



From the Headmaster

It is hard to believe that another term has come to an end. Wasn't it just the other day that we were welcoming everyone back and making sure we were ready for the first day of lessons?

The speed with which terms pass at Wellington is directly related to the amount we pack into them! A casual glance through The Directory confirms that our pupils have opportunities galore – be they in or outside the classroom. We do our best to provide something for everyone, even when the logistics of doing so present some fairly serious operational challenges.

There have been a number of highlights this term. Our girls' football and rugby teams played brilliantly against local opposition, and the roar from the touchline showed how much support the teams had. Our girls' Sevens team travelled to Rosslyn Park, and did well in getting through to the quarter final of their competition.

Watching the boys of the 'Mighty Third Team' on the hockey pitch was a delight (and certainly confirmed in my mind that hockey is far scarier than rugby!) and the progress made across all of our hockey teams was wonderful to see. Our netball teams were fantastic and seeing our players' enthusiasm and joy on the court always made my day.

The Rock Revue, Spring Concert and morning break pop-up concerts kept us musically entertained, and Les Misérables has been the highest of notes on which to end the term. What a fantastic collaboration between our Drama and Music departments.

I can't possibly mention everything in a few paragraphs. It would take a book to acknowledge all our outdoor excursions, CCF activities, community action bicycle rides, boarding activities, academic visits, guest speakers, societies.....the list could go on and on.

The key point to take from this Newsletter is that Wellington's provision is quite remarkable and something we can all be proud of. We don't put all this on for show. We do it because we want our pupils to have the best possible experience, and we get an enormous sense of satisfaction in seeing them grow and develop into genuinely outstanding young adults.

I hope you all have a lovely Easter break.

With my best wishes,

Eugene du Toit



Lés Miserables Brings the House Down



The audience in Great Hall have been on their feet, applauding and cheering with standing ovations for each performance of Les Miserables this week.

The iconic musical showcases an overwhelming array of talent, commitment and versatility from the cast, crew and orchestra alike.

The scale and standard of the production could easily have graced the West End stage, with stand-out performances from cast members of all ages.

This production is an utter triumph; powerful, raw and emotional, leaving the audience elated and traumatised in equal parts and, with not a seat or a dry eye in the house, a live-stream allowed an additional audience to watch in the comfort of their own homes.



DRAMA

If you were unable to get tickets, or would like to watch the show again, our live stream from Wednesday is still available to watch for the Easter holidays. Please click on the link <https://www.trybooking.co.uk/BOFB> to book a £5 ticket (for your household), following which you will receive an email with the links to the recording and the programme, then watch the show at your own leisure! All the *Les Misérables*' photos are available to view via this link <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjzLCSN>



Clean Sweep at Drama Festival



Congratulations to our Drama students, who all performed wonderfully in their class at the Mid Somerset Festival in Bath. Competing against four other schools, we were delighted to have a clean sweep of podium places. Rosie Edwards and Katie Moulding were awarded third place, Gus Swift and Eni Adasanya second place and Aparajita Ashwin and Amelie McCormack came through as winners of the class.

Lower Sixth Devised Performances



Lower Sixth performed their devised A Level pieces this term. The first was an immersive experience which had the audience on the edge of their seats. The second group's piece involved a heart felt story about a mother who desperately tries to stay connected to her family after her death. A huge well done to everyone involved.

Stage School Showcase



Stage School presented their Spring Showcase to a large audience in Great Hall. It was an event with such energy, lots of smiles and some great skill on display! Congratulations to all our performers.

MUSIC

Taunton Festival of the Arts Success



There was outstanding success in recent Taunton Festival of the Arts competitions with Lily Robinson in Year 6 winning the Taunton Festival of the Arts Junior Young Singer competition with Year 7, Lucy Adams finishing 3rd and Olivia Tabb in Year 8 Highly Commended. Laurie Mayfield in Year 7 and Genevieve Altoft in Year 9 also put in stellar performances and all competitors received wonderfully encouraging feedback from the adjudicator.

In the Taunton Young Singer competition the following day, our older pupils Lucy Speke in Year 11 and Daisy Caygill in Year 12 both received Highly Commended.



Wellington musicians across the year groups excelled at the inaugural Taunton Festival of the Arts Pop Vocals competition and performed confidently and professionally, setting the barre high.

