

# The Ammonite

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

Issue : 1041 9th September 2022

## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers

*"It's worth remembering that it is often the small steps, not the giant leaps, that bring about the most lasting change"*

Queen Elizabeth II, 1926-2022



We have enjoyed welcoming our wonderful new Year 7 and 12 students this week as well as the welcome return of all our students. Many small steps have been taken and we look forward to a year where we once again work together to bring about lasting change.

I am sure as we explore the life of Queen Elizabeth II in the coming week, it will inspire our students as we celebrate her extraordinary life of service. Tutors have worked with our students this morning to explain this news and we will do further work through lessons in the coming week. We recognise that we will all react in different ways to this news; ultimately a loss often makes you reflect on losses in your own life. Our staff will, with expertise, and compassion help children process today's news in our classrooms. We know that children and young people can need time and space to talk about their feelings and this will be done sensitively by staff, whilst recognising the enormous debt of gratitude our country owes to Her Majesty.

We are deeply saddened by the loss of Her Majesty, an inspirational leader who demonstrated the utmost in commitment and dedication to the communities she served for decades; an example we can all only hope to follow. Our sincere condolences to her family.

Her Majesty the Queen was a strong and powerful woman whose seventy-year reign was served with integrity, dignity, grace and compassion. An inspirational leader, who embodied kindness.

This is a moment of huge sadness but a time also when we should pay tribute to the life and service of a remarkable woman.

In times when nothing stood  
But worsened, or grew strange,  
There was one constant good:  
She did not change.

Philip Larkin, written for the Queen's Silver Jubilee.

Best wishes

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

## Key dates

**Thursday 15th September**

Meet The Tutor (all years) 4—7pm

**Thursday 22nd September**

Year 6 Open Evening 6—8pm



## 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



## Year 11 GCSE Results

Our students are celebrating having received superb GCSE results. We are very proud of our students who have worked so hard to achieve these results and we are grateful for the support we always receive from parents to ensure their children strive to do their best. I couldn't be happier for them. Well done to each and every student.

More than 62% of students gained five passes at grade 5 or above, including English and Maths and 85% gained five passes at grade 4 or above.

These outcomes are a reflection of the outstanding level of commitment given by our students and staff who have all worked extremely hard to enable our students to reach their full potential.

We're not all about results here at Wellsway School—we celebrate personal success and whilst so many of our students have attained fantastically high grades we are equally proud of those who have worked hard and achieved their potential, regardless of the measurable outcome. Not only did the year group perform well in this set of exams, they have contributed positively to school life, grown into responsible, caring citizens and given us the opportunity to laugh often and be proud!

In a range of fantastic results, there were some outstanding outcomes for individual students. These include: Nathan C and Adam L (who both achieved nine Grade 9s and one Grade 8); Charles H (six Grade 9s, four Grade 8s); Dylan J (seven Grade 9s, two Grade 8s, one Grade 7); Finlay T (six Grade 9s, two Grade 8s, one Grade 7);

Laurence F (seven Grade 9s, one Grade 8, two Grade 7s); Isobel S (six Grade 9s, 3 Grade 8s, 1 Grade 7); Lucy W (five Grade 9s, four Grade 8s, one Grade 7) and Henry M (seven Grade 9s, one Grade 8, one Grade 7 and a Grade 5). This is a real accolade given the increased rigour and challenge of all the new examination specifications for this year group after the challenges they have faced due to their learning being affected by Covid.

There were further excellent individual successes including: Stephanie R, Samuel B, Michael A, Ellis B, Abi E-O and Braeden W who have all made outstanding progress. Whilst we have highlighted some students, as a school we recognise the academic success of **all** our students who have overcome adversity, which truly reflects the distinct characteristics of our Wellsway learners at all levels.

This is enormously rewarding and our whole community will be celebrating all our many successes at GCSE, which now allows them to securely take the next step into their future career pathways, be that into further education, vocational courses or an apprenticeship placement.

