



From the Headmaster

The last few weeks of term saw arrangements for Commemoration morphing into plans for prizegiving and leaving ceremonies. We were all living on our nerves as we counted down to Friday 9th July. Would we be able to congratulate students in person, or would we have to go online on account of entire year groups having to self-isolate? Everyone breathed a sigh of relief when the big day arrived and we were delighted to have been able to celebrate our students' remarkable efforts and achievements in person, and to wish our leavers the very best as they moved on to the next chapter of their journey.

Sadly, a number of boarders had to leave before the end of term and weren't able to attend prizegiving. We missed them all, but praised them for their endeavours and success.

This newsletter marks the end of a most remarkable year and it is wonderful to read all the success stories in it. Students of all ages gave their all to the very end of term – both in the classroom and outside it – and staff went the extra mile to support, encourage and provide opportunities. Once again, we saw a mighty team effort producing amazing results.

The School remains open and busy over the summer, with support staff working hard to ensure that everything is in order for the start of the next academic year. I am immensely grateful to them all for their efforts.

I hope that you are all able to enjoy a well-earned break at some point over the next six weeks.

With my sincerest thanks for your support during what has been a year we will never forget.

Eugene du Toit



PRIZE GIVING



Plan B was put into operation for Prize Giving once the announcement that Government restrictions were not lifting in time to stage a normal Commemoration Day. The Wellington team pulled together to ensure that pupil's efforts were recognised and that the Year 13 leavers' parents were able to attend and give the students the send off they deserve after a difficult Sixth Form experience where they have shown such amazing resilience.



PRIZE GIVING YEAR 13



PRIZE GIVING

All year groups were able to attend a prize giving ceremony in the Exam Hall with parents able to watch a live stream of the events. Congratulations to all those who have worked hard for their prizes in this unusual year.



Old Wellingtonian and BAFTA winning Lighting Designer, Dave Bishop, was the guest speaker at the Year 13 Prize Giving. Dave outlined how his own career came about through taking chances, which set him on a path from Wellington School Drama to the BBC and beyond.



YEAR 13 LEAVER'S DINNER



In the last week of term, a Leaver's Dinner was held in School for Year 13. A chance to enjoy an evening of fun with their school friends including ice creams and sparklers.

YEAR 13 ACTIVITY WEEKS

Upper Sixth students took part in a two week activity programme after half term in order to spend some valuable time together after their summer assessments. During these two weeks they took part in the Challenge of Leadership with real-time trading, role-play scenarios and some inspirational key-note speakers, they had a real insight into the working world and gained many new skills.

But there was also some fun, down time with an alternative sports day, playing croquet, netball and volleyball, a surfing trip and a visit to Thorpe Park.



YEAR 11 LEAVER'S SERVICE



Our Year 11 students had an emotional Chapel service, with shared memories of their time together, some outdoor singing and the customary shirt-signing.



YEAR 11 LEAVER'S DINNER



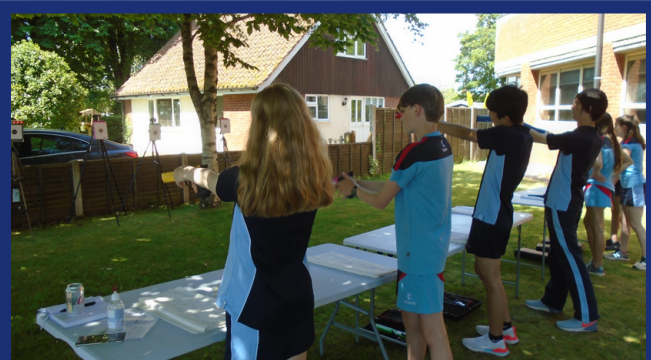
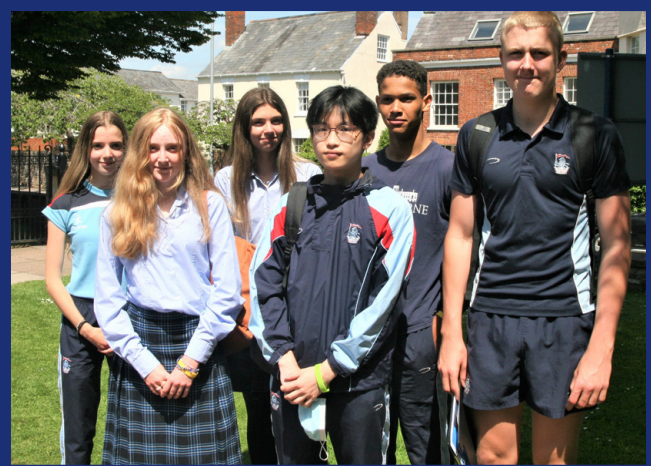
Year 11 looked stunning at their Leaver's Dinner; getting together with friends to celebrate the end of the year and to say goodbye to those who are off to pastures new.