Congratulations to Year 6 and 7 band, The Misplaced Blazers, who won Best Band Under 12s - Amy Coleman Amba Batharkur, Fred Barnes, Shayan Barthakur and Will Box looked and sounded fabulous!

Lead singer of The Misplaced Blazers, Amy, also won Best Solo Singer Under 12 and Year 6, Lily Robinson came 2nd in the same class.

Year 10 GCSE Music students Sinead Strom and Eliza Stephenson won Best Ensemble.

An outstanding performance from Daria Bogdanska in Year 10 won her the title of Best Solo Singer Under 16 and the adjudicator was hugely impressed by her rendition of an Adele song!

Bethany Villis and Sinead Strom also received excellent feedback for their solos in the same class as Daria.

We also had a strong crop of instrumentalists in the Taunton Young Musician competition. Well done to Harry Seymour, Olivia Tabb, Matilda Andersen and Nancy de Haan who competed in the Taunton Junior Young Musician and Thomas Coldrick and Jamie Wong featured in the Taunton Young Musician.

Wellington Young Musician



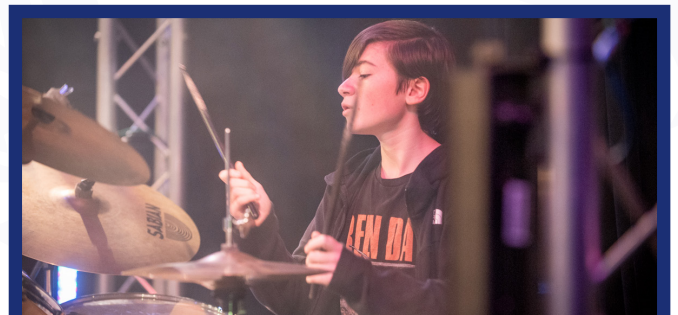
The Semi-Finals of the Wellington Young Musician 2022 took place recently and we now have the line-up for the finals of this in-house competition and we look forward to hearing their performances in the summer time.

Spring Concert



A fabulous Spring Concert saw a large number of Senior and Prep pupils performing pieces from Vivaldi and Lionel Bart to Green Day and Adele. A fabulous evening featuring Concert Band, Big Band and Orchestra through to String Ensemble, Chamber Choir and Harmonix.

ROCK REVUE



Rock Revue featured an outstanding bill of bands and solo artists from across the year groups.



SPORT

Girls' Rugby 7s Team at Rosslyn Park



The Girls' 1st VII Rugby side had a great run at the National Schools Rugby Sevens tournament at Rosslyn Park. After the group stages, the team were in the Plate competition and made it to the Quarter Finals where they were beaten by Peter Symonds College. Well done girls on a great season!

Students selected for Welsh Cricket Sides



Great work by cricketers Mila Joseph and Will Moore, who have been selected to play for Wales. Mila will play for the Wales U18 Girls Cricket squad at the age of just 15 and Will for the U18 Boys cricket squad for this summer. Well done both of you - we are so proud!

1st Football Team finish 2nd In League



Our amazing footballers have had an excellent season and just lost out on winning the ISCA League in a final match 3-1 defeat to Exeter School. Fortunately they ended the season on a high with a 2-0 defeat of Sherborne School.

Boys in Bristol Bears Fixtures



5 Wellington rugby players were involved with Bristol Bears academy recently. Well done to William Baylis, Rupert Brookes-Hicks, Jacob Hodgson, Jamie Howick and Callum Kinnear on your selection.

Huge Crowd at Memorial Rugby Match



There was a fabulous atmosphere at this year's Sam Sherwin Memorial match. The game was played under floodlights at Wellington RFC in front of a huge supporting crowd. The School put in a strong performance to come away with the win.

First Girls' Home Football Match



The girls football team played their first ever home match in front of a big crowd. A squad of 21 players from Year 9 to Sixth Form took on Taunton School and for some it was their first competitive game. They showed skill, strength, team-work and determination, and some excellent positional play to come away with the victory. The goals were scored by Naomi Jacob, GG Florey, Lucy Edwards and Amelia Tolley, but the whole team deserves credit. Alisa Scantlebury lead strongly at centre back and Harriet Joseph-Sanders had a brilliant debut in goal.