The results show that despite the challenges that life has thrown at them in the last two years, when individuals work hard and apply themselves, excellent progress can be made enabling students to progress to the next stage of their life with confidence and a sense of pride in their efforts.

Following our excellent A Level results, we are delighted to see all our subjects have continued to perform well against expectations. The staff and governors are so proud of all our students' achievements and we look forward to many of them returning to study in our thriving Sixth Form as part of Futura Sixth, alongside new students joining us from other schools.

Thank you to all our parents and carers for their continued support. We wish all our students good luck with their future plans.



## A Level Results

We are immensely proud of our Year 13 students and all of their achievements throughout their time in Wellsway Sixth Form. This comes after a time of unprecedented change and challenging examinations, where our students have consistently shown that they are adaptive and resilient as they tackled their studies head on. Overall, 65% of Wellsway students obtained a grade B or higher, and 87% a grade C or higher; this shows a good improvement since our last set of formal examination results in 2019.

We have always been mindful that for this cohort these are the first formal exams that many of them have sat. Whilst it has been a tough two years for everyone, nothing should distract us from celebrating this point in their lives; our priority has been to do everything we can to support our students and to help them achieve their aspirations.

It is clear that all of their hard work and perseverance has culminated in the fantastic grades they received. There are many great students celebrating their results, but we would like to say congratulations to the following students who have achieved outstanding results:

Harry C achieved 4 A\*s in Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Further Maths

Emma P achieved 4 A\*s in Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Further Maths

Rebekah B achieved 2 A\*s in English Literature and Geography, and an A in Psychology

Joe S achieved 2 A\*s in Maths and Further Maths, an A in economics and a B in Geography

Also, to be commended are Oliver T (A\*, A, A), James C (A\*, A, A), Rose P (A\*, A, B), Thomas M (A\*, A, B), Luke H (A, A, A), Izma H (A\*, A, B) & Will H (A\*, A, B). Two further students to highlight are Thomas D and Catherine Z who showed great progress during their Sixth Form studies.

As a truly comprehensive Sixth Form, catering for all abilities, we are pleased that almost all students have achieved grades which have enabled them to successfully progress to the next stage of their chosen route in either education, training or employment. Emma is reading Chemistry with Medicinal Science at the University of Southampton, Harry is reading Chemistry at the University of York, Izma is reading History at Warwick University, James is reading History at the University of Birmingham, and Joe is reading Maths at University College London (UCL). Students have gained places in competitive apprenticeships, with Owen completing a Level 7 masters apprenticeship in Tax, Harvey working with Wessex Water and Dan starting engineering with BAE.

It is always great to have the opportunity to celebrate with students on results day and we wish them all the best with their next step and in the future. We would like to thank the students and teachers for their hard work, and the parents for their support, over the last seven years.

Well done to the class of 2022 – you have made us very proud!





## Year 7 Welcome

We are very pleased to have welcomed our new Year 7 students to Wellsway School. We wish them the best of luck for their first year of secondary education.

What a great day! Fabulous to welcome our new Year 7s to our school community on Monday. Mr Knowles inspiring them with the Lionesses values:

#aspiration #collaboration #respect #opportunity  
Such ambassadors for their former primary schools.

#proud      The journey begins.

**Mr Pearsall**



## Visits Update

As promised at the end of last term, there are lots of new visits being planned for this academic year and we look forward to sharing these with you in due course. In the first instance, please keep an eye on your emails over the coming days if your child is in Year 7 or studies Geography in Year 11.

Final details regarding the Year 7 Team Building Trip (26<sup>th</sup> September) and Year 11 Geography Fieldwork (28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> September) will be emailed shortly. Don't forget to be sure that you access online payments here [Wellsway School Online payments - Login](#) so you can meet payment deadlines and secure your child's place. For all those of you eagerly awaiting news regarding your application for the Year 10 ski trip, please be assured we will be in contact again as soon as possible.

