shepherding hundreds of children around the College, and working so well with the sixth formers from the visiting schools. They are wonderful ambassadors for us"*.

Yazmine N (U6, Hg) told us that *"volunteering was a highlight of my summer. We got to engage with the younger pupils who were at first hesitant of this new and unfamiliar environment, but left the College one hundred times happier than when they entered"*.

The schools have since asked us if we can help them again next year and so we are busy planning an even better programme, and are hoping to invite a further five schools to participate.





Giving Week 2021

When we put together the plans for this year's Welly Giving Week, we didn't dare to dream that it would be the extraordinary success that it proved to be.

What has become clear over the last few years is that the parent body believes wholeheartedly in the Prince Albert Scholarship programme and what it is trying to achieve in its aim to provide young people from areas of socio-economic disadvantage a fully funded place at Wellington.

This belief was demonstrated in a spectacular way during the week of 18–23 October when over 80% of all current Welly families went online to watch the film clips and donate to the Prince Albert Foundation. Over £1m was raised and there were well over 1,000 donations – a very clear endorsement of the programme as well as an incredible display of generosity.

The success of Giving Week really was a team effort – the work of the 60 strong Giving Week House Ambassadors was tireless, they gave

us invaluable insights and suggestions and then did an amazing job in encouraging fellow parents to get involved particularly through the power of 'WhatsApp'. The HMs were also an essential part of the success, their offers to jump in lakes, dress up, perform karaoke, host cocktail parties and much more was phenomenal. These brilliant incentives/thank yous for all the parental effort gave another element of fun and celebration to the week. We are so grateful to all of you for your major part in the success. I think the leaderboards also came into their own this year and huge congratulations to the Combermere and the Blücher for their success.

We are also hugely indebted to the stars of the film clips that we sent out; the OW PAF Scholars themselves, who shared their experiences candidly and brilliantly – none of the films were scripted and they were all the better for it. Their experiences are

what truly matters and being able to work with these young people is truly inspirational and it was clear from the response of the parental community that they inspired you too.

Thanks to all of you, we are now able to offer 11 more young people a Prince Albert Scholarship, an incredible achievement that will change the lives of these young people, their families, friends, and for the generations that follow.

Murray Lindo, Head of the Wellington Community



Our Children's Schools Fund

“The Our Children's Schools Fund is a new donation scheme run by Wellington College as part of our commitment to supporting other schools.”

Using funds generated overseas, the initiative aims to provide a small financial boost to the primary and secondary schools which are educating the children that our staff care about. It replaces a smaller scheme that previously matched the value of any individual staff donations made to schools.

All Wellington College teachers and staff were invited to nominate state schools to receive a donation. 83 different schools were suggested, most of which are educating the children or grandchildren of our staff. But other stories behind the nominations emerged, too. For example, two schools were nominated because our teachers had trained there; two schools in Liverpool, one in Farnborough and another in the Philippines were nominated because staff members had attended there themselves; three schools were linked to our staff through governorships; and four more schools were nominated due to close family members currently working there.

One of our Biology staff explains her nomination: *“My niece and nephew both attended this school. Being in a town it faces tough challenges but it still does its best to deliver a good education”*. An Art teacher nominated the school that he observed as part of his PGCE training before coming to Wellington. He added, *“My wife works there now and I know that the budget – particularly in the arts subjects – is woeful and this has a huge effect on materials available to students”*.

The College decided to honour every nomination with a donation and doubled the initial funding total to £45,000. Kerry Symeonidis, Head of Social Impact at Wellington College said: *“Dividing even a sizeable fund by so many schools meant a smaller amount for each one and I was worried that the individual donations would be too modest to make much difference. But the schools responded so warmly, with such plans to wring the value from every unexpected pound, that I saw it was definitely worthwhile.”*

The schools appreciated the unforeseen and unallocated budget. Most indicated that they would spend the donations on teaching, learning and wellbeing activities, citing purchases of PE and music equipment, drumming activities, library books. One school will use it to offset their Covid-19 costs; and two more will top up their hardship funds that help pay for school trips or extras for the children whose families cannot afford to. Many schools also valued the connection to the College through the teachers and staff that nominated them. As Ascot Heath Primary School in Ascot explains: *“This was such an amazing and unexpected email to receive. It will make such a difference to our school. It is such a lovely idea to ask staff to nominate schools and we are truly touched that we were nominated”*.

- Nominated school in the Philippines



11/10/21

Dear Wellington College,

As a school, we are very thankful for your donation. Your money will really help improve the school and expectations.

As Head Pupils, we're privileged to have been selected out of several great schools.

Thank you again for the donation; we will use the money wisely for good use and will discuss and decide on its use in our School Council meetings.

Yours Sincerely,
Khan and Isobel
Head Pupils of Uplands

“It will make such a difference to our school. It is such a lovely idea to ask staff to nominate schools and we are truly touched that we were nominated.”

