

# The Ammonite

A weekly newsletter for students, parents, carers, families  
and friends of Wellsway School

## Message from the Principal

Dear parents and carers,



Well done to the 108 Year 9 students who completed their Duke of Edinburgh Expedition last weekend, a huge achievement. Some fabulous photos below.

On Monday, we officially met with our fifty new year 10 prefects to give them their ties at a breakfast meeting, we are really looking forward to working with this team, who follow in the footsteps of Year 11 who created this new role this year. I have no doubt, that they will be superb ambassadors for the school and be excellent role models for our younger students.

There is a wonderful article below about our garden and the assessment we took part in this week. We were delighted to welcome Jane Hill, a judge from the local Bath in Bloom competition. Jane, a former member of staff, shared some of her memories with our students and Richard Gascoyne, who oversees our developing garden. It is wonderful to see our students talking with such confidence and their joy and pride in the work they are doing, in nurturing this garden.

We also held a campus celebration with staff on Wednesday for the recent Ofsted grading of IKB academy as a GOOD school. We received a wonderful letter this week from Hannah Woodhouse, Regional Schools Commissioner for the South West.

“You must be very proud to see your hard work and commitment reflected in the inspectors’ comments, particularly in terms of leaders’ ambitious vision for the school and that pupils feel valued.”

We are indeed very proud of our young people on campus who attend IKB who are taught jointly by the staff of both schools, it is a wonderful achievement for our community.

This week, we see the end of the GCSE exams and the first of our celebrations with Year 11 having their leavers’ assembly on Friday. We will bring a full update with pictures next week.

Finally, as well as all the great news above, there are also many other celebrations of our wonderful young people to be found in this week’s Ammonite.

Best wishes

Rob Pearsall

**Principal & Executive Head of School**  
**Wellsway School and IKB Academy**

Issue : 1036—Friday 24th June 2022

## Key dates

**Wednesday 6th July**  
Summer Concert

**Friday 8th July & Tuesday 12th July**  
Sports Days

**Saturday 9th July**  
PTA used uniform sale 11-1

**Monday 11th July**  
Inset Day

## Student Attendance

**Attendance**—A reminder that when sending emails regarding student attendance, please send them to our enquiries email inbox - [enquiries@wellswayschool.com](mailto:enquiries@wellswayschool.com) with the subject FAO Attendance Improvement Officer Ms Louise Fox or email direct to Ms Fox [lofox@wellswayschool.com](mailto:lofox@wellswayschool.com). Please do not email direct to Miss Lucy Fox - [lfox@wellswayschool.com](mailto:lfox@wellswayschool.com) who is one of our science teachers. We realise that this is an easy mistake to make and thank you in advance for your support with this request. Mr Ive.



## Principal's Student of the Week

All our winners have demonstrated Endeavour, Resilience and Empathy; Wellsway School students striving to be confident, respectful and ultimately successful learners. Simply "Being the best versions of themselves".

At Wellsway School, we have something we try and instil into students: it is okay to fail if you do not give up. It is important to see the journey and remember that you simply haven't got there yet! This week's nominees have all demonstrated that mindset and trait.

**Congratulations go to our winners:**

**Year 7-** Frankie N – picking up litter

**Year 8 –** Faithful O and Amelia W – helpful to staff

**Year 9 -** Tilly R– continued superb effort across the board

**Year 10 –** Lucy H – resilience

**Year 12—** Katie P - excellent attitude to learning in all subjects and a great start to the EPQ

**Last weeks, Year 12—** Ru R – Excellent work in Philosophy and Law



### Artistic Swimming success for Wellsway students

Wellsway students had a great success in the South West Regional Artistic Swimming championships that took place on Saturday 21st May in Cheltenham.

Representing TeamBath, Helena P (Yr7) and Holly K (Yr8) were part of the Gold medal winning team in the Under 15 Division 1 team routine category.

Chloe S (Yr10) and her team were awarded silver for the 13-18 Division 2 category.

They now turn their attention to the National Combo Cup competition on the 2nd July, held at the Olympic Park in London.

This is a fantastic event featuring over a thousand athletes from all parts of the UK.

### Owen G- Athletics

A fantastic achievement for Owen who won Gold in the Shotput, Discus and Javelin events at the Under 15 Welsh Athletic Championships.



Congratulations on your first places last weekend in the South West Schools Champions in Javelin and Shot Put too.