YEAR 11 ACTIVITY WEEKS

A carousel of activities formed the Year 11 activities week, including a Sixth Form Experience Day as well as team-building activities and a treasure hunt around Wellington Town. with the RAF and a mystery treasure hunt around the town.

On Sixth Form Experience Day there was a chance to meet new pupils joining Year 12 in September and also our new Sixth Form Leadership Team; Mrs MacAlister and Mr Garrett. On the menu was climbing, laser shooting, treasure hunting, problem solving, field gun assembling, team-building and ended the day with a BBQ. A great way to build relationships ready for the step-up in September.



ACADEMIC

Three Mathematicians in UK Top 100



Four of our mathematicians have recorded outstanding results in the UK Maths Trust Intermediate Maths Olympiad. Louis Liu and Jesse Yue secured positions in the top 100 students in Year 11 in the UK. This is an outstanding achievement.

Brothers Jecky Luo and Peter Zhu in Year 10, both performed superbly with Jecky also securing a UK top 100 position in his year group.

Louis, Jesse and Jecky all scored 100% on the Intermediate Maths Challenge in February. This enabled them to qualify for the Olympiad Round which was sat at the end of March. Fantastic results and well-deserved.

Freya wins Translation Competition

Freya Cox in Year 10 has been crowned the South West winner of the Oxford University Anthea Bell Translation Competition (German Level 3). This is a fantastic achievement and her entry will now be put forward for the national competition.

This competition is organised by 'The Translation Exchange' based at Queen's College, Oxford.



Law Society



Law Society welcomed Old Wellingtonian, Karen Ayre (Fox's '91) discussing her career as a Real Estate Private Investment Attorney in New York. A brilliant insight into law careers. Karen spoke at length about the variety of branches to pursue within the Law and also about work/life balance and how different areas provided different lifestyles.

Our Law Society talks have given students valuable information from within the industry this year with talks from a pupil barrister, an immigration lawyer as well as Karen Ayre.

Lower Sixth Former, Ollie Chapman, established the group and we look forward to further interesting discussions next year.

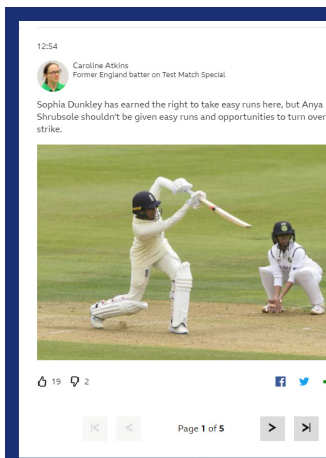
SPORT

Over 30 Cricketers represent County and Country



We have had an astounding number of cricketers selected for County and national representation over the year. Thirty one pupils from the Senior and Prep School will represent Somerset, Devon, Wales and the West Indies this season. Congratulations to Nerys Jones, Harry Gillam, Sam Harvey Knight, Sam Turner, Jack Holloway, Charles Crossley, George Charles Price, William Lyon Taylor, Oscar Milton, Niamh Holland, Seren Jones, Olivia Churcher, Mila Joseph, William Bere, James Matravers, Sam Elstone, Noah Vickery, Jordan Knight, Buzz Kemp, Ciaran Gray, William Moore, Ben French, Rishabh Shimpi, Freya Malin, Abigail Burnand, Eliane Knight, Matthew Matravers, Ed Butler, William Warren, Nathan Keevil, Alice Heywood