**Mrs Rogers**

Educational Visits Co-ordinator



## Bromcom Update

Our switch to the Bromcom school information system has been very successful and we are delighted with the improvements.

All students now have Bromcom student portal accounts, and we are currently working on the release of the "Bromcom MyChildAtSchool" accounts for parents and carers.

**Mr Yockney**



## Sports News



### Sport extra-curricular programme for lunchtime 2022 - 2023

#### Term 1

	Sports Hall	Astroturf	Activity Studio / Glastonbury
<b>Monday</b>	Badminton Examined PE (Years 10 - 13) Miss Barron	Football – Rota (Duty staff)	
<b>Tuesday</b>	Indoor cricket – All years Mr Barter	Football – Rota (Duty staff)	
<b>Wednesday</b>	Badminton – All years Mr Evans	Football – Rota (Duty staff)	Year 7 Transition Glastonbury Mrs Burston
<b>Thursday</b>	Sports Hall Athletics – Years 7 and 8 Miss Spink and Mr Barter	Football – Rota (Duty staff)	Dance – KS3 Mrs Leader
<b>Friday</b>	National Schools Netball / GCSE PE Netball Miss Barron and Mrs Leader	Football – Rota (Duty staff)	

It was great to see so many students back in extra-curricular sports this week. We have seen the astro full every lunchtime and over 100 students taking part in netball and rugby on Thursday this week.



Developing confident, respectful and successful young people



From Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September we have our full programme up and running and look forward to seeing lots of students taking part across lunchtime and afterschool activities. This can be found below, on the school website and will also be shared with students during tutor as well as being displayed on the TV screens around the site.

Please follow us on Twitter (@WellswayPE) for regular updates on training, fixtures, results and celebration of successes. We also like to hear about and celebrate students' successes outside of school, so if your son/daughter has achieved any notable successes recently or is playing sport at County level or above, please do let me know ([revans@wellswayschool.com](mailto:revans@wellswayschool.com)) so that we can recognise and celebrate them.

**Mr Evans**

### Sport extra-curricular programme for afterschool 2022 - 2023

#### Term 1

	Sports Hall / Netball Courts	Astroturf / Field	Activity Studio / Glastonbury
<b>Monday</b>			
<b>Tuesday</b>		Hockey - Years 10 – 13 Miss Barron  KS3 Girls Football Mr Knowles  Rugby – All Years Mr Barter, Mr Bye, Mr Doherty, Mr Evans, Mr Ive	
<b>Wednesday</b>	Netball – Year 7 Mrs Buston		
<b>Thursday</b>	Netball – Years 8 and 9 Miss Spink  Netball National Schools – U16 and U19 Mrs Leader		
<b>Friday</b>			Dance – Years 10-13 Mrs Leader



Developing confident, respectful and successful young people





## Music News

The Music Department has loved seeing all our musicians and singers return with such enthusiasm. We have had 100 students attend our two oratorio rehearsals this week! We look forward to welcoming you to Bath Forum at 6.30pm on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September. It promises to be a special evening.



Want to see Futura's Oratorio? We have **free tickets** available for any family who wish to attend this performance. Please email [imclean@wellswayschool.com](mailto:imclean@wellswayschool.com) stating your name and how many tickets you would like. We will have them on the door at the box office at Bath Forum - simply give your name. Doors open at 5.30pm. I will email to confirm your tickets.



The oratorio was commissioned to celebrate the launch of Futura Learning Partnership. It tells the myth of how the River Avon came into being. It has enabled over 500 children across the partnership to experience contemporary classical music as both performers and composers. We are delighted to have 350 children, ranging from Year 4 to Year 13 performing the 25 minute piece on Tuesday.

Instrumental lessons - Please check your email from your child's instrumental teacher regarding the start of instrumental/singing lessons. They should be starting in the next couple of weeks.

