



### FROM THE HEADMASTER

As you are aware, this is my final year at WPS. At the end of this academic year, I shall have been fortunate enough to lead the Prep School for ten years. Now, looking ahead to the next stage of the School's development and the next stage of my career, both the School and I are ready for the next chapter of our lives.

My time at the helm of the Prep School has been an absolute privilege and an opportunity that I could never have imagined when I left Wellington as an 18 year-old. When I left school and, in fact, university, I had no intention to become a teacher; quite the opposite. So, to find myself at my old school – a school for which I have a deep affection – has always meant more to me than any other comparable role could ever have done. WPS is a great community and can, rightly, be described as a family. Wellington, as a town and as a school, has been very good to us and we will be eternally grateful to everyone – children and adults, alike. However, while some changes are on the horizon, I can assure you that my eyes and thoughts are firmly focused on what matters most – our children – and ensuring that we can all play our parts in continuing to develop and deliver the best prep education possible.



### YEAR 6 CHARITY SPEECHES

Today was our annual charity speeches day, which involved seven of our Year 6 pupils each presenting to the rest of the Prep School on a charity of their choice, with the aim of selecting two charities as our 2020 charities; one domestic and one international.

Charitable work is an important part of our school's role and the education of our children. By voting on which two charities to support, the children have a greater connection with our charitable work and it also helps us to focus our fundraising efforts.

All the presentations were powerful and persuasive. Every presenter connected strongly with their audience, speaking with passion, thoughtfulness and tremendous courage.

The seven shortlisted charities were:

#### Domestic

Cancer Research UK – Daisy Simmonds  
The British Hen Welfare Society – Abe van der Beugel  
Macmillan Cancer – Oliver Hutchings  
Cancer Research UK – Sophia Chaudhary Dean  
Arc – William Lyon-Taylor

#### International

Plastic Oceans – Freya Ashford  
WIRES – Charlotte Hansard

Following School Council's generous decision, each of the above charities will receive a donation of £250 from the WPS Charities fund. The voting was exceptionally close and I am pleased to announce that the Prep School's two charities for 2020 are:





## CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

On Thursday we are holding our first Class Rep's meeting. While the agenda for the meeting is deliberately open and suggestions for discussion are welcomed, Mr du Toit will be talking to the Rep's about the appointment of the new Prep Head.



## 'TAKE ONE PICTURE'

This year's picture is 'The Battle of San Romano' by Paolo Uccello. Year 3 children enjoyed making their own paints like Uccello. The children have already learned lots about the history of the painting and were inspired by Uccello having used egg tempura mixed with different berries and pigments to make paint. The children used paprika, turmeric, blueberries and boiled cabbage to name a few!

A big thank you to the Friends of WPS who provided some of the cooking equipment needed to complete the task.

## SPORTS KIT

A reminder, please, that children in Years 3 to 6 need their full sports kit with them on days when Sport, Games and Wellbeing are timetabled. This week there have been occasions where children have not had tracksuits when would really have benefitted from them.





## YEAR 4 – ARCHIE PROJECT

Year 4 have been busy with their Archie Project, working alongside residents at Chelston Gardens care home. The children shared photos of their childhood with residents and the moments were captured on iPads for a digital record. We were very proud of the children, and everyone enjoyed the visit.

## 4L OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Class 4L braved the cold and ventured into the great outdoors on Tuesday for a morning of Outdoor Education. The children trekked alongside the River Culm and talked about the features of rivers they have been studying. They were all able to spot meanders and identify where the river had been eroding the bank, then where the eroded materials had been deposited. A few mud trenches later, the children warmed up with hot chocolate before heading up to a bitterly cold Forest School to cook fabulous sausages. Thankfully, Mr Renyard showed everyone a few tricks to keep warm, despite the frost, and they weren't too muddy or cold on their return to school.





### AFTER SCHOOL CREATIVE CLUB

The children in the Year 1 and 2 Creative Club have been busy this term working on a felting project - a truly multi-sensory experience. They designed, then chose colours from skeins of wool and finally rubbed and matted the wool together using warm water, olive soap, and gauze to make these amazing wall-hangings. Other projects this term have included porcelain cup painting and decorating wooden hedgehogs and unicorns. Mrs Price would like to thank the 6th Form volunteers and also Milo Clapham (6A) for their invaluable help each week.



### NURSERY NEWS

The children have been focusing on the letter 'D' this week.

They have been making dinosaur kebabs, creating their own dinosaurs, making silly soup by adding things that begin with the letter 'D', and sharing stories such as 'Dear Zoo', 'Dinosaur Roar' and 'Dinosaurs Love Underpants'. During their computing lesson on Tuesday, the children focused on the sound 'D' and helped Mr Stepney create this short movie link:

<https://vimeo.com/387944328>



Bounce: d-d-d-dinosaur  
Handwrite: Round his bottom,  
up his tall neck, down to his feet



## BRITISH SCHOOLS BIATHLON

Isabella Whitelaw has qualified to represent Wellington School at the British Schools Modern Biathlon Championship, to be held at Bath University in March. Well done, Bella, we are very proud of you!



