

The Ammonite

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

Message from the Principal



Dear parents and carers,

Make your strength your X factor

Welcome to our last edition of the Ammonite for this academic year.

There are many wonderful examples in our final edition of our students striving to be the best they can be. Demonstrating our trust values and aims of **Respect, Opportunity, Collaboration and Aspiration**.

We were delighted to hear that the hard work of Mr Gascoyne for his students has paid off with not one, but two awards this week. His Year 10 pathways group were awarded Explorer level certificates for their participation in The John Muir Award, named after the Scottish naturalist and 'father of modern conservation'.

We were also delighted to receive a call from Jane Hill of Bath in Bloom, to let us know that the school garden (next to Chandag) has been awarded a bronze award in the Bath in Bloom competition! Fantastic news, well done to all.

Last night we hosted our first Sports Awards Evening since 2019, we were slightly overwhelmed by the huge response for tickets and next year we are planning a larger venue. However, we were delighted to have so many students attend to receive their awards and welcome back some of our Year 11 students.

Our guest speaker was Tom Dunn, Bath and England Rugby Union player. Tom talked about the importance of resilience and

determination. Mr Knowles, his former teacher said, *"Tom was like a sponge in lessons and training, it didn't matter what the session was, his attitude was, what I can learn from this? What can I take away to improve myself?"*

He joined the academy at 14; he talked about his aim to play for Bath and England, about luck and about being in the right place at the right time. His determination paid off as he came through the club pathway to earn his Blue, Black and White debut against Calvisano in 2012. Eddie Jones then spotted him and two subsequent call-ups followed in 2018 and 2019, respectively, before securing his first cap in the 2020 Guinness Six Nations against Italy.

Tom explained that his biggest challenge was he was not that talented or skilful and he had to work hard to succeed. He spoke about the importance of values. Tom said, *"Be true to yourself. I put a flag in the ground, this is me and this is who I stand for, and I didn't deviate from that."*



Issue : 1040—Friday 21st July 2022

Key dates

Thursday 18th August

A level results day 9.30-11am

Thursday 25th August

GCSE results day 9.30-11am

Sixth form enrolment

Friday 26th August

Sixth form enrolment

Thursday 1st & Friday 2nd September

Inset days

Monday 5th September

Year 7 & 12 only

Tuesday 6th September

Whole school returns

Student Attendance

Attendance—A reminder that when sending emails regarding student attendance, please send them to our enquiries email inbox - enquiries@wellswayschool.com with the subject FAO Attendance Improvement Officer Ms Louise Fox or email direct to Ms Fox lfox@wellswayschool.com. Please do not email direct to Miss Lucy Fox - 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.



Tom also told the students that it is important to identify and work on your positive attribute, whatever this is, to work hard on this and people will pick you. **To make your strength your X factor.**

We are all very grateful for Tom's time in-between a busy training schedule this week...yes...even in this heat! Thank you Tom for sharing your inspirational story with us, one of determination to succeed.

An inspirational talk has a very important message; hard work pays off, take a risk and take a step to try something new, if you fail, just keep trying. I am sure when our students return in September they will be inspired to try something new, to follow their dreams. ***"The important thing is that success has no age. If you work hard enough you can do anything."*** Stephen Seki

We ended today with our celebration assembly; it was another fitting way to recognise how much our students have achieved.

Thank you for your support, we wish you all a safe summer together with families and friends.

Rob Pearsall

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



We found lots of ways to keep cool on the campus this week.



Principal's Personal Achievement Award

Congratulations to our winner:

James E - Year 7- Brilliant work James and Miss Mewett says you were absolutely amazing;

"James came with me to speak at Chandag Junior school about what science is like at Wellsway and even explained some of the experiments to the children. He was well spoken, confident and enthusiastic. He also helped me carry out my experiments and got the children really excited for science - I couldn't have shown them a lot of what I did without his help!" Miss Mewett.

Barney H – Year 8 was recently offered a sports scholarship at Kingswood School in Bath for his cricket and will be joining them in September.

Jack B - Year 8 has had time off to represent the county and cricket and secured a scholarship to Clifton College in September.

James B – Year 12 was one of only a handful of boys selected from state schools to play for a Bath Schools XI with MCC – Marylebone Cricket Club is the world's most active cricket club and they play at Lords with players by invitation.





A huge thank you to this excellent PE team for running a diverse, inclusive and highly successful extra curricular programme. The Sports Awards tonight really highlighted this. Thank you also to @tomdunn92 for being a highly inspiring guest speaker!
@WellsWaySchool @BathRugby

Irish Dancing Success

Congratulations to Phoebe T, who has worked extremely hard in training and showcased an outstanding performance to qualify for the Irish Dancing National Final in London later this month.

Well done and best of luck Phoebe!