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**Well done to all 109 students for passing their qualifying expedition last weekend!**

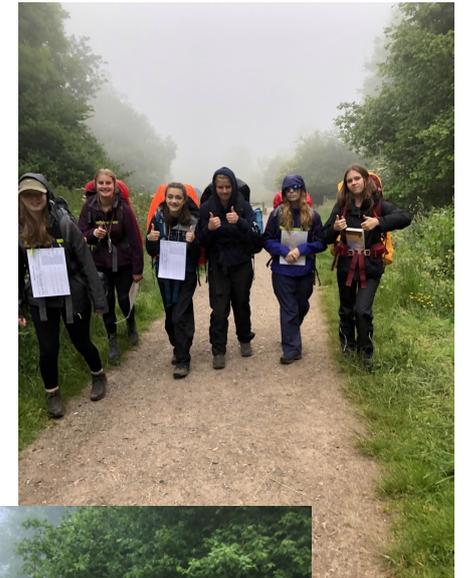
**Thanks again to all the brilliant support staff.**

**A gentle reminder to all route B teams to return their equipment next Tuesday and Thursday after school please.**



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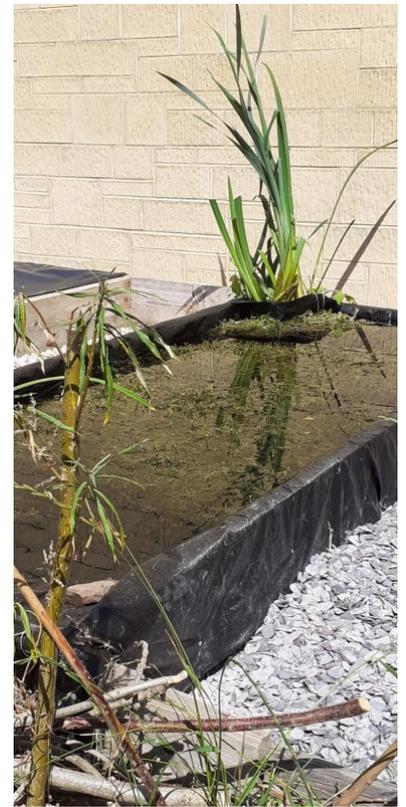
### News/Newts from the garden!

On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, our new sensory garden in the newly christened 'Mendip Meadow' was visited by Jane Hill, a judge from the local Bath in Bloom competition, and co-incidentally ex-English and Rural science teacher who taught at Wellsway in 1966!

She was very impressed by all the children's hard work - particularly the garden building, greenhouse and pond they had helped to build. The damselflies have discovered the pond and are already laying next year's eggs, and we can't wait for the newts to arrive!

Thank you to all the parents, teachers and members of the Keynsham plant and seed swap group, who donated cuttings, seeds and seedlings. We are always willing to squeeze in a few more for next year.

Happy gardening,  
Mr Gascoyne





## 'Changing me' and 'Careers' in PSHE

During this term, students in years 7 to 10 will be exploring the theme of 'Changing me' and 'Careers' in PSHE.

Session content for week commencing 27<sup>th</sup> June:

Year 7: Influential businesses

- Year 8: Influential businesses
- Year 9: Influential businesses
- Year 10: Influential businesses

## Open Mic Night!

Come and support our young musicians and singers at Keynsham Music Festival Futura Open Mic Night at Temple Court, just off the High Street, on Wednesday June 29<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm start. We have over 20 musicians performing from Wellsway, ranging from Year 7-13. The evening will also be compered by Wellsway 6<sup>th</sup> Form Students. It promises to be a great night! Free entry.

## CAREERS NEWSLETTER

Wellsway School Careers Hub

Drop in to ask a question, enquire about anything 'careers' OR

Email – [ca-reers@wellswayschool.com](mailto:careers@wellswayschool.com)

[Careers Update: 15th June 2022](#)

## House Music Competition

A few students have asked about the link for sending files if they wish to enter the House Music Competition. Please see the details below:

Video yourself either playing a piece of your choice on any instrument or singing a song of your choice. Try to find a backing track if you're going to sing. This video will only be watched by Music Department staff! The piece needs to be a refined performance, so get practising! We will have two categories for each House: emerging talent, and advanced. We will place you into one of those categories once we receive your entry. We're looking for an accurate performance and a performance which has expression. Play, or sing, something that you love!

You can email your entry to [music@futuralearning.co.uk](mailto:music@futuralearning.co.uk). If the file is too big, use [www.wetransfer.com](http://www.wetransfer.com)

## Summer Concert

Our infamous outdoor Summer Concert returns on **Wednesday 6th July at 6pm** after a two year absence. This will feature our choir, orchestra, soul funk band, the Musical Theatres Group, 'Youth Undone' - a sixth form band plus a short extract from 'Avona' the oratorio.

The Art Department will also be hosting an Art Exhibition in the 6th Form Centre. This is always a joyful occasion and we encourage you to bring garden chairs, rugs and a picnic if you wish. Doors will open at 5.15pm. We will start at 6pm and anticipate that it will last no longer than an hour.