## RECEPTION

The children have been exploring the number seven in Reception this week. They painted rainbows with seven colours, learnt the days of the week and explored ways to make seven with Lulu, a 'Maths No Problem' character. Some of the children were then keen to explore the number eight.



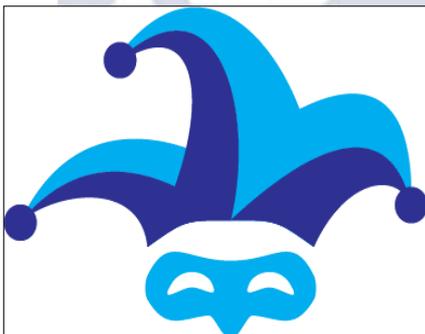
## YEAR 5 AND 6 ASTRO TIME



We have recently launched a new opportunity for children in Years 5 and 6 to enjoy the space on the astro pitch during lunchtime play. The feedback from the children has been very enthusiastic and we plan to continue this opportunity on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. All astro users must wear trainers, so please can you encourage your child to bring their trainers in to school on these days? Many thanks.

## PREP SCHOOL COUNCIL

Members of the Prep School Council gave a very informative assembly about some of the environmental issues surrounding the use of plastic. The children researched and presented some startling facts about single-use plastic. They also shared the story of Stanley, a carrier bag who was mistaken for a jellyfish and the problems that caused the animals in the ocean. The 'Nature Detectives' from Year 1 and 2 helped to illustrate the story with their beautiful pictures. This was the first of a series of assemblies that the School Council will be leading.



## THE JESTER RETURNS...

...with a brewery trip to the Otter Brewery (please note, adults only!).  
When: 5.45pm start on Thursday 20 February  
Where: Prep School Hall for reception drinks, followed by transport to (and from!) the Otter Brewery.  
At the brewery, there will be a tour followed by beer tasting, pies and the opportunity to investigate personal ale preferences from the range of Otter Ales. Almost sold out - only five places remaining. The cost is £25 per head to include transport, pies and ale. Please contact 'The Wellington Jester' for more details: [thewellingtonjester@gmail.com](mailto:thewellingtonjester@gmail.com)



### **MATCH REPORT**

U10A netball girls played some fantastic netball on their Wednesday fixtures with Queen's and King's Hall. An improvement on marking and faster passing from last week's fixture showing great progress. All the girls tried their hardest and played in great spirit representing the school to the highest standard, well done!

WPS 12 – 5 Queen's

WPS 4 – 10 King's Hall

Our boys welcomed Exeter for their first home fixture of the season and battled extremely hard throughout the match. The first half was evenly matched throughout, with Wellington getting the only goal. Unfortunately, in the second-half Exeter came back after playing some good hockey and scored three quick goals. All 12 boys contributed and played very well.

WPS 1 – 3 ECS

Wednesday afternoon was the first outing for the U10 Buccaneers hockey team. We travelled down to Blundell's Prep, ready for an afternoon of highly competitive hockey and we weren't disappointed.

Our first fixture was against Blundell's. Blundell's proved to be well organised and they took a quick lead while we were still finding our feet in defence. However, our boys soon took control of the game with some excellent midfield distribution from Sam and great running into space from Robert and Matthew, which stretched the opposition and created some good chances. While Oliver didn't have a great deal of work to do in goal, he commanded his defence well and the combination of the two Harrys grew stronger and stronger as the match went on. After some end to end stuff, the final score was two all; a fair reflection of an exciting game.

Our second match was against Taunton Prep. While we benefited from the warm-up of the first game, our energy levels were not as high in the second match, understandably. However, Alex chased the ball like a dynamo, refusing to give up on any challenge whatsoever. This resulted in some great possession for the Buccaneers and the fabulous Barker brothers made the most of this, showing an intuitive understanding of each other's space and pace, striking fear into the hearts of the Taunton defence. With a spine of larger and more powerful players, Taunton managed to dominate, in spite of our efforts, and even with the introduction of Izzy to bolster defence, we ended up the wrong side of a two-nil scoreline.

Yes, there are areas to work on, but there are many, many more areas that showed a lot of promise. We are looking forward to the rest of the season!

### **HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUBS**

**Welly Boot Holiday Club** will run from Monday 17 February until Friday 21 February, from 08.15 - 17.30. Welly Boot Holiday Club is a fun and friendly provision, exclusively for our Early Years children (Nursery and Reception) for holiday time care. The club is run from our Nursery setting, by our Nursery team, providing consistency and familiarity for our children in a relaxed environment. "Noah's Ark" is our theme for the week. Activities will include plenty of water play, multiples of "two by two by two", animals and boats! No uniform is necessary, a packed lunch and packed tea needs to be provided. To book places, please use the following link: <https://www.trybooking.co.uk/PDM>



**Welly Camps Holiday Club** will run from Monday 17 February until Friday 21 February, from 08.00 - 17.30. Welly Camps is a fun and friendly provision, open to all children between Years 1 to 8. Welly Camps Holiday Club is held at the Princess Royal Sports Complex, by our experienced team, in a relaxed environment. For further information and booking please use the following link:

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/book/event?eid=10321&>

### **FRIENDS OF WELLINGTON PREP SCHOOL**

So where did January go? Is it time to start ticking things off your to-do list? Here are some ideas!