Hockey Success

A big well done to Fin C in Y10 who has recently been selected by the Bristol Performance Hockey Centre to play in the Performance Challenge Cup. The competition is due to be held in Nottingham at the end of July.

A brilliant achievement - best of luck Fin!!

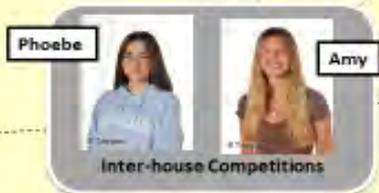
Aspiring Doctor Austin

One of our Y12 students, has recently completed a week's medical residential as part of his gold DofE – Well done Austin!

“As part of my DofE Gold assessment, I took part in a residential course - this had to be a 5-day shared activity with people I didn't know, in a residential setting away from home and in an unfamiliar environment. For me, this was a great opportunity to find out more about becoming a doctor. I spent the week at Dorset County Hospital meeting a range of professionals in different roles in the NHS. I was able to attend lectures, speak to medical students and shadow doctors. The best part for me was meeting some amazing people with similar interest to me from all over the country!”



Introducing our Sixth Form Head Students





British Junior Rowing Championships

Congratulations to the following students who recently competing in the British Junior Rowing Championships.

Ben H ,AJ C and Sam B took part in their age group for 14 year olds in a coxed 4 (quad) and did really well. After competing in their age group time trial, they progressed to the 3rd tier "C" final where they came 5th.

Tatiana D in the girls quad, coxed by Oliver F, in the girls UK 14 year age group qualified as the 4th fastest qualifier in the UK just missing out by 1 second on third in their time trial. This put them through to the elite girls "A" final where in trying windy conditions they did really well to come 6th against the top rowing schools/ teams in the UK.

The Futura Oratorio rehearsal on Monday.

We can't wait to see the final performance at Bath Forum in September. Such talent from across our Futura family.





Year 10

Over the last two Fridays, Year 10 have had alternative days and sessions as they look ahead to Year 11 and beyond.

On Friday 8th July, for the first time, Year 10 students had the opportunity to spend the day as a Sixth Former. To give them as realistic an experience as possible, the students attended school for the day in their own clothes, not uniform, and got to use the spaces normally reserved for Sixth Formers. They sampled three lessons over the course of the day, alongside completing an enrichment lesson and listened to information about their potential next steps. The students were exemplary during the day and there were so many positive experiences. Some student comments include:

"The Sixth Form Experience Day gave an excellent insight in to what sixth form is like. The tastier lessons were a good introduction to the subjects I am considering for Year 12."

"I now know I have many options after Year 11 and I know that I need to work hard in English and in maths to access one of the courses I researched."

This was followed on Friday 15th with the Careers Fair. The students picked sessions to attend and these were delivered by employers, from sectors such as Health Care, the MOD, HMRC and from higher and further education providers.

Again, the students portrayed themselves and our school admirably. All the guest speakers were complimentary with comments such as, 'as an employer this felt like a good use of my time and I will definitely help next year. The smaller captive audience allowed me to present to students that were clearly engaged; it felt purposeful'.

It was really enjoyable being able to put on these events for Year 10. We hope it has given them lots to think about as the summer holidays start. **Well done Year 10!**





Chandag Science Assembly

On Friday morning Miss Mewett and yr 7 student, James Ellis, delivered an exciting science assembly to all students at Chandag Junior School. They looked at what it means to be a scientist, science at Wellsway and performed some exciting experiments, including elephant's toothpaste. The student's at Chandag had a great time



Year 7 Science Shows

On Thursday, Explorer Dome came into school to deliver an exciting science show to yr 7 students looking at different science tricks and thinking about how and why things happen. Students had a fantastic time looking at the science behind different phenomena including dry ice and hydrogen gas.



Year 6 transition afternoon

Over the last two weeks, Year 10 prefects have been supporting the year 6 transition events. They have given up their own time to help year 6 student feel welcome at Wellsway school. A big thank you to all those who participated.





Sports Awards 2022

This week we had a great evening celebrating the sporting successes of our students and teams. We had 180 students attending along with parents/carers, which created a vibrant and joyful atmosphere. It was great to see so many successes shared and celebrated on the night, along with dance and musical performances.

We also had a highly inspirational guest speaker in Bath and England rugby international Tom Dunn. Next year will be even bigger and better!! Congratulations and thank you to all the students, parents/carers and staff who have supported the extra curricular programme this year.

Mr Evans



Sports Day 2022

I would firstly like to say a massive well done to all of the students who participated in Sports Day 2022, we had over 400 students sign up across year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12, Alongside 83 sports ambassadors and sports leaders from year 9 and 10. It was a great event and very competitive. This is such a fantastic achievement for these students and they should be very proud of themselves.



Please see the results on the next page.