- Ascot Heath Primary School

Golf in the Community

The Wellington College Global Citizenship programme has introduced a new community action project for 2021-2022 – Golf in the Community. The programme introduces young pupils to golf by developing skills across a wide range of subjects. All sessions are games-based, but link to the national curriculum.

Wellington College students have been trained to deliver the five-week programme and have introduced it to local state primary schools. Mrs Kesleigh Barrass, Year 4 class teacher, said:

"My class of Year 4s at Wildmoor Heath have thoroughly enjoyed the golf sessions run by Wellington students and staff! The children were engaged and active, both physically and cognitively, at all times. The workbooks were comprehensive and challenging, and the activities were energizing and enjoyable. Children with needs were accommodated and included with no child feeling left out. We were very impressed with the Wellington students who conducted the sessions; they were very respectful and formed healthy friendships with the children."

"Thank you to Wellington for partnering with us to provide such a wonderful initiative at our school."

Head of Golf, Freddie Edmunds, aims to build opportunities within the community by offering interested local children who participate a chance to join a golf summer school at Wellington College, with the opportunity to receive free golf tuition and equipment. He says:

"The Global Citizenship programme is fantastic for outreach in our community and forms a vital platform that allows us to help develop transferable life skills learnt through golf. Ultimately, for those most engaged and committed, we want to support their passion further by offering membership to the Wellington College golf course throughout their junior years."

For more information about the golf programme please contact Mr Freddie Edmunds on FJE@wellingtoncollege.org.uk, or for more details about the wider Global Citizenship programme please contact Mrs Rebecca Park on RXP@wellingtoncollege.org.uk





THE WELLINGTON COMMUNITY

The Wellington Community exists to inspire and support the students as well as being a wonderful social and professional network for all its members. Each term we run a varied and exciting range of events and our aim is to provide a meaningful programme of cultural, social, educational, business and careers events so we hope that we really have got something for everyone. We have been thrilled to be able to host in-person events again both at College and in London over the past few months and it has been wonderful to see many of you attend. We want to thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you again soon.

Michaelmas Term Events

We started the term with an incredible event to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the life-changing Prince Albert Foundation Scholarship programme and to welcome all parents of new joiners. This was all thanks to the amazing generosity of fellow parents, John and Eilene Grayken, who hosted an incredible night at their wonderful home. It was great to meet so many new parents and to listen to three of our inspirational OW PAF Scholars. Thank you to everyone who attended, we hope you enjoyed the evening.

For our OW Community we have been thrilled to be able to host a number of social events including reunions, university visits and heritage events. It was lovely to welcome nearly 80 OWs for the pre-1959 OW reunion back to College. The day consisted of a beautiful chapel service, drinks reception with James Dahl, three course lunch and tour of the College with Chris Potter, a truly special day. Later in the term, we had fun catching up with our young OWs studying

at Cambridge and London universities and it was wonderful to see them all doing so well and enjoying university life. Our 10 year OW reunion brought together around 50 OWs to the Duke of Sussex in London, again another thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Over the years the College archivist Caroline Jones has done a phenomenal job of bringing the history of the College to life through her wonderful talks and tours. In November Caroline hosted a *Tales from the Archives* talk and tour of the College and despite the chilly autumnal weather we had a wonderful turnout. Following on from the launch of the Wellington Decades project, a project that sets out to capture memories and stories of OWs, we had the pleasure of welcoming four OWs to take part in an online talk. The talk hosted by Caroline focused on their time and memories of being at Wellington in the 1950s and the feedback we received from those that tuned in was terrific. There will be more updates about the next stages of the Decades project in the new year.

While it was wonderful having a more 'normal' programme of events, we also really enjoyed continuing with some of our online events and the mixture of both, in-person and virtual, has enabled us to reach far more OWs and parents. Our book clubs, London walking tours, prayer group and heritage talks have thrived online, and we thank everyone who has been involved in making these events such a success.

Another major aspect of the work of the Community team is to support students while they are at College, as well as for the years after, particularly with the transition from university to the world of work. We were thrilled that the Michaelmas Term saw the return of our

hugely popular Career Opportunity Group networking evenings in London and we had the pleasure of hosting both our Law and Finance events during the term. Both events were extremely well attended and highlighted what a wonderful opportunity these events are to bring together OWs of all ages, parents, Wellington staff and sixth form students.

Going forward we look forward to hosting a mixture of in-person and online career and networking events for all members of the Wellington Community. You can keep up to date with all our events by visiting wellycom.net/all-events. We also encourage you all to take a look at our *Life Beyond Wellington* video library, which consists of fun and inspirational talks hosted by parents and OWs on both life skills as well as more specific career sessions. You can view the library at wellycom.net/lbw

We know by now that many of you are already signed up to Wellington Connect, our very own online professional and social networking platform. We currently have over 5,000 members made up of OWs, parents and sixth form students. It is a dynamic and powerful network that provides wonderful opportunities for its members but is particularly helpful to our young OWs who are looking for mentoring, career advice and job opportunities. If you are not registered already, please do sign up and share your knowledge and experiences with others in the Wellington Community, visit wellingtonconnect.co.uk.