1. Book your tickets for 'Share the Love'  
<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/book/event?eid=10221&>
2. Sort out gifts to rehome to FoWPS





### 3. Look out for 500-piece jigsaws for FoWPS

'Share the Love' is a wonderful evening with family and friends, enjoying a lovely meal served by your children for a change! An informal affair, arrive at 5.00pm for food served on sociable, communal tables, with water and a bar selling alcohol and soft drinks. Half of the tickets have now been sold so hurry if you don't want to miss out! £6.00 for adults and £4.00 for children, for a lovely two-course meal. There is also **FREE** entry into a prize draw to win a Waitrose luxury hamper.

### STAR CLUB

Our 'family-feel' STAR (Staying for Tea and Relaxing) Club is open for children from Reception through to Year 6 who require after-school care from 5.00pm to 6.00pm. Children booked into STAR Club will be based in the Year 1 classroom upstairs, beside the IT suite. Bookings can be made through our STAR Club email [starclub@wellington-school.org.uk](mailto:starclub@wellington-school.org.uk) For occasional use, the charge is £4.75 per session for the first child and £3.25 for each additional sibling (occasional use is just one or two times per week). For regular use (three days or more in a school week), the charge is £3.25 per session for the first child and £2.25 for each additional sibling. While we keep the costs as low as possible, late collection (ie after 6.00pm) will typically incur a charge and the School reserves the right to charge for late collection at the rate of £10 per 10 minutes, or part thereof.



### CAFÉ 37

Our onsite café has regular opening hours for parents from 8.00am until 10.30am, and 3.00pm until 4.45pm, Monday to Friday. On Saturday, the café will be open from 11.30am until 1.30pm.

### DIARY FROM 3 FEBRUARY

Monday	3	Year 2 trip to Plymouth Aquarium	09:00	16:00
		Netball Girls U8A vs Taunton Prep (A)*	14:45	
		Netball Girls U9A vs Taunton Prep (A)*	14:45	
		Hockey Sevens Boys U8A vs Taunton Prep (A)*	14:45	
		Hockey Sevens Boys U9A vs Taunton Prep (A)*	14:45	
		Hockey Sevens Boys U9B vs Taunton Prep (A)*	14:45	
Tuesday	4	4M Outdoor Education	08:30	13:00
		Governors' Nominations and Finance Committee	17:15	20:00
Wednesday	5	'Open the Book' assembly	10:50	
		Hockey Sevens Boys U10A Tri with Queen's and Wells (H)*	13:30	
		Hockey Sevens Boys U10B Tri with Queen's and Wells (H)*	13:30	
		Hockey Sevens Boys U11A Tri with Queen's and Wells (A)*	13:30	
		Hockey Sevens Boys U11B Tri with Queen's and Wells (A)*	13:30	
		Teatime Concert (Small Music Room)*	17:00	
Thursday	6	Little Wellies Toddler Group*	09:15	11:15
		Year 1 Forest School	13:00	15:30
		Class Representative meeting (The Hive)*	18:00	
Friday	7	Music Partnership: Prep Schools' Mighty Orchestra Day	09:30	15:00
		Reception Class and Parents' visit to Forest School*	13:00	15:00
		'Come & Share' (Rec - Year 4)*	15:00	15:45
Saturday	8	Writers' Retreat with Mr Warren	09:00	13:00
Sunday	9			

\* Parents are warmly invited to all events marked with an asterisk



## ACES

Oliver Heaton-Jones 5L



## MUSIC MERITS

Georgia Spooner 3H and Sophie Gray 5ML

Nerys Jones 5L and Amy Colman 5ML



## STARS OF THE WEEK

Alastair McLaren Rec

Charlie Burgess 1C Sienna Bellamy 2W

Queenie Spurdle 3B Trebble and Louie Louie Bellamy 3H

Jack Holloway 4L Sophie Lam 4M

Sophie Gray 5ML Anna Magauran 5L

Charlie Crossley 6A Gracie Redman 6H

**SPORTS STAR OF THE WEEK:** Sophie Pipe 3B

**READING STAR OF THE WEEK:** Otsile Magang 3H

**MUSIC STAR OF THE WEEK:** Summer Pidgeon 6A



## HOUSE POINTS

**PIONEER 969 APOLLO 870 VIKING 873 GALILEO 822**



## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

**“BE THE CHANGE  
YOU WANT TO SEE  
IN THE WORLD”**

**MOHANDAS GANDHI**



INSPIRATION



FoWPS presents:

# Share the Love

THURS  
13<sup>th</sup>  
FEB

JOIN US FOR A MEAL SERVED WITH LOVE!

- 2 course dinner
- Cash bar/soft drinks
- Whole family welcome
- Free entry into prize draw to win Waitrose luxury hamper

5pm  to  
6.30pm

@ WPS Hall

£6 adult, £4 child 

 book @ [www.trybooking.co.uk/10221](http://www.trybooking.co.uk/10221)  
by Friday 7th February