Once again, thank you and well done to everyone who participated, the atmosphere was brilliant and you all did yourselves proud. We look forward to next year. Miss Randall & The PE Department.

Well done to the following students who have set new school records this year:

Year 9

100m - Kaya T – 14.41m
400m - Zairn H – 60.54 seconds
800m - James M - 2:31:31 minutes
1500m - Joss L - 5:12:34 minutes
Shot Putt - Owen G – 12.45m
Javelin - Owen G – 35.13m
Discus - Owen G – 35.51m
100m - Kaylum M – 11.66m

Year 7

Shot Put - Owen M - 7.50m
Long Jump - Ewan S - 4.22m
200m - Ewan S - 29.07 seconds
1500m - Ewan S - 4:42:19 minutes

Year 10

100m - Riley G – 11.60 seconds
100m - Bella D – 13.84 seconds
800m - Harry S - 2:19:12 minutes

Year 8

Shot Putt - Lilly B – 7.85m
Javelin - Holly K – 16.72m
Long Jump - Maggie T- 4.10m
Triple Jump - Ava G – 8.80m
800m - Phoebe S - 2:50:51 minutes

Year 12

Long Jump - Anna M – 4.60m
200m - Ryan L – 27.29 seconds
400m - Amy N – 63.57 seconds
800m - Patrick C - 2:26:15 minutes
800m - Amy N - 2.43.48 minutes
1500m - Amy N - 5:21:06 minutes



- Year 7**
- 4th Newton
- 3rd Burnett
- 2nd Compton
- 1st Stanton
- Year 8**
- 4th Newton
- 3rd Burnett
- 2nd Stanton
- 1st Compton
- Year 9**
- 4th Stanton
- 3rd Newton
- 2nd Burnett
- 1st Compton
- Year 10**
- 4th Newton
- 3rd Burnett
- 2nd Stanton
- 1st Compton
- Year 12**
- 4th Compton
- 3rd Stanton
- 2nd Burnett
- 1st Newton



The final results overall are.....

- 4th Newton
- 3rd Burnett
- 2nd Stanton
- 1st Compton

1st XI Cricket – Summer 2022



Wellsway and SBL post 16 students combined to play 4 cricket fixtures this summer. We lost to Kingswood School, them scoring 191 for 5 wickets and us scoring 115 for 3 wickets with James B scoring 77 not out. We then played Hinton Charterhouse Cricket Club. Wellsway scored 155 and won by 1 run in an exciting close

game. This was followed by two prestigious fixtures against the MCC and the Forty Club, both adult teams comprising experienced and very able cricketers from across the country. Wellsway is one of only 3 state schools in the entire south west of England that plays the MCC – one of the oldest cricket clubs in the entire world. We got a creditable draw against the MCC with James B scoring 42 not out, Ollie B 46 and Alex G (SBL) 41. Alex received the man of the match award having also been the pick of Wellsway’s bowlers. In the final game against the Forty Club, debutant Jack B (year 8) and Charlie H took 2 wickets each, and in reply Ollie B scored 38, Barney H (another debutant from year 8) scored 40, Henry T (SBL) 37 and James B 27 not out. The Forty Club took Wellsway’s last wicket with 2 balls to spare and so Wellsway lost narrowly but it was still a fine performance. Barney H won man of the match for his runs and also taking one wicket when bowling. Although a short season in terms of matches, the players from the two schools came together superbly and it augers well for continuing success next summer. Mr May



John Muir Award

"Year 10 pathways group have the recently been awarded Explorer level certificates for their participation in The John Muir Award, named after the Scottish naturalist and 'father of modern conservation. The John Muir Award encourages people of all backgrounds to connect with, enjoy and care for wild places.

You can find out more about the award here:

<https://www.johnmuirtrust.org/john-muir-award>

The group have planned and constructed many parts of the new wildlife conservation garden, including different areas inspired by varied habitats in our school grounds, and also in the immediate locality at Manor Woods.

Here are some of their many achievements:

- Planting silver birch trees for The Queen's Green Canopy
 - Preparing ground for a thousand more!
 - Planting a willow circle for birdlife
 - Digging a pond
 - Planting and edging pollinator patch
- Constructing a greenhouse for plant propagation
- Building raised beds for herbs and vegetables

Well done to all of them!

Mr Gascoyne



Science Week 2022

Over the last fortnight year 7 and 8 students have taken part in science week, year 8 students went to London science museum, year 7 students experienced the science show from explorer dome and all students participated in a marble run competition and carried out exciting flame tests! A great way to end the year in science

Miss Fox





Wellsway School says farewell to teacher

Tina after 41 years



Tina Tabor is retiring from Wellsway School this summer after spending her entire career – 41 years – at the Keynsham secondary school.

Tina, a Bristolian, who attended Merrywood Grammar School and Exeter University, joined Wellsway as a maths teacher in 1981 and is now back in that role, with three of her former students among her colleagues.