Due to the added challenge of anticipating the weather (!) we have decided to have a different system for tickets this year. We have a number of students involved and if it does rain, cannot have you all in Mendip Hall! Therefore, should it rain, one parent/carer of every student who performs will be entitled to a ticket. If your child is performing in the concert please complete this form <https://forms.office.com/r/Se5UFeH51k> Most students who are performing in this concert will have been sent a message on Insight.

**You will not pay for any tickets until after the event.** When you arrive, you will give the name of your child to the box office and state the number of tickets you request. You will then be given a slip stating how much you owe on ScoPay. The Finance Team will set up a Summer Concert 2022 account on ScoPay after the event and we request that you pay before the end of term. On the attached form we have also asked you to anticipate how many tickets you require for the outdoor event, this is just to help us plan - it's fine if you bring more or less people on the day.

**If your child is not performing but you wish to attend the concert, please turn up on the night before 7pm in order to purchase a ticket. You cannot buy a ticket in advance.**



## WANTED - SCHOOL TIES, BLAZERS, AND SKIRTS

If your child is leaving Year 11. Then please can you donate their uniform.

We lend Students, (who have forgotten theirs) an item of Uniform on a daily basis. So we are always looking for more.

If you could send it into School for the Attention of Mrs Cumner, That would be brilliant.

## Well-Being Information Evening

You can now find the presentations and resources used / handed out at last week's Student Well - Being Information Evening on the school website, in the parent / carer, safeguarding in schools section and by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.wellswayschool.com/parent-carer/#student-safety>

The evening was a great success and parental feedback was overwhelmingly positive, so please do take a look!

Mr Ive.

## Y9 DTP and MenACWY vaccinations Monday 4th July

The School Age Immunisations Team would like to remind you that the closing date for consenting for your child to have these vaccinations is **midnight on Monday 27th June**.

Please refer to your previous messages via Insight for details

Yr7-9 Challenge Activity Session:  
Debating  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June  
P1&P2  
Lansdown Hall

Only for pupils signed up to the Challenge Programme  
(if you are not sure ask, check your email or Insight for an invite)

## Y7 Science Shows

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July, we have an external science company coming into school to deliver an exciting interactive science show to year 7 looking at different experiments that will allow students to explore what they really think about the world around them. Year 7 learning groups will get the chance to watch the show during a lesson on this day. Please keep an eye on insight for the letter regarding details and donations for the show.

## Year 9 BaNES Rounders'

The year 9's put on an excellent display of Rounders' at the BaNES Tournament on Tuesday evening.

Their first match was against Norton Hill, Wellsway displayed outstanding batting by Lily, Owen, Isabel and Emily to win two and a half to 10 rounders! Next, they faced Hayesfield where Martha's speedy bowling, Molly and Ella's brilliant performance on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> post let us to a seven and a half to four rounders' win. After winning our group the Year 9 Team progressed to the final against St Greg's and despite outstanding catches from Joe and Elena the team lost by 1/2 a rounder!

Well done to all players involved, SECOND in the whole of Bath and Northeast Somerset is an incredible achievement, a special mention to Sam S and Sophia H for their great coaching! Catch of the day- Elena and Player of the tournament- Martha H

Well done! Miss O'Malley



## Participation at County level or above

We love to share students successes and we will be having our end of year Sports Awards evening on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July. If parents/carers could inform us of any students who are competing at County level or above in any sport, we would love to share your success and support you along the way. Please email Mr Evans

[revans@wellswayschool.com](mailto:revans@wellswayschool.com) to update us.

### Tom M – Great Britain Baseball

Congratulations to Tom M who has been selected to represent Team GB U15 Baseball team. He will be taking part in a competition against other countries including Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, Belgium and Russia.

This is a fantastic achievement for Tom and we wish him all the best for the competition. Keep us updated on you get on!!



### Dylan J – Golf

Congratulations to Dylan J who recently came 6<sup>th</sup> in the South West Schools Championship at Carlyon bay. He has now been selected to represent the South West of England team in the National Schools Finals next week. Good luck to Dylan in this competition and we look forward to hearing how you get on!

### U13 Girls Tennis

Last Wednesday we travelled to Badminton School for the final U13 girl's AGEON Tennis league fixture. Despite the very hot weather, the girls put in maximal effort and kept some good rallies going against some tough opposition! After playing to 6 in singles, we decided to play to 4 in doubles. Chloe and Ava H teamed up on the top court, and Rebekah and Ava G paired up for the second. Despite best efforts, it was Badminton who came away with the win. Well done girls, it has been great to see you progress from the start of the league!!



### Year 7 Cricket v Oldfield

On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June, the year 7 cricket team hosted Oldfield for their first home game of the year. Captained by Niamh M, Wellsway bowled first, with every student bowling at least one over, limiting the opposition to a total of 43 runs. Wellsway then came into bat and some very strong performances including; Rhys M (21 – retired), Niamh (8), Joe N (11) and Oscar C (7) saw Wellsway score 44 runs with in 8 overs.