SPORT

King's Cup Cross Country 2nd Place



Wellington runners were out in force at the King's Cup 5K at Neroche Forest. Our team achieved 2nd place after a tussle for 1st and 2nd from Patrick Cole and Max Jaffe at the top, holding off Fergus Stockman and Alex Seaton.

Coastal Run tackled by Staff, Students and Families



In the cliff race from Exmouth to Budleigh Salterton runners were accompanied by teachers, parents, dogs and some onshore wind! Standout performances by Fergus Stockman, Issy Irving and Issy's spaniel Beau. Congratulations to Paige Emerick, Arthur Tate and Heather Cheng on their tough debut race for Wellington and Allegra Wilson, Cameron Howe, Freya Cox, and Maren Alickman for showing excellent determination and team spirit!

Golf Team Back in Action



Hugo Dennison and Freddie Eglin in Year 9 and Joe Young and Charlie O'Dea in Year 13 had a great golf match against Sherborne School at Long Sutton Golf Club recently losing narrowly on points in a team stableford format.

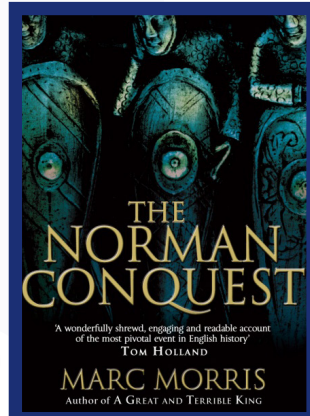
ACADEMIC

Geographers research Urban Change



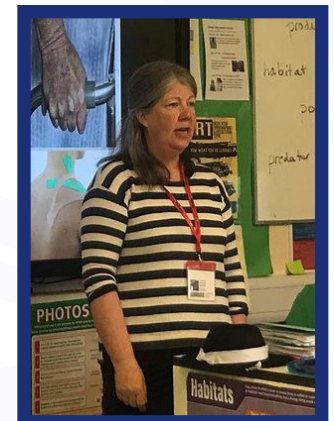
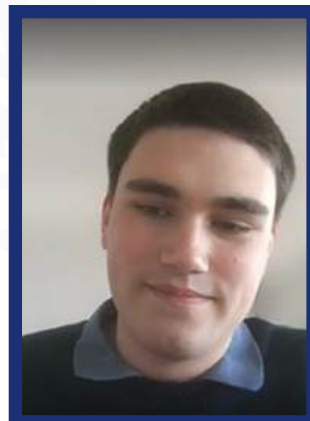
Year 10 Geographers visited Bristol to study urban change and inequality. After visiting three different areas of the city and assessing housing quality, the pupils enjoyed lunch at ZaZa Bazaar before walking round the harbour side to understand more about the role regeneration plays in reducing urban dereliction.

Historian delivers GCSE & A Level Lectures



The History Department welcomed Dr Marc Morris, Historian and author, specialising in the Middle Ages. Marc spoke to Year 11 about Edward I and to the Sixth Form about the Norman Conquest.

MedSoc hosts Career's Talks



We were delighted to welcome back virtually, Old Wellingtonian, Ed Yates (Oak '20) second year Medical student at Bristol University to talk to our current MedSoc students on 'Life as a Medical Student'.

We also had a great turnout to hear from Trish Acton, Clinical/Operational Lead for Physiotherapy and Nicola Constable, Community Physiotherapist. They talked about the different routes into a career in Physiotherapy, including degree apprenticeships and gave an overview of the skills required to work with patients including excellent communication skills.

ACADEMIC

Sixth Form Students visit We The Curious



Year 13 Biologists and Year 12 Psychologists had the fantastic opportunity to undertake workshops at We the Curious in Bristol. The Biologists extracted their DNA in a question of taste while the Psychologists attended an experience workshop.

Design Technology Multimedia Projects



Year 12 students in Design technology have recently completed a multimedia project making "Resin River Tables" from wood, metal and thermosetting plastic. They visited Yandells wood yard to choose the timber tops, picking pear and elm and yew wood.