Thank you for all your support and engagement with this term's events and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible next term.

- The Community Team



“The Wellington Community exists to inspire and support the students as well as being a wonderful social and professional network for all its members.”

WELLINGTON COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL TO OPEN IN INDIA

Wellington College is proud to announce our partnership with the Unison Group in India, an established education group with three universities and Unison World School, one of India's leading girls' boarding schools. Unison is based in Dehradun, in the foothills of the Himalayas, long a centre of education excellence in India and home also to several of its top boarding schools including Doon and Woodstock.

Their first school will be in Pune, south of Mumbai in Maharashtra state. Pune is a thriving modern city of 8 million people, that is not only home to many leading international businesses and a hub of the technology and automotive industries of India, but also a historic education centre often called the 'Oxford of the East'. Wellington College International Pune will be a coeducational day and boarding school for ages 2-18, within a campus designed by award-winning London firm MICA Architects. It will be a British curriculum school finishing with the IB Diploma, while also combining this with the very best of Indian education.

The school will share the values, ethos, enduring quality and ambition of Wellington College. Co-owner of Unison, Anuj Aggarwal, is deeply driven by the cause of education in India. He has absolute belief in access to quality education as paramount to effect positive change, to build a better future. Anuj is passionate about delivering a true Wellington College experience for India and sees forging this enduring partnership as

a powerful way to bring together new knowledge and expertise with the great education strengths and traditions of his home nation.

James Dahl expressed Wellington's equal commitment to this partnership stating, "We are utterly thrilled that the next chapter in Wellington College's remarkable history sees us partnering with Unison in India. From our very first meetings, it was clear that the values and educational philosophy of both organisations are aligned and it has been a joy to work together. Pune is such a dynamic and forward-thinking city and we can think of no better location for us to continue our mission of pioneering education; sharing the very best of Wellington College in the UK with passionate and progressive partners around the world".

The school will join the Wellington College family, a network of outstanding schools bringing together pre-eminent cultural and economic centres of the world. This growing network is fundamental to the strength of Wellington College International, in our purpose with Wellington College to pioneer education to serve and help shape a better world.





It does this in several important ways. Each school is aligned in its purpose and ambition with Wellington, but unique to its place in its cultural and academic focus. Firstly, this gifts all our students, and our staff and communities, an incredible opportunity for meaningful dialogue to develop deep cultural respect and understanding that is essential in our future global world. This is facilitated in many ways, including students working together on academic and co-curricular projects, student and teacher exchange programmes, and international students coming to Wellington for summer schools.

Secondly, through the outstanding education all our schools provide, our network extends the educational reach and impact of Wellington College. Educational impact means leading the way in educating today's children to meet tomorrow's challenges. Through the wonderful work of our Educational Partnerships team, Wellington College has broadened its impact in the UK with our local schools partnerships, Wheeler, PAF and others. Wellington

also offers many bursaries to widen access directly to the College, which WCI itself supports financially. With our schools around the world, their academic leadership and the outreach work they also do, and also with events such as EdFest which is now also hosted in China and will establish in Thailand and India over time, the possibilities to impact the lives of children through access to excellent education options are endless.

Finally, and critically, Wellington is a pioneering organisation. Wellington College is a leading school on the international stage and is restless for continuous development. Our International schools are also pioneering, and thought leaders in different fields. Each is already a leading school in region or is becoming so. The network shares knowledge, expertise and best practice, drawing on progressive ideas from all regions and from the professional expertise of all our outstanding education leaders. Wellington College China and their Institute of Learning have, for example, developed a world-

leading bilingual programme, and have innovated in the teaching of mathematics drawing on traditional Chinese pedagogy. Wellington College International Bangkok has developed state of the art teaching environments as part of the exceptional strength in their early years and pre-prep programme. Through conferences, collaborations, professional development, secondments and so much more, the benefit of sharing expertise across the network is clear and will only become more powerful for every student and every teacher across our organisation as we carefully build and develop our network further.

Wellington College in the UK, in China and in Thailand, is delighted to welcome Unison Group to our family of schools and we very much look forward to the opening of the beautiful new campus in Pune in 2023.

“Pune is such a dynamic and forward-thinking city and we can think of no better location for us to continue our mission of pioneering education...”



WELLINGTON
COLLEGE



**Wellington College, Crowthorne
Berkshire RG45 7PU**

www.wellingtoncollege.org.uk

+44 (0)1344 444 000