Both teams decided to play on for longer to allow more students to bat and bowl, which was and excellent way to finish a lovely afternoon of cricket.

The next game for year 7 will be on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July away against Chew Valley. Students will be notified on In-sight as usual.



## Sports Ambassador's at Saltford Sports Day

Last Wednesday Sports Ambassador's from Year 8 and 9 travelled over to Saltford Primary School to help run their Sports Day. In the morning a team of 15 ambassador's helped with the KS2 event, measuring the field activities and helping with the equipment on the track. In the afternoon a different team of ambassador's assisted with the KS1 event, encouraging the children as they completed a variety of challenges. At both events the Sports Ambassador's were exemplary, showing initiative when necessary and working hard to ensure every child achieved their best.

At the end the Sports Ambassador's took part in a tug of war against the staff! Many of the Sports Ambassador's had siblings taking part in the event and we managed to get some family photos at the end.

Well done to everyone involved. Mrs Burston.





## Prefect Breakfast

On Monday morning we had the pleasure of getting all of our Prefects together for the first time since they were appointed. We had a lovely breakfast and students were handed out their ties.

We look forward to working with them over the next year.





At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about TWITCH

Twitch is a livestreaming service which tends to focus on gaming. Users can publicly broadcast their gameplay and commentary online for other users to watch. It's a community-driven platform where viewers can support their favourite streamers' channels through PayPal donations, "Bits" and more. Each streamer or group creates their own community for fans to interact with each other. Twitch has more than 15 million daily active users and includes non-gaming topics such as music, cooking and art. Anyone can create a channel to livestream or watch videos.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### UNCENSORED STREAMS

Uncensored content obviously carries a greater risk of inappropriate language and behaviour (streamers can, however, list their broadcast as unsuitable for children). Twitch has strict rules for streamers to follow, but requires viewers to report any streams which breach these guidelines. Each livestream is accompanied by a text chat which it is the streamer's responsibility to moderate.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most people are already aware that some video games feature adult content such as violence, sexual content, profanity and so on. Twitch does prevent certain games from being streamed on the platform, but most are still allowed. It is relatively simple, then, for a child to find livestreams of games that aren't suitable for them - including horror games.

### HIDDEN COSTS

Twitch is free to use because it's supported by advertisers. Removing the ads requires a subscription to Twitch Turbo - or the Twitch Prime package (free for anyone with an Amazon Prime account), which blocks the ads and offers additional goodies such as bonus games. Streamers earn most of their income by asking users for direct donations or gifts of the virtual currency Twitch Bits.

### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

As well as streamers talking directly to their audience, Twitch enables viewers to use text chat to speak to the person they're watching. It's a social platform which also allows viewers to interact with each other via text while they are watching livestreams - including exchanging private messages. This raises the possibility of a child being approached and messaged online by total strangers.

### WEBCAM SHARING

It's common for streamers to use their live webcam footage. This allows better interaction with their viewers, but also adds risk: the stream might include sponsored content or product placement that isn't child friendly. Using a webcam in livestreams increases the chance of malicious viewers finding out where the streamer lives and provides bullies with visual reactions to their hurtful behaviour.

### PRIVATE CHAT ROOMS

Twitch encourages streamers to create their own communities, which extend beyond its platform. Many create a public Discord group, for example, for viewers to join and communicate with each other. Discord is a completely separate entity to Twitch and offers a higher risk of predators, grooming and cyberbullying if your child gets involved in the voice or video chat with strangers.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### EXPLORE IT YOURSELF

Twitch doesn't have any parental controls, but it is possible to block troublesome users if it becomes necessary. The best solution is to watch some Twitch channels by yourself or with your child to find some that are suitable. Watching some streams by yourself is also a good route to understanding the sort of content that your child would be consuming regularly on Twitch.

### WATCH WHAT THEY WATCH

Twitch does have a lot of child-friendly content; some streamers use a 'family friendly' tag to highlight material that's suitable for children. However, anyone can use this tag - including users who (accidentally or otherwise) stream games with less appropriate adult themes. The best way to counter this is to view different streams and follow suitable channels for your child to watch.

### LEARN HOW TO BLOCK

'Security and Privacy' in Twitch's settings lets your child block messages from specific users. Teaching your child how this works will help them avoid online abuse. If they livestream, knowing how to block people in the chat also helps to prevent cyberbullying or harassment. Evading online interaction is impossible, of course, so talk to them in advance about boundaries and safe online communication.

### LIMIT PAYMENT OPTIONS

Reduce the chance of accidental purchases by ensuring your bank card isn't saved on Twitch or the Amazon account that Twitch Prime could be linked to. Restricting access to your PayPal account is also wise if your child watches Twitch on the device you use to make purchases. Explain to your child that they don't need to subscribe to channels to watch them and that donating or gifting 'Bits' is optional.

## Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