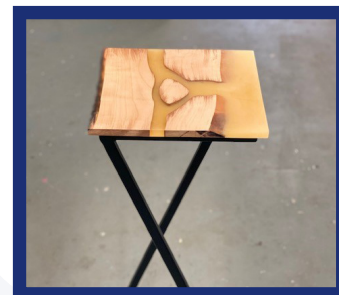
They designed and fabricated steel legs and made boxes to contain the cold cast resin adding coloured pigments to enhance the outcome. Oliver Mitchell, one of the class said " I really enjoyed making this



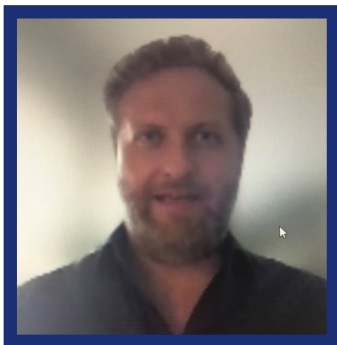
project and learning a range of skills. My final outcome exceeded my expectations in terms of the finish of the item.



"These beautiful tables are a result of a lot of hard work by Oliver Mitchell, Jonathan Clist, Thomas Wilkinson and Dan Cape.



Opening Doors with Languages



Old Wellingtonian, Matt Conway (Richards, '04) gave a fascinating talk to our Languages' students. He talked about how studying Modern Foreign Languages has opened doors for him in the business world.

World Book Day



Years 7 and 8 pupils packed the library to pick up their World Book Day books and vouchers. At lunchtime Houses pitted their literary knowledge against each other to earn points for our House competition, The Norman Cup.

Reception road-test toys for DT Students



Year 10 students in Design Technology having been working with children in the Reception class at the Prep School designing and making them educational toys.

The toys were manufactured using CAD /CAM (Compute Aided Design /Computer Aided Manufacture) mainly using acrylic plastic and wooden dowels.

The finished toys were tested by the reception class who gave honest evaluations about quality, complexity and which were their favourites!

The Year 10 students have learned valuable lessons about understanding stakeholders needs, designing for a range of clients and modifying designs as a result of feedback.

They will use this information to help develop meaningful NEA (Non Examined Assessment) in Year 11.

FIELD DAY

Citizens work with Plastic Free North Devon



Citizens Wellington travelled to Croyde beach to look at some of the environmental issues affecting North Devon, working along side Plastic Free North Devon and the Croyde beach manager. Students took part in a microplastic beach clean, removing 1000s of microplastics and nurdles from the sand by hand and with machines. Students also explored the wildlife in the dunes and the rockpools as well as following the seals around Lundy in a unique virtual reality experience.

Holly Robertson the Croyde Beach Manager:

'Croyde Beach highlights a spectrum of human impacts on our natural world, from a variety of marine plastics, to beach litter and damaged sand dunes. As the Beach Ranger I am grateful to Wellington School and its students for being so engaged in learning about our beautiful coastal habitats and what threatens them, and for thinking further about how they can take real actions to help protect them. Now more than ever it is crucial that the younger generation lead the change for a climate positive future and I hope we have inspired some of your students to be part of that with us!

Plastic Free North Devon have many events over the next few months – find out further details here <https://plasticfreenorthdevon.org/>

Sixth Form Cultural Trip to London



Sixth formers enjoyed London in the sunshine visiting the Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition at the Natural History Museum, exhibitions at the Victoria and Albert museum and robotics at the Science Museum. The Lower Sixth were lucky enough to tour the inside of Imperial College and have Q and A with Old Wellingtonian's Tommy Law (3rd year Mathematics) (Willows, '19) and Frank Zhang (3rd year Physics) (Lights, '18). Charlie even got to try out the Physics lecture hall! The day finished with Harrods retail therapy. Thanks Frank and Tommy and Sixth Form for a fantastic day out!

CCF CAMP



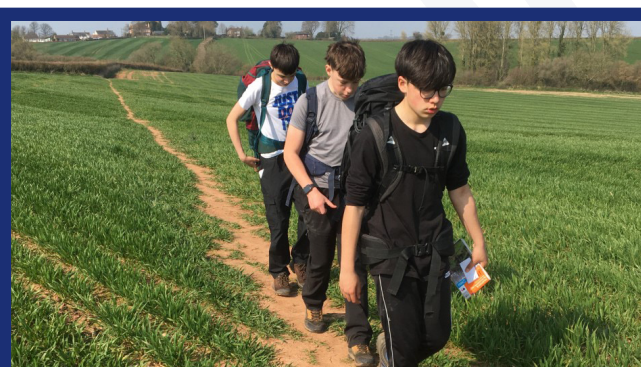
CCF Camp took place at Yoxter Training Camp over Field Day with cadets spending the weekend taking part in ambush training and live firing.