Over the years she has been a deputy head of year, head of year, head of maths and a member of the senior leadership team. She has served under six substantive headteachers and several acting headteachers.

This incredible long service might not have happened, however. In the early days, Tina applied for a job elsewhere but was offered a promotion to remain, so she stayed ... and stayed.

“There have been a few long-serving staff at Wellsway but I think 41 years is a record,” she said.

“It has been a pleasure teaching and working with the thousands of young people that have come through the school. I have had many children tell me that I taught their dad or their auntie. So far, not one of them has said that I taught their nan or grandad! I have made many lifelong friends with past and present school staff and I have been fortunate to have been able to be in a profession which I have loved. “

Tina received an engraved vase for 40 years’ service but decided at that time she was not ready to stop.

Now, though, she is looking forward to being able to join her husband Garry on some international trips he makes for his work in the water industry. She will also have more time to spend with her daughters Rhianna and Alexandra and grandchildren Theo, nine, Florence, seven, and two-year-old Freddie. This will include supporting her grandchildren’s schools and her favourite hobbies of sewing and gardening.

“I thought leaving would be a difficult decision. I’m institutionalised – the car knows its way to work, I’ve been doing the journey so long. But I don’t have any regrets. It is an exciting new phase of my life.”

Former workmates returned to celebrate with Tina at an afternoon tea organised by maths department colleague Sarah Reve and current colleagues will mark her departure at the end of term barbecue.

Wellsway School principal Rob Pearsall said: “I have enjoyed working with Tina for the short period we have been together. Tina is an inspirational colleague; one full of energy, optimism, passion and enthusiasm. The very embodiment of a great teacher, a professional with the highest expectations and one who wants the very best for her students. She will be greatly missed by staff and students alike.”

Andrea Arlidge, chief executive of Futura Learning Partnership which runs Wellsway, said: “Tina’s dedication to Wellsway School is remarkable. So many colleagues, students and families have cause to be grateful to her. We wish her a hugely enjoyable retirement.”



Visits Updates

Many of you will have read two weeks ago that there were a further 245 students due to go on trips before term ends. This number was actually incorrect as one trip had not been included in the figures; there were in fact 325 students still to go off site. As we publish this edition of the Ammonite, the final group of students to go off site are participating in their 5-day Gold Award Duke of Edinburgh qualifying expedition on Dartmoor. We are indebted to Mr Sage and Ms Denning who have tirelessly led our DofE adventures this year and hugely appreciative of the Gold Award support from volunteers of Keynsham Open Award Centre. Thanks go all of the staff who have led or supported the many, many visits this year; to our site team - and in particular Mr Younger - for safely co-ordinating coaches on and off site each day; to Mrs Davis who arranges for classes to have cover teachers when needed, the Finance team who ensure you can pay and that our transport and venue providers are paid and Zest Catering for providing a lot of packed lunches! We are very grateful for the parent support in signing up for these trips in a timely manner and most importantly, we are in awe of our students who fully immerse themselves in these opportunities, sometimes needing to step out of their comfort zone and coming back having experienced something new, gained skills and confidence and made memories of their time at Wellsway School. It has been a delight to give our students these opportunities and I look forward to doing the same again next year!

Free School Meals over the summer

I have sent an email to the parent/carer of children who are eligible for free school meals (FSM). This email explains how to access supermarket vouchers for the summer period. If you have previously received these vouchers, you should have received the voucher link from B&NES by now. Remember to activate this link – if you don't you won't get your vouchers. If your child is eligible but you have not previously received vouchers, please apply here: <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meal-supermarket-vouchers>. As always, please remember to check your Junk Mail before contacting the Benefits Team with any queries: 01225 477777.

Lockers 2022-23

Thank you for removing padlocks and locker contents ready for the holiday. If you require a locker for the new academic year, please make payment online and have proof of payment and a padlock ready for when we will be issuing lockers. We will update you in September of when and how this will be done. For the small number of current Year 9 and 10 students with a historic 5 year lease, we have a log and so these students only need provide a padlock. The payment option will appear in your SCO account over the coming days.

Ski Trip 2023

As previously mentioned in the Ammonite, we are in the final stages of confirming plans for our ski trip for students who will be in Year 10 in February 2023; the letter will be shared via Insight shortly. The trip will depart on Friday 10th February and will return on Saturday 18th February 2023. The anticipated final cost is £1245.00. As a reminder, we will require a deposit of £150 - the deadline will be 9.00am, Friday 5th August. Students eligible for Pupil Premium funding will be supported for 25% of the total cost; the deposit is required for every applicant. Please keep an eye on your emails and Insight account. Don't forget to check your Junk Mail!

Mrs Rogers

Educational Visits Co-ordinator