Music clubs - We're delighted so many students are already asking about clubs taking place. We shall put a list of clubs in The Ammonite next week. All music clubs will start w/c 19<sup>th</sup> September. The Music Department is here for everyone and all styles of music. Clubs planned include Chamber Choir, Everyone Sing Choir, Soul and Funk Band, Folk Group, Saxophone Quartet, Brass Ensemble... there will be more throughout the year!

Ms Mclean

## Join the PTA!



## Friends of Wellsway PTA

We are a small, friendly team of PTA members who organise two events over the course of the school year, a used-uniform sale and our popular community Craft Fair. For those of you who are missing the Junior School gate meet-ups with other parents/carers – we have a great way of keeping in touch and meeting new people! We are now looking for a new generation of PTA members to join our small team.

For those who aren't familiar with the craft fair, this annual market has been running for over 25 years and is a major event in the community calendar. We support over 90 producers and craft makers by way of stalls. We also have outdoor hot food vans. There are over 1,000 visitors over the course of the afternoon. All this can't be done without the help of our wonderful volunteers.

With the departure of some of our members, we won't be able to run this craft fair without new help. The craft fair helps raise money to support the school. The kind of things we have bought for the school with the proceeds from the fair include new lunchtime tables, art, sports and music equipment, and improved signage.

These are not big roles and really only require a couple of hours a month in preparation and then your time on the day. Without these important roles being filled we won't be able to run the craft fair this year. So please consider giving a little time to see great benefits to the school.

This year's craft fair is the 13<sup>th</sup> November, 12 noon – 4pm. Please get in touch if you can

help: [pta@wellswayschool.com](mailto:pta@wellswayschool.com)

Mr Cooper



## Lockers

Thank you to all the parents/carers who have made payment for a locker for this academic year. Students should bring their padlock and proof of payment (they will be allowed to turn their phone on briefly to show evidence if necessary) to meet Mrs Rogers at the times below. Students who are eligible for Free School Meals are only required to bring their padlock. Please ensure your child is familiar with how the padlock works - this includes removing it from the packaging and setting the combination code if relevant.



Come to the session in the building in which you prefer to have a locker ie Lansdown or Mendip. To enable us to do this as swiftly as possible, only students who will be leasing a locker should come along at these times. Next week, we are allocating lockers to Year 7 students only. Students from any year group are welcome week commencing 19<sup>th</sup> September.

If you have not paid for a locker, it is not too late! Go ahead and make payment of £10 online now.

<b>YEAR 7 ONLY</b>	
<b>LANSDOWN BUILDING</b> Outside the library	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> September – 1.30-2.00pm
<b>LANSDOWN BUILDING</b> Outside the library	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September – 1.30-2.00pm
<b>MENDIP BUILDING</b> Outside M09 & M10	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> September – 1.30.2.00pm
<b>MENDIP BUILDING</b> Outside M09 & M10	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> September – 1.30 -2.00pm
<b>ANY YEAR GROUP</b>	
<b>LANSDOWN BUILDING</b> Outside the library	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> September – 1.30-2.00pm
<b>LANSDOWN BUILDING</b> Outside the library	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> September – 1.30-2.00pm
<b>MENDIP BUILDING</b> Outside M09 & M10	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> September – 1.30.2.00pm
<b>MENDIP BUILDING</b> Outside M09 & M10	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September – 1.30 -2.00pm

## School Meal Price Increase

After careful consideration, it is necessary to increase the cost of our basic school meal to £2.73. This is due to rising food and energy costs and will take place with effect from 1st October.

Our catering department Zest Catering provides high quality, healthy menus that conform to the government's guidelines and where possible include sustainably and locally sourced ingredients. As such, we are confident that they continue to represent good value for money.

If you require information regarding free school meals please do not hesitate to contact

[enquiries@wellswayschool.com](mailto:enquiries@wellswayschool.com)

If you have any queries regarding our school meals service in general, please feel free to email Zest directly at [zest@futuralearning.co.uk](mailto:zest@futuralearning.co.uk)