Bronze Duke of Edinburgh



Bronze D of E participants hiked 15km in the local area on Field Day, ranging from Langford Budville over to Thorne St Margaret. They all had a fantastic spirit, really engaged with the navigation, and had a gorgeous day out polishing up their skills.



OUTDOOR EDUCATION Ten Tors Training



Mid-March saw Wellington's Year 10 and Year 12 Ten Tors hopefuls head to Dartmoor, knowing that this expedition would be their most challenging yet. With the challenge itself only seven weeks away, it was vital that they prove themselves capable of walking some longer distances than previously, and at a demanding pace. Over the three days they covered 63 km and it was impressive to see so many of the group make it to the finish line in one piece and keen to continue. We still hold out hope of entering a second team at the 35-mile distance and despite some sore and weary feet, everybody who attended should be proud of what they achieved.

Silver Duke of Edinburgh

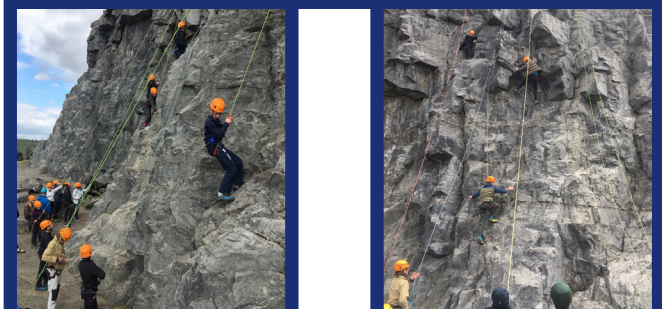


42 Year 10s spent a day and a night out on Exmoor enjoying some great weather while learning key navigation skills.

Climbing Trip to South Wales



During the first weekend of the Easter holidays, a group of climbers travelled to South Wales to try out the skills they have learnt in School on our climbing wall.



CAREERS National Careers Week 2022



National Careers Week across the Senior and Prep School featured a number of events showcasing careers in a variety of disciplines including the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Medicine.

An Introduction to the Foreign Office



Year 12 were delighted to welcome via Teams, Charlotte Fenton, Deputy High Commissioner to Namibia. Charlotte has worked for the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) for 25 years and has held a variety of positions. The Deputy High Commissioner is a senior diplomat and typically an important advisor to the Ambassador or High

Commissioner. The Deputy is responsible for the daily management of an overseas Embassy or High Commission.

Ancient Historian and Podcaster Talk

Historians heard from Emma Southen, Ancient Historian, writer and podcaster, whose academic research specialised in marriage, sex and death in Ancient Rome: the family and the fall of the Roman west.



She is the author of 'Agrippina: Biography of the most extraordinary woman in the roman world' and 'A fatal thing happened on the way to the forum: murder in Ancient Rome'.

Emma spoke to students about where the Humanities can take you in terms of careers.

The Career of an Anaesthetist



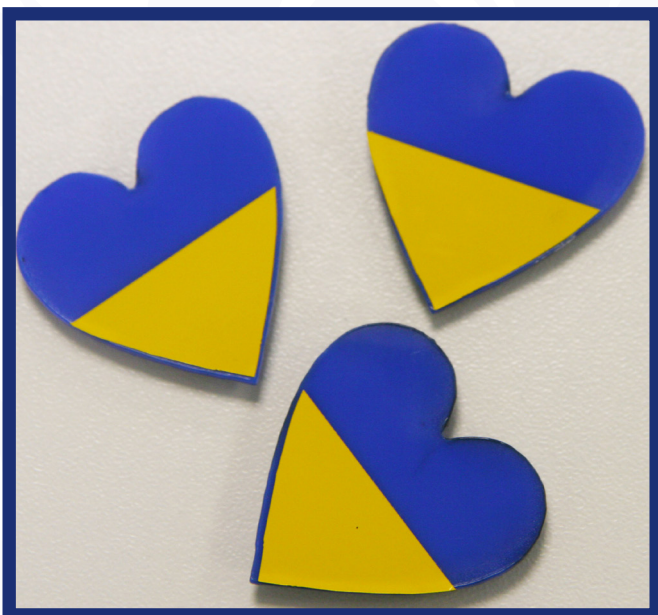
Thank you to Dr Alastair Hellewell, Consultant Anaesthetist at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, who gave a wonderful presentation on the skills required to be a good Anaesthetist.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE



During the term, the School has instigated a number of opportunities to support Ukraine. It began with Mr and Mrs Durston organising for families to donate items to be taken to Ukraine by an aid lorry. The School was overwhelmed by the generosity of our families.

More recently a 'Wear Yellow and Blue' Day was organised with students donating to wear Ukrainian colours. On the same day students of Design Technology sold special badges they had designed and made. Overall these two activities raised over £300 for the Disasters Emergency Committee appeal.



The Chapel held a Silent Vigil for those wanting to reflect on and pray Ukraine.

COMMUNITY Exeter University Partnership



We are delighted to be partnering with Exeter University Centre for Circular Economy. We will be exploring ways in which we can enhance our own approach to sustainability, and play a leading role in doing the same within our local community.

It was a pleasure to produce a video which was shown at the Circular Economy Showcase in London.

You can view the video [here](#).

Great Big Safety Ride



There was a great turn out for the Great Big Safety Ride - an escorted ride along the A38 showing support for a Wellington to Taunton cycle path. In collaboration with Citizens Somerset. Many members of the school community, staff, students and parents enjoyed a fabulous sunny ride finishing up at Sheppeys.

Friends' Quiz Night



A fabulous Friends of Wellington School Quiz night this half term saw a packed hall of parents, friends and Sixth Form students enjoying fun rounds on Sport, Music and Culture. Well done to the winning team and also to all our Sixth Form students, who worked hard on their entries for the fancy dress competition.

COMMUNITY

250 Children join Musical Extravaganza



Over 250 primary school children, including Wellington Prep School, joined forces in a concert of showtunes, singing to an audience of over 500 parents and friends. The 'Junior Showstoppers' concert was the culmination of our Come and Sing programme, which encourages and promotes singing among young children.

The idea is the brainchild of Mrs Shaw, Head of Prep School Music, and this year's show was the 10th the School has put on. Children had been rehearsing since January in their own schools and after rehearsals here at Wellington School, 15 schools came together in the Sports Complex to perform as one choir.

End of Term Final Assembly



We celebrated a busy term and all our achievements in a Final Assembly attended by the whole School. Head Boy, Harry Tillotson and Head Girl, Cat Rayson, spoke with great poignancy about leaving winter behind and flourishing in the bright days of summer.

Harry said 'People often make fun of our generation. The snowflake generation, everything is easy for us, we're weak, we don't know the

meaning of hard times. They're wrong. I reckon that over the last two years, we've lived through two of the craziest years in the recent history of our planet. Easter is the time of year that leaves behind winter, and moves into summer. I think that over the last year or two we've had quite the winter to leave behind us.'

Reminiscence Learning Events



We have been delighted to host Reminiscence Learning in their Chrysalis Butterfly Project. A fabulous Gala Dinner showcased the extraordinary butterfly installation in the ARC, with 9,413 hand-crafted butterflies representing the number of people living with dementia in Somerset and a Musical Extravaganza featured Wellington School musicians.

The Queen's Green Canopy



The Headmaster and School Captains, Harry and Cat, kicked off the Jubilee celebrations at School by planting two trees as part of the Queen's Green Canopy. They planted a Royal Burgundy Cherry tree in the unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee which invites people from across the United Kingdom to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee". There will be further planting of flowerbeds

to commemorate the event and we are looking forward to more celebrations throughout the year.

Students feature in local Art Exhibition



Beyond the Four Walls, an exhibition curated by Gemma Scott, took place at the Old Brick Workshop featuring the work of Wellington School students and staff. The work explored the relationship between people and nature and the way that it has helped us during the pandemic.