Test Match Special Slot for Coach



We were delighted to hear the dulciter tones of Wellington School Cricket Coach, Caroline Foster (nee Atkins), on the recent BBC Coverage of the Women's England v India match in Bristol.

Mrs Foster, who was an England batter, in her earlier career, gave some insightful analysis of the match and we look forward to hearing her again on the radio over the summer.

Upper Sixth Occasionals Fun Match



Our Upper Sixth Occasional Cricket Team were royally entertained by Bridgetown Cricket Club at the most picturesque of settings. This friendly match saw the Occasionals pit their skills against staff, OWs parents, local players and a few of their contemporaries.

Strong Performances at Athletics County Championships



Congratulations to all our athletes, who took part in the Somerset County Athletics Championships where Mackenzie O'Dea became County Champion in the 800m. Strong finishes too for Year 10 Maddy David, who finished 2nd in the Inter Girls' 300m and Ollie Lorenz in Year 11, who came third in the Inter Boys' 400m.

Equestrian - Royal Windsor Horse Show



Our Services Team of Jarvis and Mimi Lumb and Harriet Curtis represented Wellington School at the Royal Windsor Horse Show. The competition was held in the main arena with the Police, RAF, Navy and Army regiments over a beautifully designed course. The children rode amazingly and were excellent ambassadors. After the competition the 'Services' parade is held, each team salute to the Queen whilst their individual names are announced.

Pony Club Triathlon



Congratulations to Daria Bogdanska in Year 9 who took a part in Pony Club Tetrathlon (riding/shooting/swimming/running) and came 2nd in Junior Novice Mixed Class and 1st place as a team with 2 other girls from Taunton Vale Pony Club

Daria goes to after school swimming and Mr Beasley has helped her over the last few weeks to improve her swimming skills.

SPORT Sports Day



Senior pupils enjoyed a fabulous sports day with triumphs and celebrations. In a strange twist, Richards and Hardwick drew for the boys and Price's and Gillard's drew for the girls! Well done everyone

FIELD DAY

With exams over, it was time for the whole School to come off timetable to enjoy some downtime on Field Day. Year groups were either out of school or involved in activities on site for the entire day. With CCF, D of E expeditions, hikes, a trip to the beach and some historical re-enactments on offer, the students were able to have fun outside the classroom.



OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Outer Hebrides Trip



A small group of Upper and Lower Sixth students enjoyed a spectacular 12 days adventure, walking in the Outer Hebrides in Scotland. They visited the Isles of Uist, Lewis and Harris, explored the Black House Village on Lewis, the 4000 year old Callanish Stones and the Scholars' Path along the Bays on Harris, which was built in 1870 to allow children to go to school. They explored spectacular landscapes which changed from sunny beaches to glacial scoured bedrock in under an hour's walking, covered an immense distance and endured some impressive blisters! Days were spent hiking, swimming in pristine seas, eating locally caught scallops and camping in the mountains – it was a wonderful adventure where friendships were forged and plans for the next trips were formed.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Silver D of E



4 teams of Year 11 and 4 teams of Year 10 students braved the wet weather, midges and the steep hills to complete their Silver DofE qualifying expedition in the last week of term. Many adventures were had, including boots that failed and some interesting ideas about which direction to go, but all teams showed great resilience and were passed by their assessor. It was great to see all the happy faces at the very end.

A huge thank you to all the people that provided tents so that this expedition could go ahead.

Bronze D of E



59 year 9 students trekked 23km across the Blackdown Hills to complete their assessed expedition. Blessed with good weather and watched over by Mrs Bishop, Mr Legg, Mr Phillips, Mrs Sass and Miss Smaldon, all 59 students successfully completed and passed the expedition part of the Award. Thank you to Russell Whiting, Trevor Debenham, Jim Purkiss, Nigel Smith, and J-M Legg for assessing, and congratulations to all the students involved!

GOLD D of E



The Gold DofE assessed expedition to Brecon involved walking 85km over four days. Not an easy proposition at the best of times but the soggy conditions under foot, in the air and within boots made the job even harder. Nevertheless, three teams comprising twenty students in total persevered through the dank drizzle and emerged all the stronger for it. An excellent performance, a sturdy bunch of young people and some wonderful memories, once the pain has subsided.

Climbing Wall



The new indoor climbing is up and running with Year 7 getting the chance to try it out before the summer holidays.

This exciting new edition will compliment the work our Outdoor Education climbing team already carry out on the outdoor facility and in the natural landscape of Dartmoor.

We look forward to putting this new addition to our facilities to great use to further challenge our pupils.

CCF

Cadets at Wellington War Memorial



The Headmaster and our CCF officers supported the centenary commemoration of Wellington's war memorial. Wellington was part of the ceremony at which the memorial was unveiled one hundred years ago.

CCF RN SAILING



Once again our CCF RN Cadets have had a wonderful summer term of sailing. The students visit Wimbleball Lake on Friday afternoons to learn to sail and try a number of watersports including sailing, kayaking and rowing and also sometimes helping out in the safety boat!

A fantastic opportunity for the cadets to expand their skills and earn RYA Qualifications.

CCF

Lord Lieutenant's Cadet



The School and CCF are really proud of Year 13 Dexter Yim, who is one of the the Lord-Lieutenant's Cadets this year. This term he accompanied HRH Prince Edward on a visit to Wells to show the resilience of the local businesses during the Covid pandemic. Each year, 6 cadets are chosen on their merits within their respective cadet forces and for their dedication and work within the local community.

Inspection and Prize Giving



Our CCF Contingent enjoyed their Inspection and Prize-giving ceremony. It has been a difficult year for them all, with limited opportunities for exercises and events. Nevertheless, they have all shown remarkable commitment and resilience and we are so proud of them.



MUSIC

3-18 Music Festival



The Music Department staged a wonderful festival with conductor workshops featuring Pete Harrison, percussion sessions with the Beat Goes On and a Year 13 awardholders concert. In the Prep School children were treated to an outdoor concert of songs from *Jonah Man Jazz*.

PERFORMING ARTS

Songs for A New World



Our U6th *Songs for a New World* cast put on a phenomenal performance on Sunday evening at the McMillan theatre that was streamed to an audience around the world. The music was incredible, the messages strong and the cast simply amazing! We are so proud of all that we have achieved in such difficult circumstances.

DRAMA

LAMDA RESULTS



100 students sat a LAMDA exam recently and an amazing 71% achieved a Distinction and 27% achieved a Merit. Notable achievements from Daisy Jacoby who achieved a Merit in her Silver Medal, Gerard King and Sandra Vovk both achieved Distinctions in their Bronze Medal and Roxy Canvin achieved her Bronze Medal with Merit.

NEWS

Staff v Sixth Form Volleyball



The Lower Sixth challenged a staff team to a game of volleyball over the new net on School Field.

Staff from across the School including Mr du Toit, Mrs MacAlister and Mr Millington put on a great performance and we look forward to more challenges in the Autumn Term.

Governor retires after 10 Years Service



We said a fond farewell to Vivienne Stock-Williams, who has given 10 years of loyal and dedicated service as a governor. Her wise words and commitment will be missed by the whole community, but she will continue as a Town Councillor for another couple of years.

